

## Steven Holl Architects wins European Hotel Design Award with a Hotel and Spa for Loisium (Langenlois, Austria).

In early November the jury of the European Hotel Design Awards honored the Hotel & Spa for Loisium in Langenlois with the Best Hotel Architecture Design Award (new build) for its subtlety and restraint over skyscraping design theatrics. The jury wrote about the design by Steven Holl Architects; "The hotel blends in perfectly with its surrounding landscape. Its innovative use of materials reflects both the location and raison d'être."

The Hotel & Spa is part of the Loisium winery for which Steven Holl Architects also designed the visitor center. The complex is built on a gently south-sloping vineyard above a historic subterranean wine vault system, which includes 900 year old stone passages. Both the Visitor Center and the Hotel & Spa are based on the geometry of this subterranean network, while simultaneously having individual qualities of space, materials, light and experience.

The square plan of the Hotel & Spa is aligned with the strict geometry of the surrounding vineyard rows. Earthlike materials and palette combined with the views of the surrounding landscape create a strong connection and relationship of the hotel to its context. Public functions including the lobby, a wine themed restaurant, bar, cigar lounge, conference and meeting facilities, and the spa area are located on the ground floor with views open to the surrounding vineyard. An inviting courtyard and terrace provides outdoor seating. 82 guest rooms are located in two upper floors. While the ground floor is transparent and open, the upper floors are more private.

### On Steven Holl Architects:

Founded in New York in 1976, Steven Holl Architects has offices in New York and Beijing with a staff of 49. The firm has been recognized internationally with numerous awards, and the work has been widely published and exhibited. In September Steven Holl Architects opened the new School of Art and Art History at the University of Iowa in Iowa City and The Swiss Residence in Washington, D.C.. Currently under construction are the Linked Hybrid mixed-use complex in Beijing, the Nanjing Museum of Art and Architecture (Nanjing, China) and the NYU School of Philosophy (New York, USA). In addition, Steven Holl Architects completed several projects in 2005 including two private residences, Higgins Hall Center Section at Pratt Institute (Brooklyn, New York) and the Loisium Wine Visitor Center, Hotel and Spa (Langenlois, Austria). In June 2007 the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art addition in Kansas City, Missouri will be completed and open to the public. Steven Holl Architects recently won four international design competitions: Herning Center of the Arts (Herning, Denmark), Cité du Surf et de l'Océan (Biarritz, France), Sail Hybrid (Knokke-Heist, Belgium), and Meander (Helsinki, Finland) and was commissioned for a residential project in Ørestad (Copenhagen, Denmark).

For more information on the work of Steven Holl Architects, please visit [www.stevenholl.com](http://www.stevenholl.com)

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