



The Macael Awards 2024 will showcase international innovation in architecture, design, and art

- *The 37th edition of the gala, organized by the Andalusian Marble Industry Association (AEMA), will take place on November 15th.*
- *This year, 25 nominations have been submitted, and 12 awards will be presented, 7 of which will be for international projects, further solidifying the global prestige of these recognitions.*

Macael, October 18, 2024 – With a strong international focus, the 37th edition of the Macael Awards, to be held on November 15th, is set to honor the most innovative and sustainable projects in the natural stone and innovative surfaces industry. This year, 25 nominations have been submitted, and 12 awards will be presented, 7 of which will go to international projects, further consolidating the global prestige of these recognitions.

The awarded projects, selected by the Jury composed of members of AEMA's Board of Directors, highlight the industry's ability to adapt to the most demanding architectural and design requirements on the global stage. The Macael Awards, organized by the Andalusian Marble Industry Association (AEMA), not only celebrate the quality and expertise of one of the world's leading natural stone industries, but also recognize its capacity to transform raw materials into sustainable and innovative solutions, promoting the development of environmentally responsible infrastructures.

True to its commitment to sustainability, the gala will once again be a carbon-neutral event. In addition to bringing together industry companies, government representatives, and renowned figures from architecture, design, and construction, the event will also welcome participants of the third edition of the 'Natural Stone and Innovative Surfaces Industry Promotion Program, aimed at architecture students.' Postgraduate and master's students from the universities of Seville, Granada, and Malaga will explore in depth the principles of the Macael Brand, its materials, and the transformative power of this industry. Through specialized talks and guided tours of quarries and companies, future architects will gain insight into the fundamental role of natural stone in modern architectural design. The program will culminate with their attendance at the awards gala.

Moreover, the event will coincide with the International Stone Meeting, organized by TRADE, further reinforcing Macael's position as a global leader in this industry.

Jesús Posadas, President of the Andalusian Marble Industry Association (AEMA), emphasized the essential role of sponsors in making the Macael Awards possible: "The collaboration of our sponsors is key to the success of this event. Their loyalty and constant support, year after year, allow us to hold this gala, where we can showcase our leadership in innovation, sustainability, technology use, commercialization efforts, and market expansion."

The awardees of this 37th edition are as follows:



COMMUNICATION AWARD

Modesto Barragán

The Jury grants the Communication Award to Modesto Barragán, a prominent figure in Andalusian media and host of the program Andalucía Directo. His interest in Macael has brought the town's traditions and significance to the attention of thousands of viewers. The celebration of the 6666th episode of the program in our municipality was a memorable moment, immortalized by the installation of the program's logo, crafted from Macael marble pebbles. Furthermore, his participation in the historical reenactment Canteros y Caciques has been key in reviving and promoting an essential part of our identity. Thanks to his passion for storytelling and showcasing Andalusian roots, Modesto Barragán has also left a mark on our region and played a vital role in promoting Macael in recent years.

SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Etown 6 Office Building, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

The Jury grants the Sustainability Award to the Etown 6 office building by Archetype architect company, located in the heart of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. This project has achieved the highest LEED Platinum V4 certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, thanks in part to the installation of sustainable materials such as Dekton and natural stone. This certification reflects the commitment to reducing the building's carbon footprint and promoting a healthier work environment. A total of 5,500 and 10,000 square meters of Dekton and natural stone, respectively, were used for various exterior applications, including flooring, wall cladding, stairs, pool cladding, and decorative elements like planter coverings.

NORTH AMERICA INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Tower Pinkster Titus Associates

The Jury grants the North America International Award to the architecture firm Tower Pinkster Titus Associates for the development of the ventilated façade in Dekton Sterling at the 180 E. Water Street building in Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA. The uniqueness of the façade lies in its construction with large mitered-edge panels, installed with complex three-dimensional angles on beams and column joints. This solution, utilizing Dekton's resistance to stains, scratches, and extreme weather conditions, has been perfectly adapted to the three-dimensional design of this mixed-use project, which is a fine example of interdisciplinary collaboration, also involving the contractor Riverside Group.

LATIN AMERICA INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Private Villa by architect Antonio Lardino

The Jury grants the Latin America International Award to the Private Villa entirely designed, both inside and out, by architect Antonio Lardino, located in Panama City. This project combines luxury and sophistication through the use of carefully sourced natural materials from Macael. Notably, the design features marble such as Blanco Macael, Calacatta Lincoln, Negro Bambú, Cipollino Multicolor, Taurus Gold granite, Caliza Alba, Grigio Perla, Pietra Santafiora, and various semi-



precious stones like White Quartz, Agata Thera, and Crystal Quartz. The integration of these elements highlights Lardino's creative vision and his ability to merge architectural design with nature in this stunning private seaside residence.

