

HEINRICH WOLFF SCOOPS DAIMLERCHRYSLER AWARD FOR SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTURE 2007

Heinrich Wolff of Cape Town-based architectural firm, Noero Wolff Architects, has scooped the DaimlerChrysler Award for South African Architecture 2007.

This is the seventh Arts Award bestowed by DaimlerChrysler. The company has since 2000 sponsored different art disciplines and recognised artists within the fields of contemporary art, jazz, sculpture, choreography, creative photography and poetry.

In their judging of the 2007 Arts Award, the jury panel said that Wolff was named the DaimlerChrysler Award for South African Architecture winner as he worked in different fields of the architectural profession – practice, academic theory and teaching – and it was evident in his designs that he had the ability to bring all of these elements together.

“The social process resultant of Wolff’s work is realised in built form. Aesthetically accomplished, his work explores tectonics and materiality, as well as poetics of space,” said jury member Mphethi Morojele, architect and partner of MMA Architects, on behalf of the adjudication panel.

In their summation, the jury panel (which included Prof. 'Ora Joubert, chair of the University of Pretoria’s School for the Built Environment) added, “Wolff is able to work on a high level at all stages of architectural work whether theory, aesthetics or social environment by using simple elements.”

Wolff said that he does not believe in a national unified style and that it is the



→ Heinrich Wolff, winner of the DaimlerChrysler Award for South African Architecture 2007.

diversity of South Africa’s people that should be expressed. He added, “Too many South Africans blindly import architectural styles from the Western world, with the result being an assembly of motifs disconnected from its origins.”

Wolff wins a cash prize and together with the other seven finalists will exhibit his work in Berlin and Bayreuth (Germany) as well as Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

Furthermore a catalogue will be published featuring the eight architects and showcasing their work, with a larger section dedicated to Wolff, to coincide with the Berlin exhibition. ➔



2005 INKWENKWEZI SECONDARY SCHOOL - DU NOON



2003 UBASAZO SECONDARY SCHOOL - KHAYELITSHA



1998 LEBALENG ANGLICAN CHURCH - MAKWASSIE