

ARCHMARATHON STONE AWARD

After two years of expectations, Marmomac will finally announce the first winner of the **Stone Award**, the new category of **Archmarathon Awards** created to promote and valorise stone materials in architecture.

Marmomac in 2016 hosted the casting for the event, with the involvement of 20 international architecture studios, from which the three finalists were selected: **Abalo Alonso Arquitectos (Spain)**, **Kaan Architecten (Holland)**, **Maroun Lahoud Architecte (Lebanon)**.

Abalo Alonso Arquitectos had this to say about his **Health Center** project: *"Slate made it possible to integrate the building into the surrounding environment not only thanks to its colour and consistency but even in terms of sustainability. We used a local material designed to relate with its surroundings. It is likely that, over and above the quality of the project, these reasons also influenced the choice of the jury."*

In describing its project for the **Supreme Court of the Netherlands**, the **Kaan Architecten Studio** commented that *"The building clearly illustrates what the Supreme Court represents and does: with its feet firmly rooted on the ground, among the people and with the clarity of facts and knowledge in mind. Its foundations stand on a mass of stone, excavated to create the entrance, above which a clear glass structure rises."*

Lastly, **Maroun Lahoud Architecte** talked about the project for **St. Elie Church** and what impressed the jury by saying that *"it came about from a desire to create a gathering place celebrating elements of nature. It includes the church and the churchyard, all in white, solemnly standing on a dry stone wall base that remodels the topography of the hill to accommodate the multifunctional hall and the adjoining facilities. The project re-used stone materials from a church and neighbouring houses that were destroyed during the civil war with the intention of perpetuating the history of this place. The contrast between the camouflaged material of the base anchored to the ground and the polished and hammer-finished white stone cladding of the church symbolizes renewal by creating a new focal point in the heavy historical tradition of this region."*

Archmarathon is the international architectural event - organised by PubliComm - that brings together 42 design studios from various countries around the world and boasts attendance by more than one thousand visiting architects.

Source:

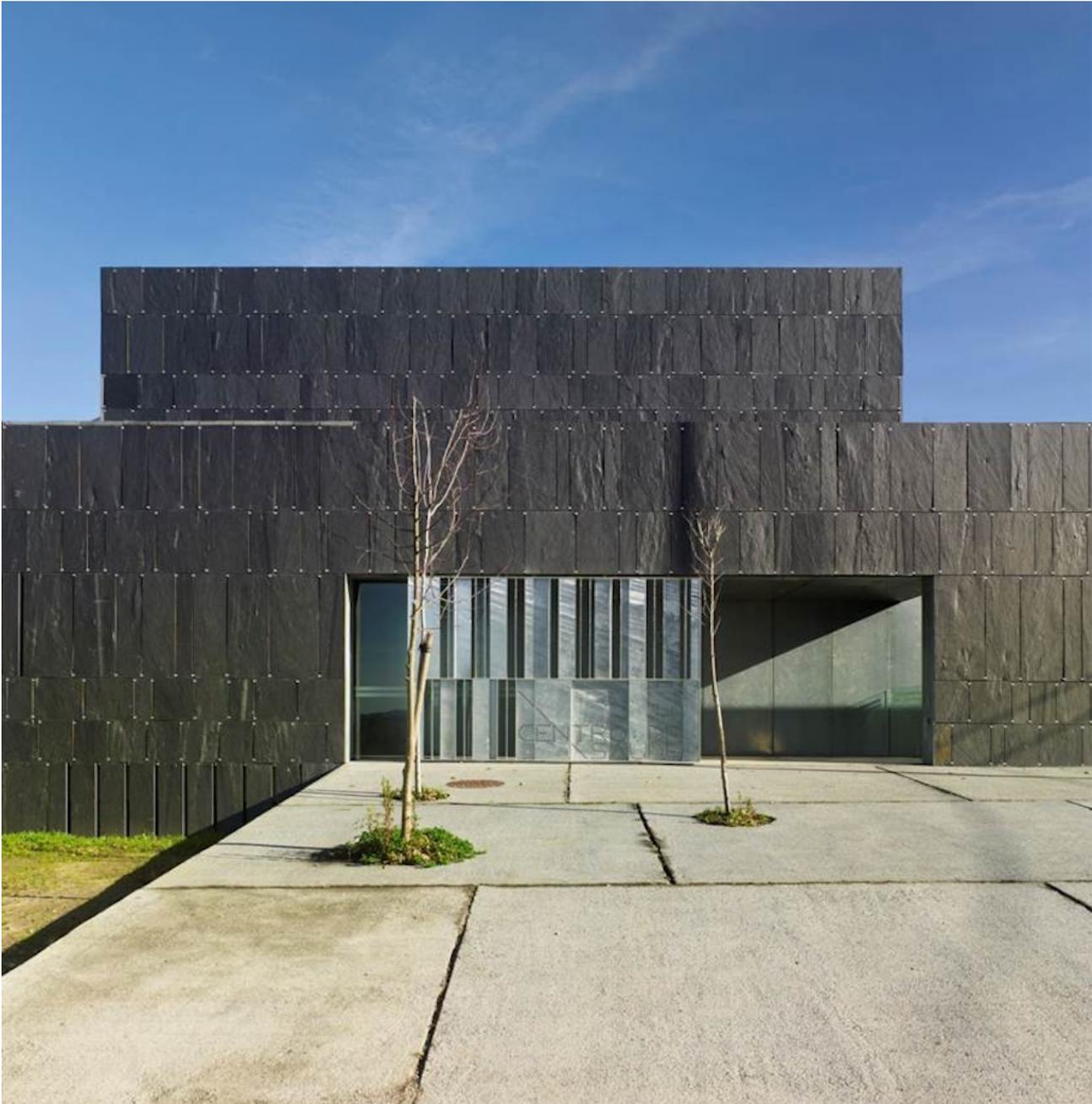


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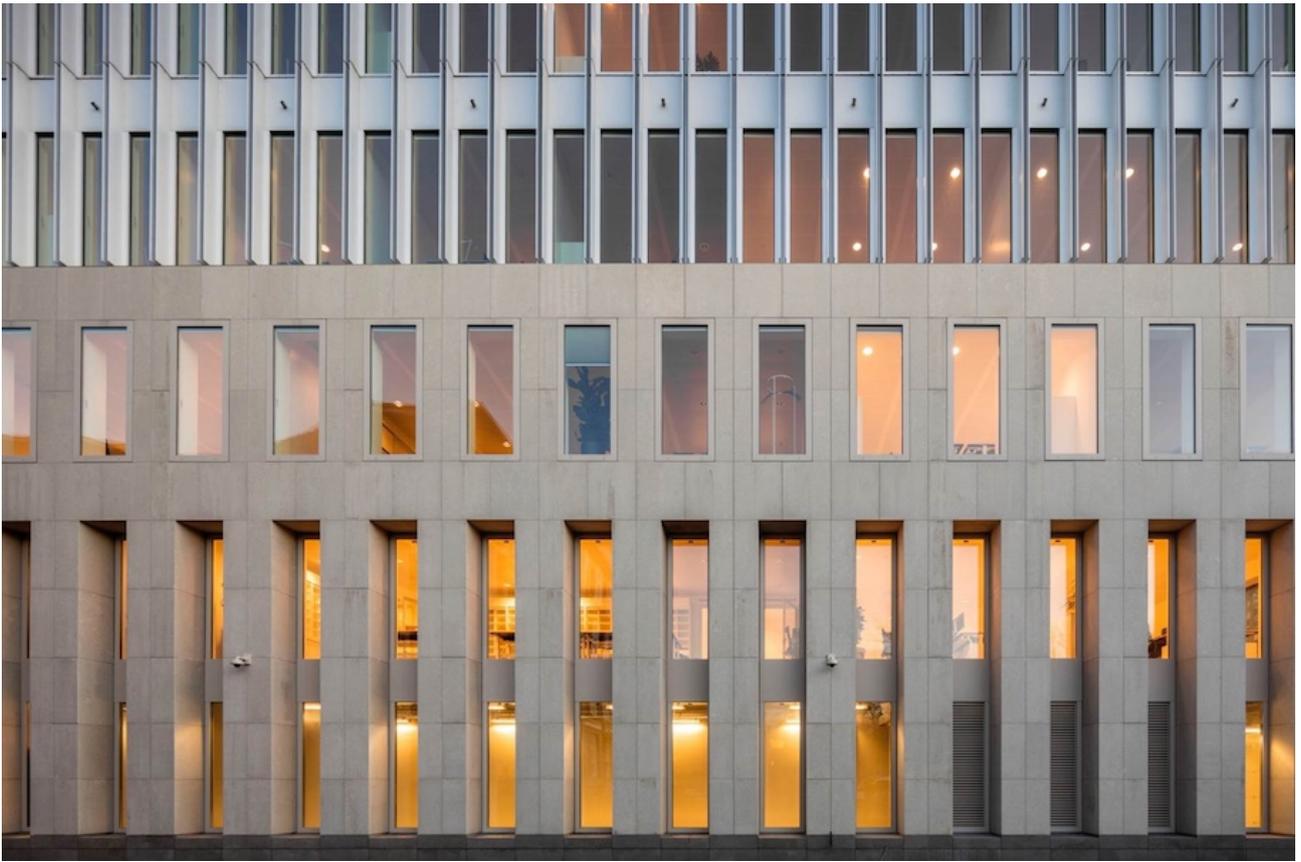
Stone-Ideas.com

Fotos: Luca Morandini / Veronafiere

Abalo Alonso Arquitectos (Spain)



Kaan Architecten (Holland)



Maroun Lahoud Architecte (Lebanon)