AFRICA INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Sandown Mews, Johannesburg, South Africa

The Jury grants the Africa International Award to the commercial building Sandown Mews, located in Johannesburg, for the renovation project of its facade, which included 1,800 square meters of Dekton Marmorio. The material, with an A2 fire resistance rating, was used in the installation of a ventilated facade system that transformed the building's aesthetics and functionality, increasing the property's value. Additionally, the anchoring system was designed to withstand strong wind gusts, improving the building's ventilation and insulation, which contributes to sustainability and reduced maintenance costs.

ASIA INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Nupami BD, for Gulshan 2 Residence

The Jury grants the Asia International Award to the project management firm Nupami BD for the 'Gulshan 2 Residence, which is a luxury home located in Dhaka, Bangladesh, featuring an impressive array of materials applied throughout the residence. Among these, large-format Calacatta Lincoln marble was installed on the floors and in a sculptural staircase. The kitchen features backlit Honey Onyx and White Onyx for both the countertops and wall coverings, while the bathrooms showcase Calacatta Gold flooring, Blue Roma Quartzite shower walls, Cyclone marble surfaces, and cladding in Caspian Grey, Nairobi Grey, Aspen White, Kayak Beige, and Montblanc. The master suite is adorned with Arabescato Fantastico marble. A handmade Emperor Brown marble sink stands out, placed against a backlit Pangea marble wall.

EUROPE INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Museo Paleis Het Loo Kolen, Netherland.

The Jury grants the Europe International Award to the ambitious renovation project of Paleis Het Loo, which houses a museum and an exhibition hall on the history of the Dutch Royal Family, where the installation of Blanco Macael marble has been the cornerstone of its transformation. With more than 5,000 square meters of new facilities, the new design has focused on preserving the palace's historical charm through the use of this noble and sustainable material, sourced from the quarries of Macael. The stone, which covers nearly all spaces, has been installed on floors, wall cladding in various rooms and corridors, as well as in fountains and exterior decorative details. The brightness of the white marble, along with the filtered light through the glass panels, enhances the efficiency of the climate control systems designed by the architects.

MIDDLE EAST INTERNATIONAL AWARD

Qaryat Al Hidd, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.



The Jury grants the Middle East International Award to the Qaryat Al Hidd residential complex in Abu Dhabi, which is an ambitious large-scale project developed by Saadiyat Development and Investment Company. It includes the installation of a 65,000-square-meter ventilated façade made of Dekton, covering 12 buildings with more than 1,100 apartments. Following a comprehensive master plan strategy, the design is inspired by an exclusive lifestyle, with the 40,000 façade panels custom-made. It incorporates five color ranges: Valterra, Sterling, Zenith, Irok, and Bento, selected for their perfect harmony with the beige and brown tones of the local landscape. Another key objective was to optimize the material as much as possible to minimize waste.

NATIONAL AWARD

INGEPIEDRA for the 'El Corte Inglés' facade in Valladolid

The Jury grants the National Award to da-AR Arquitectura and INGEPIEDRA for the renovation of the iconic building that once housed the El Corte Inglés department store in Valladolid. One of the most striking changes in the renovation is the transformation of its facade. It has been designed with large stone pieces of Almería Travertine marble, measuring 3.45 meters in height by 1.60 meters in width and weighing over 1,600 kilograms. The pieces, anchored from floor to floor, with curvatures and vertical grooves, provide a timeless beauty that marks a new milestone in the city's architecture. The project, which will transform this building into the store of a renowned fashion brand and a luxurious five-star hotel, is located just a few meters from the Plaza Mayor and in the commercial core, positioning the facade as one of the most outstanding in Valladolid.

PERSON AWARD

Alfonso Mollinedo Saenz, MOLLINEDO ARQUITECTURA

The Jury grants the Person Award to Alfonso Mollinedo Sáenz, from the MOLLINEDO architecture studio, for his distinguished career in vernacular architecture related to the world of olive cultivation, recognized with prestigious European awards. His work on projects such as the Aoveland by Oleícola Baeza, located in the city of Baeza, Jaén, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is an example of innovation, featuring the use of Dekton's Pietra Kode range in key areas such as interior flooring, wall cladding, countertops, doors, show-cooking areas, outdoor paving, and restrooms. It is also integrated into decorative furniture elements, such as the storage benches framing the large glass window. This work is inspired by the city of Baeza, its monuments, and the gentle contours of olive trees.

DESIGN AWARD

Hotel El Fuerte, Marbella, Málaga



The jury grants the Design Award to the Hotel El Fuerte, located in Marbella, designed by LR Arquitectura, Pablo Liv and Gustavo Rodriguez, with Jaime Beriestain Studio as an interior designer, for its complete renovation and transformation through a careful selection of natural stones such as Verde Alpi, Crema Dolmen, Crema Terra, African Canyon granite, green slate, and various travertines. These materials, which provide a perfect combination of elegance, durability, and sustainability, are featured in iconic areas such as the lobby, pools, rooms, and common areas. The timeless design of this project, blending tradition and modernity, integrates seamlessly with the Mediterranean style of the complex, elevating its status and offering guests a luxurious experience.