



ISTITUTO ITALIANO DEL RAME

MILAN, FEBRUARY 2009

SECOND EDITION

2008 “COPPER AND THE HOME” INTERNATIONAL AWARD

The Italian Copper Institute, after the successful first edition in 2007, awards the winners of the second “Copper and home” international award assigned to the best idea and design for objects made of copper and its alloys.

During this second edition, “Copper and the home” has already turned into an international appealing event for the world of project design, gaining a wider participation by Italian and international professionals and students.

The award was devoted to young architects and designers, and students attending schools of graphics, interiors design and faculties of architecture.

The jury, composed by Marco Romanelli, Beppe Finessi and Emilio Nanni, was favourably impressed not only by the numerous projects that were submitted for the contest, but also for their quality. Among the projects, are to be noticed solutions which, going beyond the formal stereotypes of copper, get to innovative functions and impressions connected to the world of design as well as to the more up-to-date artistic research.

New paths in contemporary world are now open for this antique material.



For the “Professionals” category, the first prize was awarded to Odoardo Fioravanti, Paolo Giacomazzi and Tommaso Caldera (Odoardo Fioravanti Design Studio) with the project “**Verderame**”.

The second prize was awarded *ex aequo* to architects Giulia De Noto and Giovanni D’Amico (Ded’a Studio) with “**Stickher**” and to the French architect Vincent Carmet with “**Ramure**”.

Special mentions have been awarded to the designer Massimo Ciafrei (Internosei) with “Urban Signs” and to the Dutch designer Jeroen Van Laarhoven with “Stove M1”.

In the “Students” category, the first prize was awarded to the group composed by Sébastien Fraisse, Marion Lavedeau and Caroline Leploe, students at ESAAB (École Supérieure d’Arts Appliqués de Bourgogne) in Nevers, France, for the project “**Healthy Roots**”.

Other special mentions were also awarded to Alessandra Risoluti, student at ISIA (Istituto Superiore per le Industrie Artistiche) in Rome with the project “Omme” and to Jean-Baptiste Ricatte, student at ESAD (École Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs) in Strasbourg for the project “Time’s reflect”.

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AWARD-WINNING PROJECTS

SECOND EDITION "COPPER AND THE HOME" INTERNATIONAL AWARD

ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS CATEGORY

1st Prize:

Designers: Odoardo Fioravanti, Paolo Giacomazzi, Tommaso Caldera, Milan (I)

Project: "Verderame"

Indoor flooring composed by a texture of modular tiles allowing different combinations and which highlight the movement of people within its space through the natural process of oxidation.

The special treatment determines an initial status where the transparent protective paint is laid on the surface making the tile completely polished; time and usage let the tile oxidize where the paint is not present, highlighting the most trodden paths. The irony of the decoration is enclosed in the drawing of small insects and objects which usually are to be found in isolated and careless places.

Reason for the prize: by a careful and sophisticated layout of principles currently on topic in the artistic debate, especially regarding life through time of material, the designers demonstrate their knowledge and ability to use and set off a specific potential of copper.



2nd Prize *ex aequo*:

Architects: Giulia De Noto, Giovanni D'Amico, Brindisi (I)

Project: "Stickher"

Retro-adhesive lamp for interiors. It is composed by a stamped copper circuit and of an electro-lighting LEC type film; this lamp produces a white, energy-saving light while perfectly decorating house walls.

On the evocative image of the electric micro-circuits, the copper-printed wires decorate the lamp by drawing the subway maps of world's major cities: Milan, Paris, New York, Tokyo. The wires bring electricity through the entire surface of the film completely enlightening it. Like a normal sticker, Stickher can be easily put on any surface and replaced freely to create new atmospheres and inspiring suggestions.

Reason for the prize: the project demonstrates the ability to transform the inner characteristics of copper into a contemporary image, strongly marked from the graphic point of view. Moreover, it shows a careful analysis of new materials and of the possibilities they have to interact with copper creating a brand new typology in between a lighting apparel and an artwork.

