



PR775 issued: 09th March 2010

Third “Copper and the Home” Design Award Launched

Copper Development Association is looking for UK entries into the third “Copper and the Home” design competition. Keen to harness young talent from around the world, the competition calls for entrants to design an object for the home which uses copper or its alloys (such as bronze or brass) as a fundamental element. Judges will be looking for innovative entries that exploit the superb aesthetic or technical qualities of the metals, and offer an answer to the question: how can copper help us reinvent objects, improve their functionality or revolutionise our usage of them? The best student and professional projects will receive prizes ranging from €1,500 to €4,000.

Omnipresent in our homes but often invisible, copper plays many roles behind the scenes in our houses. The purpose of the “Copper and the Home” design competition is to bring the red metal into the spotlight and nurture its decorative potential. For this third competition, the organisers, European Copper Institute (ECI) and the Italian Copper Institute (IIR), invite designers from across the world to make copper the star of our interiors!

As in previous years, the event is open to two categories of participants. Firstly: fine arts, graphic arts, design and architecture students, and secondly: young professionals, designers and interior architects (under 40). Participants have to design a decorative object for the home using copper or copper alloys that exploit the intrinsic qualities of these metals.

There are innumerable ways of exploring the material, given its wide range of colours, the way it naturally oxidises, its malleability, durability, ductility, antimicrobial properties, and the fact that it can be endlessly recycled. The possibilities for creativity are just as varied: chairs, tables, lamps, vases, murals and radiators, to name but a few.

Projects need to be submitted by 30th November 2010, and the results will be announced in early 2011 (date to be announced later). The winner of the Student category will be awarded a prize of €1,500, and the winners of the Professional category prizes will receive €4,000 and €2,500 for first and second place respectively.

An ancestral material with a powerful visual identity, copper has achieved an eye-catching position in the contemporary design scene over the past few years. More and more designers, including Susan Bradley, Tom Dixon with his celebrated Copper Shade lamps, Tord Boontje and Bassam & Fellows are rediscovering the aesthetic potential of the "red metal", the way it plays with light, and the manufacturing possibilities it offers. Its malleability and ductility vastly increase choices in terms of aesthetics and form and, as it is extremely durable and 100% recyclable, it appeals to a growing number of creators in this age of eco-design. The previous competition attracted more than 130 applicants from all over the world, and the ECI and IIR are looking forward to a further increase this year.

For further information on copper in contemporary design, log onto www.copperindesign.org.



Tom Dixon
Copper Shade
Lamps



Philip Mainzer
Habibi Tables
Side tables



Ben Blanc
Rocking Swell
Vessel



Alfredo Haberli
Mesa Kitchen
Kitchen



Vincenzo De Cotiis
Golden Cage
Bookcase

The competition in brief

- A design competition promoted by the Italian Copper Institute and the European Copper Institute.
- Theme: "Copper and the home".
- Deadline: Projects must be received by November 30th, 2010.
- The competition is divided into two categories:
 - Interior designers and architects (not older than 40 years of age).
 - Individual students or groups of students enrolled in higher education schools of graphics, interior decorating, interior design, faculties of architecture and interior design, doctorates, masters or equivalent courses. Entries must be coordinated by at least one course teacher.

- Design criteria:
 - The design of a home décor object whose realisation incorporates significant and exciting use of copper or its alloys (brass, bronze, cupronickel, etc.).
 - Categories: complementary furniture (such as coat hangers, magazine racks, book shelves, vases), coverings and decorations (wall coverings, dividing walls, doors) or functional elements (radiators, lamps, lights).
- Project format: Electronic (CD, e-mail, etc.) that can be read by the most common software in a Windows® or Mac® environment.
- Prizes:
 - Designers and Architects category: First prize €4,000. Second prize €2,500.
 - Students category: Prize €1,500.
- Requests to participate in the competition must be sent to: info@agenziacopyright.it
- Award ceremony: Early 2011.

Editor's Notes:

The full competition details can be downloaded as a leaflet at:

<http://www.copperinfo.co.uk/news/downloads/copper-and-the-home-2010.pdf>.

Copper Development Association provides information on copper's properties and applications, essentiality for health, role in technology and the quality of life. The Association also provides a link between research and the user industries and maintains close contact with the other copper centres throughout the world.

Copper Development Association, along with Istituto Italiano del Rame (Italian Copper Institute) and nine other centres in Europe, is a member of the European Copper Institute

For further information or hi res images, contact:
 Bryony Samuel
 Marketing Coordinator
 Copper Development Association
 5 Grovelands Business Centre, Boundary Way
 Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 7TE
 Tel: 01442 275705, Fax: 01442 275716
 Email: bryony.samuel@copperdev.co.uk
 Website: www.copperinfo.co.uk
www.copperindesign.org

Copper Connects Life.™