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Grand Designs Awards: this year's winners

TV presenter Kevin McCloud hosted the fifth Grand Designs Awards, with Homes & Property presenting its own award for Product of the Year

The fifth Grand Designs Awards were presented last Thursday 6 May, 2010, at a glittering black-tie dinner for 420 guests hosted by TV presenter Kevin McCloud (www.granddesignsawards.com).

The venue at Excel was within the Grand Designs Live show itself. Grand Designs Live attracted 100,000 visitors over its nine day run.

It was supported by Homes & Property, who were at the Awards ceremony to present our very own Award for Product of the Year.

The Awards are divided into two categories: Homes and Products. The six Products Award categories were kitchens, bathrooms, furniture, lighting, eco and fabrics/ wallpapers (a new category this year).

The criteria were aesthetics, use of materials, originality, fitness for purpose, technical innovation, consumer appeal, sustainability and cost.



College Road, by Knox Bhavan Architects - winner of Best New Build



Geo by Ella Doran - winner of Fabric/Wallpaper Design and Homes & Property Product of the Year

categories were the elegantly-shaped Italian Wave Curve kitchen island by Metris (metriskitchens.co.uk) and the soft-looking PuraVida bathroom range (including furniture) by Phoenix Design for German Duravit (duravit.com).

The furniture winner was the Italian Arc table, designed by John Small of Foster+Partners for Italian Molteni. Its arresting fabric-like base is actually concrete, and will be at the Molteni showroom at 199 Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 shortly (020 7631 2345; molteni.it).

The Italian Fura pendant, with an elegantly curved and layered interior, won the lighting award (studio06.it). And the eco award went to GLASSeco in Surrey, committed environmentalists, for their worktops from locally-sourced recycled glass (01959 576897; glassecoco.uk).



House on Bassett Road by Paul + O Architects - winner of Best Redesign

Designs Magazine, out on 3 June 2010.

The Homes & Property Product of the Year Award Winner: Ella Doran's Geo wallpaper

Over 250 products were submitted, so judging was not easy. Barbara Chandler, design writer for Homes & Property, was a member of a panel which also included Sebastian Conran, Orla Kiely and Oliver Heath.

Out of the all the winners, she choose the pioneering photo-based Geo wallpaper (winner of the textile/wallpapers category) by Ella Doran for the Homes & Property Product of the Year Award.

Ella took pictures in Berlin, then used a repeated architectural detail to create amazing 3D-effect pattern in neutral shades. Her award recognises her innovation and expertise.

Barbara adds: "There's been a big wallpaper revival, but it is still difficult to find one for 21st-century rooms. I could also see this startlingly original design working with traditional furniture."

Geo costs £110 a 10m roll. See it at Ella Doran's shop at 46 Cheshire Street, E2 (020 7613 0782; elladoran.co.uk).

Elegant design

Winners in the other categories were the elegantly-shaped Italian Wave Curve kitchen island by Metris (metriskitchens.co.uk) and the soft-looking PuraVida bathroom range (including furniture) by Phoenix Design for German Duravit (duravit.com).



Arc Table by Foster & Partners for Molteni&C - winner of Best Furniture Design

Homes awards winners

The second part of the Awards was for Homes. London architects made a strong showing with four winners out of the six categories.

Knox Bhavan Architects from SE5 (knoxbhavan.com) won best New Build for a house in SE21; also from London, Paul+O Architects of NW6 (paul-O-architects.com) won Best Redesign for "House on Bassett Road" (W11); more Londoners Black Architecture (black-architecture.com) won best Eco Home for "The Deckhouse" in Emsworth in Hampshire.

Also winners from London were Studio Octopi (octopi.co.uk) for a London extension; Hayes and Partners (hayesandpartners.co.uk) won best Conversion for a barn in Cheshire; and architects McBride Charles Ryan Architects (mcbridecharlesryan.com) flew from Australia to collect best International Home.

* For a full account of all winners, see the July 2010 issue of Grand



P&O Ferris

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