Architect: Vincent Carmet, Montpellier (F)

Project: "Ramure"

LED and copper lighting element. This object is a hybrid between a decorative wall element and a lamp; it uses copper malleability in its ramifications which can be adapted in their inclination, thus enabling a sensorial relation with the user.

Ramure gets its inspiration from the past, recalling the characteristic of copper to conduct heat, while looking towards future with modern uses.

Reason for the prize: in a new way, the project uses both copper physical and aesthetic characteristics leading to the shaping of an up-to-date, in-depth object from a formal and functional point of view.



Mention:

Designer: Massimo Ciafrej, Rome (I)

Project: "Urban Signs"

A system made of small elements which can be freely composed to re-shape urban places. Each of the 18 copper elements represents architectural shapes typical of post-industrial, contemporary cities and it can be freely composed like in a jigsaw.

The city is the subject and it is at the same time the place where imagination works; it is a melting pot of signs, symbols and icons.

While re-constructing and re-defining the city, a constantly under-construction place, Urban Signs highlights the elapsing of time thanks to the natural process of copper oxidation caused by atmospheric agents and by the use provoked by constructing the city.

Reason for the mention: the interpretation of the project is the gentle proposal of a game for adults which mentions the property of copper to change its aspect as time passes by.

Designer: Jeroen Van Laarhoven, Zevenbergschen Hoek (NL)

Project: "Stove M1"

A modern radiator catching the typical shape of an antique cast iron stove. By using simple copper pipes, Stove M1 covers two functions: the antique one of heating water passing through the pipes and the modern one of showing the fascination of a material which is normally covered from sight in contemporary architecture and building industry.

Reason for the mention: applying copper specific characteristics, the project proposes a contemporary image which is strongly linked to our past memories.



STUDENTS CATEGORY

1st Prize:

Students: Sébastien Fraise, Marion Lavedeau, Caroline Leplae, ESAAB Nevers (F)

Project: “Healthy Roots”

Plants and flowers support made of mouldable copper wires to play shaping one’s own garden. Aiming at highlighting modern use of copper in the house, the project applies some typical characteristics of this material: malleability, ductility, purity and its antibacterial property which prevent the formation of insect larvae and moulds.

Reason for the prize: the project demonstrates a specific competence of copper proper characteristics and it creates a new object typology; simple and effective but full of elegant historicist suggestions.

Mention:

Student: Alessandra Risoluti, ISIA Rome (I)

Progetto: “Omme”

Teddy bear padded with foam rubber and covered with copper material. Copper weft is fit for wrapping up the volumes for its capacity of remembering the shapes; moreover, Omme’s copper results hot and soft in contact with the skin.

Reason for the mention: a gentle copper transposition of an archetypal object like “Teddy Bear” by which many qualities of copper get exalted, like its sensorial features, such as its preciousness and its tone, as well as its physical characteristics, the ability to keep body heat and its antibacterial properties.

Student: Jean-Baptiste Ricatte, ESAD Strasboug (F)

Project: “Time’s reflect”

A copper “mirror” which, by its selective oxidation, reveals a surprising magic. At the beginning the object is a simple homogeneous wall mirror while, as time passes, it goes through the natural oxidation process typical of copper. Some sentences emerge then out of nowhere as they have been written with transparent protective paint which preserves them from oxidation.

Reason for the mention: the project transforms an inner characteristics of copper in an artistic potential and it uses the rarely applied concepts of time and user’s surprise at best.

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THE AWARD IN NUMBERS

The International award received a total of 133 projects duly arrived registering an increase over 70% from its first edition. The increase was homogeneously distributed on both the categories: 82 projects for the professionals' category and 51 for the students' one.

It is to be emphasized the strong international participation in this edition: more than half of the projects arrived from abroad, particularly for the students category. These results demonstrate once more how the world of project design is more used to competitions, prizes and awards outside national borders.

Among the different participating countries, France gets the primacy of participations even if participants from Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Puerto Rico, Switzerland, Hungary and Bosnia-Herzegovina are to be counted too.

We owe the great participation from French candidates to the information campaign realized in France by our counterpart Centre d'Information Cuivre Laiton et Alliages (CICLA).

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