

**EMBARGOED EMBARGOED EMBARGOED**

**12 p.m., Thursday, 7 APRIL 2011**



European Commission  
Culture Programme



The Hague / Brussels 7 April 2011

## **Winners of 2011 EU Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards announced**

***The 27 winners of the 2011 European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra Awards are announced today by the European Commission and Europa Nostra (see list of winners below). The awards will be presented on 10 June during a ceremony at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam in the presence of Androulla Vassiliou, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, and Plácido Domingo, the world-renowned tenor and president of Europa Nostra. Out of the 27 winning projects, six will be named as 'grand prix' laureates at the ceremony as 2011's most outstanding heritage achievements.***

*"Each of the winners represent the best of Europe's achievements in conservation, research and education, as well as honouring dedicated service by individuals and groups. Cultural heritage is an essential part of our cultural diversity and shared history; it brings together our past, present and future. It has helped to make Europe the world's top tourist destination and contributes significantly to the Union's economy," said Commissioner Vassiliou.*

*"Without the combined skills and efforts of many professionals and volunteers and without the involvement of young people, Europe's heritage doesn't have a future. These awards celebrate their love, passion, care and commitment for the preservation of the beauty and the soul of Europe," added Europa Nostra's president, Plácido Domingo.*

The 27 winners were selected from nearly 140 submitted projects in 31 countries. The final choice was made by juries composed of independent experts from across Europe. The six 'grand prix' winners each receive €10,000 and a plaque for the winning building or a trophy for projects.

Cultural heritage brings a significant – and often underrated – contribution to growth and job creation. The sector represents an important part of the cultural and creative industries, which provide jobs for 8.5 million people in the EU and contribute 4.5% to Europe's GDP. Spending on conservation of cultural heritage by public and private bodies is worth an estimated €5 billion a year. [Figures](#) published by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) show that 40% of worldwide international tourism has a cultural dimension.. Cultural heritage is also a key resource for sustainable development and social cohesion.

The awards are supported by the Culture programme of the European Union, which has invested €26 million in co-financing heritage projects since 2007. Other EU-funded programmes also provide support in this area: the European Regional Development Fund allocates €3 billion for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage, €2.2 billion for the development of cultural infrastructure and €775

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million to support cultural services for 2007-2013; a further €89 million has been made available through EU Framework Programmes for Research and Technological Development since 1998.

### Note to editors:

**Europa Nostra** is the voice of cultural heritage of Europe. It brings together and represents 250 non-governmental organisations, 150 associate organisations and 1500 individual members from more than 50 countries who are committed to safeguarding Europe's cultural heritage and landscapes. It provides a network for dialogue, celebrates the best heritage achievements, campaigns against threats to vulnerable heritage buildings, sites and landscapes and campaigns for sustainable policies and high quality standards in heritage. Plácido Domingo was unanimously appointed president of Europa Nostra in June 2010 by the general assembly for his commitment in the field.

The awards ceremony in Amsterdam forms part of Europa Nostra's annual European Heritage Congress.

The awards also benefits from the support of the [Association of Charity Lotteries in the European Union](#).

The deadline to apply for the next awards is 1 October 2011. The awards ceremony will be held in Lisbon in June 2012.

### **2011 Award Winners** (listed alphabetically by country)

#### **Category I — Conservation**

- ['s Hertogenmolens \(the Duke's Mills\), Aarschot, BELGIUM](#)
- [Station Antwerpen Centraal \(Antwerp Central Station\), Antwerp, BELGIUM](#)
- [Villa Empain, Brussels, BELGIUM](#)
- [L'Abbaye d'Ardenne, Saint Germain la Blanche Herbe, Basse-Normandie, FRANCE](#)
- [Conservation of furniture in Boule-Technique, Munich, GERMANY](#)
- [Ancient Messene, Messenia, GREECE](#)
- [BK City, Delft, THE NETHERLANDS](#)
- [Spichlerz Błękitny Baranek \(Blue Lamb Granary\), Gdańsk, POLAND](#)
- [Los tapices de Pastrana \(Tapestries of Pastrana\), Pastrana, Guadalajara, SPAIN](#)
- [Preindustrial buildings in Ademuz / Sesga, Ademuz, Valencia, SPAIN](#)
- [The Hackfall woodland garden, Grewelthorpe, North Yorkshire, UNITED KINGDOM](#)

In this category, a **Europa Nostra Award** is presented to a project from a European country not taking part in the EU Culture Programme:

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- [Kisha e Shën Gjergjit \(The church of St. George\), Shqipëria, ALBANIA](#)

### Category 2 – Research

- [Study on wooden churches and bell towers of Europe, Prague, CZECH REPUBLIC](#)
- [Architectural heritage of the buffer zone in the walled city of Nicosia, CYPRUS](#)
- [Study on thatching in western Europe, from Asturias to Iceland, Madrid, SPAIN](#)

### Category 3 — Dedicated service

- [Professor Tomáš Durdík, Prague, CZECH REPUBLIC](#)
- [Förderverein Kloster Bredelar e.V. \(Friends of the Bredelar Monastery\), Marsberg, GERMANY](#)
- [Bond Heemschut \(heritage association\), Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS](#)
- [Szymon Modrzejewski, Uście Gorlickie, POLAND](#)
- [Dr. Hans-Christian Habermann, Sibiu, ROMANIA](#)

### Category 4 — Education, training and awareness-raising

- [Monumental churches of Antwerp, BELGIUM](#)
- [Hart voor volkscafés \(Heart for people's cafés\) in Flanders and Brussels, BELGIUM](#)
- [4 grada Dragodid – Preserving dry-stone masonry techniques of the Eastern Adriatic, Zagreb, CROATIA](#)
- [ArtZuid Foundation – sculptures and architecture in Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS](#)
- [Education centre and restoration of the monastery of San Millán de Yuso, San Millán de la Cogolla, La Rioja, SPAIN](#)
- [Weald & Downland open air museum, Chichester, West Sussex, UNITED KINGDOM](#)
- [Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology, Southampton, UNITED KINGDOM](#)

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