

# ARCHITECT

MIDDLE EAST

NEWS, DATA, ANALYSIS AND TRENDS FOR ARCHITECTS IN THE GCC

**Smart cities**  
Is technology  
always the  
answer?

48

**Technology**  
Innovations in  
design solutions

58

**PERSPECTIVES**  
GAJ SCHOOL  
PROJECT

22

**HOSPITALITY**  
THE FUTURE  
DEBATED

16

**AWARDS**

# Architect of the Year

All the winners,  
the news and the  
views from the  
2014 event

26



# PLUS

**ABC**

Design inspirations

**Waterfront**

La Mer in miniature





# ARCHITECT OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2014

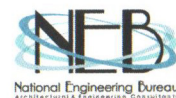
This year saw a record 240 entries across 15 categories from all across the **Middle East**. For the first time we had a sitting panel of judges who assessed each entry – and in many categories the result were as close as they could possibly be.

WORDS BY NICK AMES PHOTOGRAPHERS DANNY ALLISON AND MOSHE LAFUENTE

PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS





# Community and Cultural Project of the Year

## Shams Monument

BNS CO

**T**he winner of the Community and Cultural Project of the Year was the Shams Monument, which is the work of BNS CO.

The Iranian project involved giving a glimpse into the past in the form of a garden and memorial in an area which has become extremely urbanised.

According to the judges a respect for the heritage and history of the country were vital to the project's success.

They called it: "a use of seductive imagery and wonderful use of space which allows the building to breathe and become special."

Azin Soltani and Farshad Kazerooni collected the award on behalf of BNS.

Kazerooni said: "In Iran cultural symbols are very important and this is something we had to work with in order to completely realise the project to its full. The heritage and culture of the country which has develop through many different ages are very important. We wanted to design something so that all generations can learn from the past."

### HIGHLY COMMENDED

**Urban Gallery of Historic Grand Mosque of Ardabil City** - Mohsen Norouzvand and Negar Sarioletlagh

### SHORTLIST

**Al Nadi Tower** – A C Meyerhans Architecture

**GEMS International School** – Godwin Austen Johnson



“**WE WANTED TO DESIGN SOMETHING SO THAT ALL GENERATIONS CAN LEARN FROM THE PAST.**”

PLATINUM SPONSORS



GOLD SPONSORS

