

29 JUNE 2013

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL ANNOUNCES SHORTLIST OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN TEAMS

MRC is delighted to announce the shortlist for the Canterbury Cathedral Landscape Design Competition. The selected teams will now be asked to develop concept designs which reimagine and reinvigorate the existing setting.

Canterbury Cathedral, advised by MRC, selected five teams to work on the project. These are:

Hyland Edgar Driver Landscape Architects (UK) in collaboration with Andrew Moor Associates, Thorn Lighting Limited and KLH Sustainability.

Kossmann.dejong (The Netherlands) in collaboration with Felixx, ROD'OR Advies and VAN DEN BERK Nurseries.

Michael Lee Architects (UK) in collaboration with Austin Winkley & Associates, NORM, Biodiversity by Design, Noel Kingsbury and Jackson Coles Construction Consultants.

Purcell (UK) in collaboration with ARUP, Tonkin Liu, Bare Leaning & Bare (Synergy LLP) and Fletcher Teckman Consulting Ltd.

Todd Longstaffe-Gowan Ltd Landscape Design (UK) in collaboration with Gianni Botsford Architects, Langlands & Bell, Press & Starkey and Hockley & Dawson.

Competition organiser, Malcolm Reading, commented:

'We had a fascinating response, roughly divided into teams led by architects and landscape architects, respectively. The selected teams reflect this mix but also bring a strong narrative, specialist or craft collaborator. They really got under the skin of the competition brief and we are looking forward to a stimulating second stage'

The Cathedral has deliberately sought a range of talent and experience. Each firm brings different strengths and expertise to the project.

The shortlisted teams have been given the opportunity to reconsider the way visitors first encounter England's leading Cathedral and Mother Church.

The brief calls for exemplary and sustainable landscape design, which recognises the spiritual, historic and national importance of the site. It includes improving the visual and sensory experience of entering the Precincts, as well as wayfinding, and connecting visitors with the Cathedral's history, personalities and stories.

The winning team will be announced in Autumn 2013.

ENDS

For competition press enquiries please phone Catherine Homsey on +44 (0) 207 831 2998 or contact by email at canterburycathedral@malcolmreading.co.uk

For press enquiries relating to Canterbury Cathedral, please contact Chris Robinson, Estates Surveyor and Public Relations Officer by phone on +44 (0) 1227 862740 or by email at Press.Office@canterbury-cathedral.org

AVAILABLE IMAGES



Resolution: 300 dpi
Size: 3.1mb (30cm by 20cm)
Caption: Site Plan

For images: please email Oliver McGhie at ollie.mcghie@malcolmreading.co.uk



Resolution: 300 dpi
Size: 4.7mb (30cm by 20cm)
Caption: SW Wide View of Canterbury Cathedral



Resolution: 300 dpi
Size: 6.2mb (20cm by 30cm)
Caption: SW Porch of Canterbury Cathedral



Resolution: 300 dpi
Size: 6.6mb (30cm by 30cm)
Caption: Ariel View of Precincts

NOTES TO EDITORS

- The site is within the Precincts, adjacent to the West Front and Christ Church Gate. The Grade I listed Cathedral is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- The extent of the site affected and budget for the eventual works will be defined in part by the winning team, and is expected to amount to roughly £1 million.
- Canterbury Cathedral is England's first Cathedral and Mother Church of the Anglican Communion. Created for worship, learning and discovery, it was founded by St Augustine, the first Archbishop, in 579 AD. St Augustine's original building lies beneath the floor of the nave– it was extensively rebuilt and enlarged by the Saxons, and the Cathedral was rebuilt completely by the Normans in 1070 following a major fire. There have been many additions to the building over the last nine hundred years, but parts of the quire and some of the windows and their stained glass date from the 12th century. The Cathedral was run by as a monastery by Benedictine monks from the 10th century to 1540, when the monastery was closed on the orders of King Henry VIII. Responsibility for the services and upkeep of the building was then passed to the Dean and Chapter. During the Civil War of the 1640s, the Cathedral suffered damage at the hands of the Puritans; much of the medieval stained glass was smashed and horses were stabled in the nave. After the Restoration in 1660, the building was repaired. In the early 19th Century, the North West tower was found to be dangerous and it was demolished in the early 1830s and replaced by a copy of the South West tower, giving a symmetrical appearance to the west end of the Cathedral. In the course of the Second World War, the Precincts were heavily damaged by bombing and the Cathedral's Library was destroyed. Today, the Cathedral stands as a place where prayer to God has been offered daily for over 1,400 years. The Cathedral currently welcomes over a million visitors a year. In March 2013, it was the setting for the enthronement of the 105th Archbishop of Canterbury, and head of the Church of England, the Most Reverend Justin Welby.

For more information please see www.canterbury-cathedral.org

- Malcolm Reading Consultants (MRC) is a strategic architectural consultancy, which specialises in heritage master-planning and the selection of contemporary designers. Highly experienced in both these areas, we are enthusiastic advocates of the power of design to create new perceptions and act as an inspiration – whether at the local level, or internationally. MRC has advised on some of the leading heritage projects in the UK, notably Westminster Abbey, the National Maritime Museum and St Martin-in-the-Fields, the latter winning the European Union's prestigious Europa Nostra award.
- We also offer a service to find the very best designers for clients with new building projects, whether through open-international, or private-invited competitions. Recent work in this area includes competitions for the Cadogan Estate, the Olympic Park Legacy Company, the Aberdeen City Garden project, the Victoria and Albert Museum's Exhibition Road project, the UK Pavilion for Shanghai Expo 2010 and the Glasgow School of Art.

www.malcolmreading.co.uk