

# STEVEN HOLL ARCHITECTS

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## Steven Holl Receives the 2010 Jencks Award

**New York, 3 September 2010 – Steven Holl has been awarded the 2010 Jencks Award: Visions Built at the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). The Jencks Award is given annually to an individual that has recently made a major contribution simultaneously to the theory and practice of architecture internationally.**

Charles Jencks states, "Steven Holl has divided his time between writing and architecture. This two-way traffic between theory and practice has led to the considered development of several themes, which work on different scales. For smaller commissions, houses and chapels, he has explored a tightly layered and faceted aesthetic based on light studies – direct, oblique and reflected colors that play over intricate surfaces. This research is furthered through his watercolors and writings on phenomenology - both a form of theoretical investigation. From them comes a haptic architecture, related to that of Carlo Scarpa, and one that engages many senses, not just the visual. At the large scale Holl investigates more conceptual and systematic models, such as structural and scientific ideas of porosity or the fractal known as Menger's Sponge. Here his urban work in the USA and China creates formal order at several scales, and is tied to social ideas of passage, meeting and communal well-being. Color, light and phenomenology also inform his city buildings and together with his domestic architecture, writing and watercolor, form a consistent body of work that is as rare as it is impressive.'

The award will be presented at the RIBA on 30 November 2010, followed by a public lecture by Steven Holl, chaired by Charles Jencks.

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**Steven Holl Architects** has realized cultural, civic, academic and residential projects both in the United States and internationally. Steven Holl Architects (SHA) is a 48 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 Museum of Contemporary Art (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), the Daeyang House and Gallery (Seoul, Korea); 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). 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](http://www.stevenholl.com) or contact [press@stevenholl.com](mailto:press@stevenholl.com).

For more information on the RIBA, please visit [www.architecture.com](http://www.architecture.com)

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