

SCOTTISH DESIGN AWARDS LIGHTING CATEGORY UNVEILED

PLDA TEAM UP WITH THE SCOTTISH DESIGN AWARDS TO INTRODUCE A NEW CATEGORY – BEST LIGHTING DESIGN. JUDGED BY A PANEL OF PLDA EXPERTS THE CATEGORY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED SPECIFICALLY TO REWARD LIGHTING DESIGNERS

Peter Veale, director of Firefly Lighting Design, Deborah Whythe, an associate designer at Lighting Design International and Rob Honeywill, an architectural lighting expert with Maurice Brill Lighting Design Ltd, have judged the inaugural lighting category. Certain to become a recurring Scottish design Awards favourite.

The nominations have been announced and in the running for a coveted Scottish Design Award are; Kevan Shaw Lighting Design for Aspire Zone, Aspire Tower, Speirs and Major Associates for Giorgio Armani SpA, Armani Ginza Tower, Tokyo, Japan and Speirs and Major Associates for Department of Municipalities and Agriculture, Abu Dhabi. The Winner will be announced at the awards ceremony in May.

Lighting will not be the only innovation on show at The Scottish Design Awards however. The largest design and architecture event north of the Border also covers disciplines which range from building design to graphic design and aims to highlight some of the best buildings and designs to have been completed from across Scotland in recent months.

Excitement is mounting thanks to a highly successful nominations exhibition which has benefited this year from record entry levels – despite the credit crunch. Buildings in the running for the top awards this year include: the Beatson Cancer Research Building in Glasgow, Quartermile in Edinburgh and Moore Street Housing in Glasgow's Gallowgate.

If that weren't enough a unique LEGO villa display is also being showcased, designed to demonstrate how even the humble plastic brick can be turned into a work of architecture in the right hands. However, it also aims to raise money for the National Autistic Society. As members of the public will not only be able to vote for what they believe is the best Lego building but will be able to bid for them too – with all cash going to the charity.

Said Gordon Young, editor of Prospect: "The Scottish Design Awards represent the very best in design talent, year on year the SDA's just keep on growing, leading to record entry levels for 2009. This is truly a great Scottish success story and we are proud to play our part in telling it."

The winning lighting designs will be announced at the Scottish Design Awards Gala Dinner on May 29 and all architectural and lighting nominations are available to view at www.scottishdesignawards.com.