

EIGHT TEAMS SHORTLISTED FOR MUMBAI CITY MUSEUM NORTH WING DESIGN COMPETITION

NAMES TO REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL AFTER FINAL JURY IN NOVEMBER

Today [01.07.2014] eight shortlisted teams were invited to progress to the second stage of the design competition for the Mumbai City Museum North Wing (also known as the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum).

In order to comply with national procurement rules and the Council of Architecture (India) guidelines, the names of the shortlisted teams will not be released to the public until the Jury has met, chosen a winner, and the competition has concluded.

In a change to the original timetable, the finalists will now have the summer to prepare designs for the Jury meeting scheduled for November.

Competition organiser Malcolm Reading commented,



‘The Museum was delighted by the response from architects worldwide and would like to thank all those who entered the first stage of the competition.’

‘The shortlist was selected on the basis of creative and technical ability. It balances established practices with lesser-known emerging ones; all the teams will be collaborating with a local architect. The quality of responses we received reflects the interest in Mumbai as an exciting global city. The teams have warmed to the Museum and its determined approach to renewing its mission and engaging new audiences in a cultural conversation.’

‘We look forward with great anticipation to the concepts from the finalist teams who have excelled in their first-stage submissions. It is heartening to see how the Museum is poised to enter a new chapter.’



Over 100 Expressions of Interest were received at the competition's first stage.

One of India's leading cultural institutions, the Museum is in the process of creating a new dynamic identity for itself as a cultural hub in Mumbai.

The new addition to the existing Museum is expected to be 9,000 to 12,000 m² (100,000 – 130,000 sq ft), providing new galleries and facilities including, a conference centre, a library, an archive, conservation facilities and a new museum shop and café.

At the heart of the new wing will be a permanent gallery to showcase contemporary Mumbai, focusing on important milestones in the city's development and highlighting its cultural achievements as well as temporary exhibition space to international standards capable of taking major touring exhibitions.

A public exhibition of all the entries will be held in Mumbai and an online gallery posted following the conclusion of the competition.

Malcolm Reading Consultants (MRC) is managing the competition on behalf of the Museum and further details of the project are available on the dedicated competition microsite:

<http://competitions.malcolmreading.co.uk/mumbai>

The Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum, is a sister museum to the V&A in London. Its original building, now beautifully restored, dates from the late 19th Century and is considered a masterpiece – a rare combination within India of Palladian architecture with high Victorian interiors.

All competition-related media enquiries to **Catherine Reading** on 0207 8312 998 or via email **catherine.reading@malcolmreading.co.uk**

NOTES TO EDITORS

- The Dr. Bhau Daji Lad, Mumbai City Museum, is Mumbai's oldest museum and showcases the history and culture of the city. It was intensively restored between 2003 and 2008 and won the 2005 UNESCO Asia Pacific Heritage Conservation Award of Excellence, the highest international award in this field. The Citation comments, 'The building stands as a unique testimony to the development of Victorian architecture in the context of the hybrid building and crafts traditions of 19th Century India, as well as to the civic traditions embodied in one of the country's earliest museums.'
- Dr. Bhau Daji Lad (1824-1874), full name, Ramkrishna Vithal Lad, was a polymath. An eminent physician and surgeon, he conducted original research into the use of Indian drugs to cure leprosy in its early stages. He was the first native sheriff of Bombay, as well as holding positions in all the city's educational societies. Intensely interested in archaeology, he did pivotal research in the identification of the markings and writings at Elephanta. He was a champion of his fellow countrymen and agitated for their rights, education and development. He was the founder of the Victoria and Albert Museum in Bombay, which was renamed in his honour.
- Malcolm Reading Consultants (MRC) is a strategic architectural consultancy, which specialises in heritage master-planning and the selection of contemporary designers. Highly experienced in both these areas, they are enthusiastic advocates of the power of design to create new perceptions and act as an inspiration – whether at the local level, or internationally. MRC has advised on some of the leading heritage projects in the UK, notably Westminster Abbey, the National Maritime Museum and St Martin-in-the-Fields, the latter winning the European Union's prestigious Europa Nostra award.

They offer a service to find the very best designers for clients with new building projects, whether through open-international, or private-invited competitions. Recent work in this area includes competitions for the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, the Natural History Museum, the UK Pavilion at Milan Expo 2015, the Queen's College, Oxford, the Cadogan Estate, the Olympic Park Legacy Company, the Aberdeen City Garden project, the Victoria and Albert Museum's Exhibition Road project, the UK Pavilion for Shanghai Expo 2010 and the Glasgow School of Art.

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