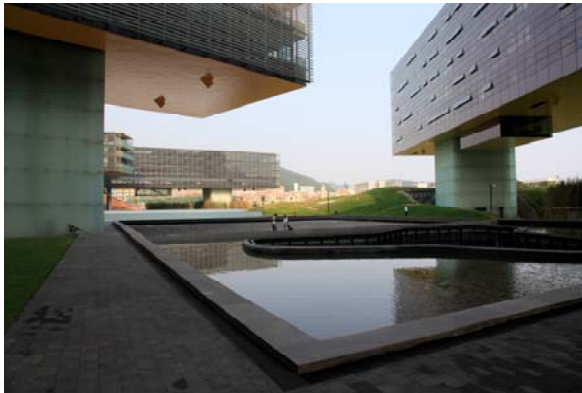


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Horizontal Skyscraper/Vanke Center



Knut Hamsun Center

Steven Holl Architects Receives Two AIA New York Honor Awards

New York City, March 2, 2010 — Steven Holl Architects has been awarded two 2010 Honor Awards from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) New York Chapter for the Horizontal Skyscraper in Shenzhen, China and the Knut Hamsun Center in Hamarøy, Norway.

The Horizontal Skyscraper, completed in December 2009, is as long as the Empire State Building is tall. Suspended on eight cores, as far as 50 meters apart, the building's structure is a combination of cable-stay bridge technology merged with a high-strength concrete frame. The first structure of its type, it has tension cables carrying a record load of 3280 tons.

The building and the landscape integrate several new sustainable aspects: a microclimate is created by cooling ponds fed by a grey water system; the building has a green roof with solar panels; it is a tsunami-proof hovering architecture that creates a porous micro-climate of public open landscape. The Horizontal Skyscraper is one of the first LEED platinum rated buildings in Southern China and recently received a 2010 Good Design is Good Business China Award for Best Green project.

The Knut Hamsun Center, completed August 2009, is dedicated to Knut Hamsun and includes exhibition areas, a library and reading room, a café, and an auditorium. The building is conceived as an archetypal and intensified compression of spirit in space and light, concretizing a Hamsun character in architectonic terms. The building uses the vernacular style as inspiration for reinterpretation. The stained black wood exterior skin is characteristic of the great wooden stave Norse churches. On the roof garden, bamboo refers to traditional Norwegian sod roofs in a modern way. The rough white-painted and the concrete interiors are characterized by diagonal rays of light calculated to ricochet through the section on certain days of the year.

The winning Design Award projects will be recognized at the annual Design Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, April 14th. All winning work will be exhibited at the Center for Architecture, 536

LaGuardia Place. The Design Awards Exhibition will be on view from Thursday, April 15 through July 3, 2010.

Steven Holl Architects has realized cultural, civic, academic and residential projects both in the United States and internationally. Steven Holl Architects (SHA) is a 47 person architecture and urban design office founded in 1976, and working globally as one office from two locations; New York City and Beijing. Steven Holl leads the office with partners Chris McVoy (New York) and Li Hu (Beijing). Most recently completed is the Linked Hybrid mixed-use complex (Beijing, China, recently named 2009 Best Tall Building Overall by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH); the Knut Hamsun Center (Hamarøy, Norway), the Herning Center of the Arts (Herning, Denmark) and the Horizontal Skyscraper-Vanke Center (Shenzhen, China). Currently in construction are the Nanjing Museum of Art and Architecture (Nanjing, China), Beirut Marina (Beirut, Lebanon), Cité de l'Océan et du Surf with Solange Fabião (Biarritz, France), and the large mixed-use complex in Chengdu, China: the Sliced Porosity Block. In 2007 Steven Holl Architects opened the highly lauded Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art (Kansas City, Missouri). Recently the office has won a number of international design competitions including the Hangzhou Oxygen Master Plan, University of Iowa New Arts Building, Glasgow School of Art (Glasgow, UK), the LM Harbor Gateway (Copenhagen, Denmark) and the new Center for Creative and Performing Arts for Princeton University (Princeton, New Jersey). Steven Holl is a tenured Professor at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture and Planning.

For more information on the work of Steven Holl Architects, please visit www.stevenholl.com
For more information on the AIA NY Chapter, please visit www.aiany.org

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