

DAVID KOHN WINS NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD'S 'NEW QUAD' PRIVATE COMPETITION

PROJECT WILL RELEASE POTENTIAL OF AN IMPORTANT CENTRAL OXFORD SITE



New College, Oxford has selected David Kohn Architects (DKA) to design a new quad following a private design competition. A six-strong shortlist was asked to produce a masterplan and concept design for the College's Savile Road site. The brief had the main aim of maximising accommodation potential for the College, whilst also addressing the needs of New College School which shares the site.

The New Quad development will honour the tradition of the Oxford quadrangle and take full advantage of a valuable but currently under-used part of New College's estate.

Other finalists in the private invited competition, organised by Malcolm Reading Consultants, included Alison Brooks Architects, Gort Scott, Kengo Kuma and Associates, Lee / Fitzgerald Architects and Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands.

Sir Curtis Price, Warden of New College, said:

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This is a highly significant project for New College; it will release the potential of an important central Oxford site whilst at the same time creating a piece of striking architecture that will match

the quality of the rest of the College – both timeless and sensitive to the environs. We are very pleased with the result.

Practically, the project will move us closer to our objective of housing all of those undergraduates who wish to live in College accommodation for the entirety of their course.

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David Kohn, founder of DKA said,

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We are absolutely delighted to be working with New College on such an extraordinary project. Our design approach seeks to combine buildings and landscape into a holistic vision. A series of three-sided south-facing quads embrace gardens that range in character from the convivial to the contemplative, reaffirming the institution's relationship to nature.

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Malcolm Reading, competition organiser, said,

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We selected a diverse, international shortlist for the College because we knew the design challenge was going to be testing. David's scheme was the clear winner and he made a connection with the College and jury. It's great to see him winning a project of real presence and scale.

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The College and School will now work with David Kohn Architects to develop the winning concept. Construction is due to begin in 2016.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For media enquiries regarding the competition please phone Catherine Reading on +44 (0) 20 7831 2998 or contact by email at catherine.reading@malcolmreading.co.uk

IMAGES:

For images please contact Sarah Mattok by email at sarah.mattok@malcolmreading.co.uk



NOTES TO EDITORS

- New College, Oxford

New College is one of Oxford's oldest and best-known Colleges. Situated in the heart of the city, the main site is one of the most beautiful in Oxford, boasting the earliest planned College quadrangle and spectacular gardens set against the medieval city wall. While learning and scholarship are the College's primary focus, it also has an exceptionally rich sporting, cultural and musical life. New College Choir has an international reputation, its output numbering over one hundred CDs, regular broadcasts and several Proms appearances. Founded by William of Wykeham in 1379, the College has grown to become one of Oxford's largest, admitting undergraduate and graduate students for nearly all the subjects on offer in the University. The College has a record of consistently strong academic performance, and welcomes applications from students of high academic potential, whatever their background.

new.ox.ac.uk

- David Kohn Architects (DKA)

DKA is an architecture practice based in London working internationally on arts, residential and urban design projects.

Recent projects include the celebrated Room for London, a boat-shaped installation on the roof of Southbank in collaboration with Turner-prize nominated artist Fiona Banner; Sotheby's first purpose-built contemporary art gallery in London and the White Building a community arts venue in Hackney Wick.

Innovation is cultivated through office-based and academic research (David is currently a Visiting Professor at KU Leuven in Belgium) into materials, construction techniques and the cultural contexts of each project. Excellence in design is pursued through collaborating closely with our clients, consultant teams, contractors and end users.

DKA has built a reputation for the quality of its design, winning World Interior of the Year in 2013 and RIBA, D&AD, Designs of the Year, New London and Condé Nast awards in 2012. In 2010 the practice was named 'One-Off House Architect of the Year' and in 2009 'Young Architect of the Year'.

davidkohn.co.uk

- Malcolm Reading Consultants (MRC)

MRC is a strategic architectural consultancy which specialises in the selection of contemporary designers. MRC believes in the power of design to create new perceptions and act as an inspiration – whether at the local level, or internationally.

The consultancy offers a service to find the very best designers for clients with new building projects, either through open-international, or private-invited competitions. Recent work in this area includes competitions for the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, Qatar Museums, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park's Culture & Education Quarter, the Mumbai City Museum, the Natural History Museum, the UK Pavilion at Milan Expo 2015, the Cadogan Estate and Marlborough College, among others.

malcolmreading.co.uk