

Malcolm Reading Consultants (MRC) specialises in achieving outstanding design for clients with capital projects. Expert in all methods of selecting and appointing architects, we believe in the power of design to act as an inspiration.

Whatever the commission – cultural or commercial, high-profile or discreet – MRC creates a unique search strategy around it. We devise original intellectual and visual content for our project briefs in order to engage designers and attract the best minds.

We are the leading independent organiser of design competitions based in the UK, with a dedicated global following and an unrivalled reputation for finding new talent.

**Malcolm Reading  
Consultants Limited**

T +44 (0) 20 7831 2998  
F +44 (0) 20 7404 7645  
[office@malcolmreading.com](mailto:office@malcolmreading.com)

[malcolmreading.com](http://malcolmreading.com)



Design Contest

# KAUNAS M.K. ČIURLIONIS CONCERT CENTRE

Selected as European Capital of Culture 2022, Kaunas is becoming increasingly known as one of the Baltics' key knowledge and cultural hubs. MRC previously worked with the city on their Science Island competition. This second anonymous design contest (to Lithuanian procurement rules that included a negotiated procedure with the finalists) followed the success of the first.

The new c. €30m Kaunas M.K. Čiurlionis Concert Centre, named after a Lithuanian polymath, is intended to be an exemplary civic building. Despite a lively arts and music scene, Kaunas – and Lithuania – lacks a first-rank concert hall with the facilities and acoustic quality to host leading orchestras.

The Centre will comprise: a 1,500-seat Concert Hall with outstanding acoustic qualities; a smaller, secondary hall; conferencing facilities; a restaurant, cafe and bar; and office spaces; and underground parking.

As the brief to competitors explained, this circa 11,750 sq m landmark building on a riverside site should be a regenerative initiative that re-shapes the city, moving its epicentre closer to the river and revitalising a former industrial area.

Given Kaunas' exceptional architectural heritage – the city is en route to becoming a UNESCO Site for Modernist Architecture – and the site has memorable panoramas to the Old and New Towns – architectural quality and contribution to the cityscape were the essential criteria used to judge the designs.

**Jonas Audėjaitis, Kaunas Faculty Dean, Vilnius Academy of Arts,  
Member of Kaunas City Council and competition juror, said:**

*The response of the international architectural community was exceptional – 117 entries from architectural practices from 36 countries. It was a privilege to receive so many creative, high quality concept designs.*

## Finalists

UAB Paleko Archstudija and UAB Baltic Engineers (Lithuania)  
Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios (UK)  
Adam Khan Architects (UK)

## Honourable Mentions

Mark Foster Gage Architects (US)  
Ja Architecture Studio (Canada)  
William Olmsted Antozzi Office of Architecture, TARI Architects and Derek Pirozzi Design Workshop (US)  
Ateliers O-S Architectes (France)  
RARE architecture (UK)  
Studija Heima, MB and Vaidas Saveikis (Lithuania)