Architecture Prize Presented at Monticello

The 2001 Pritzker Architecture Prize, widely regarded as architecture’s most prestigious award, was presented to Swiss architects Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron on May 7 at Monticello, Thomas Jefferson’s “essay in architecture.”

Herzog and de Meuron are best known for their design of the Tate Gallery of Modern Art in London. Their other built work includes the ISP Institute for Hospital Pharmaceuticals in Basel, Switzerland; the Dominus Winery in Yountville, Calif.; the Pfaffenholz Sports Center in St. Louis, France; and the Goertz Collection museum in Munich, Germany.

The Pritzker Prize was established by the Hyatt Foundation in 1979 to honor annually a living architect whose built work demonstrates a combination of talent, vision, and commitment, and who has made significant contributions to humanity and the built environment through architecture.

The list of past winners includes Americans Philip Johnson, I.M. Pei, and Robert Venturi. The recipient in 2000 was Rem Koolhaas of the Netherlands.

The award, which carries a $100,000 grant, is presented at a different site each year, to pay homage to both historic and contemporary architecture. In 2000, the...
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Pritzker ceremonies were conducted at Israel’s Jerusalem Archaeological Park, which is adjacent to the Temple Mount.

Past awards have been presented at such locations as the Art Institute of Chicago; the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; Goldsmiths’ Hall in London; the Todaiji Temple in Nara, Japan; the Palazzo Grassi in Venice, Italy; Prague Castle in the Czech Republic; the Grand Trianon and Chateau of Versailles, France; and The Getty Center in Los Angeles.