FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
JESSICA S.B. BRAZAS
IALD MARKETING + COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
PH: +1 312 527 3677
FAX: +1 312 527 3680
EMAIL: JESSICA@IALD.ORG

ARTRON WALL HONORED WITH IALD AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
LIGHTING DESIGN BY ORIGINATOR LIGHTING DESIGN CONSULTANTS

SAN DIEGO, CA USA, 28 APRIL | Luminaries of the lighting profession gathered at the San Diego Air and Space Museum on 27 April to honor the winners of the 33rd Annual International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD) International Lighting Design Awards. Seventeen projects from eight countries were on display – including religious spaces, memorials, façades, and even a gas station. Taken together, the winners represent some of the most innovative and inspiring work found anywhere in the world of architectural lighting design.

The Artron Wall in Shenzhen City, China, with lighting design by Originator Lighting Design Consultants, took home an Award of Excellence, accepted in person by Nuanxi Huang and Yu-Huang Chen.

The Artron book wall is found inside a Chinese art center owned by a printing company. Visitors descend a massive staircase and arrive at the wall itself, which houses more than 50,000 art books. The enclosing space is 50m wide, with a towering 30m ceiling – in approaching this “black box” with no natural daylight, the lighting designer’s aim was to soften the space and shorten the distance between art and human.

A clear glass panel protects the books, but posed a unique challenge in applying light well. To avoid glare, the team from Originator utilized projectors to light the books from inside the glass panel and help visitors view them clearly.

“Light the task,” one judge commented, “and everything else will take care of itself.”

While the book wall is the main focus of the space, the sculptural staircase makes its own impression. The staircase is covered by a layer of greenish blue aluminum mesh on both the bottom and one side, while the opposite side is clear glass. Colored reflections form the mesh strike the glass of the book wall and add mystery to the space – and the clear glass handrail allows visitors to see through to the wall as they approach.

Since the main light source comes from the wall itself, the designers were able to leave a clean ceiling, with just a few downlights. Lighting for the walking path is integrated into the handrail system at two layers: sources are found both above the handrail and concealed within.

The surfaces opposite the book wall are kept as dark as possible to serve as contrast and strengthen the effects of the wall and stair. A linear light box housing a row of fluorescent uplights and several pairs of halogen downlights is added to the middle tier, re-emphasizing the spectacular vision and providing illumination on the mezzanine.
“The lighting supports and adds further clarity to the strong, monumental gestures of the architecture,” another judge wrote. “There is evidence of clear design decision-making, with good fixture integration and a sparing but meaningful use of color.”

The differing lighting strategies throughout the space are artful in their own right – emphasizing architectural elements, providing an intimate scale in a ponderous space, and composing a symphony of harmony and variation.

The IALD Lighting Design Awards program, established in 1983, honors lighting projects that display high aesthetic achievement backed by technical expertise. Additionally, projects can also be submitted for consideration in the sustainable design award category, which means the project undergoes an additional round of judging keyed solely to the fulfillment of sustainable design principles. A panel of award-winning lighting designers, architects and interior designers review the projects.

For complete details and high resolution photos of this year’s award-winning projects, visit iald.org.

The International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD), established in 1969, is an international organization supporting a network of more than 1,250 lighting design professionals who satisfy its rigorous qualification process. Its members are distinguished by a unique blend of aesthetic and technical expertise, and operate at the highest level of integrity to create a better world through leadership and excellence in lighting design; to cultivate the universal acknowledgement and appreciation of the Power of Light in human life.

END OF ITEM

33rd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIGHTING DESIGNERS AWARDS PROJECT CREDITS

ARTRON BOOK WALL
SHENZHEN CITY, CHINA

LIGHTING DESIGN
Nuanxi Huang
Yu-Huang Chen
Chiao-Chih Liao
Hwo-Ghee Tan
Originator Lighting Design Consultants Inc

ADDITIONAL CREDITS
ARCHITECTURE
Wendell Burnette Architects
Urbanus Architecture & Design Inc

LEADING CONSULTANT
Flaneur Culture Lab

INTERIOR DESIGN
Yung Design + Compose
Coba Design

DISPLAY WINDOW DESIGN
WX-design

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