

NEWS RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE TO THE MEDIA

for release on 26.1.2012, at 16.00

CONCRETE STRUCTURE OF THE YEAR 2011:

HOUSING CORPORATION ASUNTO OY FLOORANAUKIO JA

KUMPULAN KIINTEISTÖT OY LONTOONKUJA, HELSINKI

Housing Corporation Asunto Oy Helsingin Flooranaukio ja Kiinteistö Oy Lontoonkuja has won the Concrete Structure of the Year 2011 Award for skilled design and professional implementation of the project. The close cooperation between the Developer, the town planner and the designers, combined with competent use of concrete, has produced a functioning and impressive architectural building in the residential district of Arabianranta in Helsinki.

Concrete has been used in a holistic and integrated manner in both façades and building frames. The sculptural structures of the internal courtyard, in particular, highlight the formability and delicate features of concrete in building architecture. The high-standard appearance of the building is completed by the successful implementation of the technically challenging use of precast units, including installation.

The buildings of Housing Corporation Asunto Oy Helsingin Flooranaukio ja Kiinteistö Oy Lontoonkuja form an integral city block with a common courtyard that opens up towards the Toukola shore park on the south side of Lontoonkuja Street.

The redbrick cladding and the openings of the building's street façades imitate the rationalism of the old industrial buildings of the Arabia area. This is contrasted by the light colour of the courtyard-side façade, which flows in free form bringing light and variety to the deep city block. Mosaic concrete unites Finnish architecture in a modern way with European building art. A two-storey row-house type structure stands on top of the building, as indicated in the town plan.

The white concrete surfaces of the undulating elements of the internal courtyard are enlivened by a floral motif fabricated in connection with the production of the precast façade and balcony elements. The motif is made from mosaic concrete using waste porcelain from the production process of the Arabia factory. The compatibility of the curved façade elements, the dimensional precision of the parts, the structural details as well as the development of mosaic surfaces have been particularly demanding. The balcony rear wall and reveal elements are made from formlined pigment-dyed concrete. Brick façades have also been realised through a demanding precast technique.

The load bearing structures of the buildings are precast reinforced concrete elements.

The façade architecture of the project is based on an entry submitted to the competition in which ATT invited façade designs for Posliinikatu Street in Arabianranta. The winners were declared in 2007 and this particular entry was

recommended by the Jury for implementation somewhere else in the Toukola shore park area.

Through long-term cooperation with an experienced town planner, an individualistic city block complex has been designed in Arabianranta, based on the development of new and innovative housing construction. The City of Helsinki Housing Production Department, ATT, has in its capacity as the Developer created the preconditions for the implementation of the project and thus for the development of living quality and comfort.

The awarded project has been designed by Helsinki-based Architects Arkkitehtuuritoimisto Heikkinen-Komonen Oy. The primary architects of the project have been SAFA architects Mikko Heikkinen, Markku Komonen and Kai van der Puij.

Project size: 45 370 m³, number of apartments: 122

AWARDED PROJECT PARTNERS:

Developer: City of Helsinki Housing Production Department, ATT
Architectural design: Architects Arkkitehtuuritoimisto Heikkinen-Komonen Oy
Structural design: Finnmap Consulting Oy
Town planner: Mikael Sundman, architect, Licentiate in Technology
Precast concrete elements: Parma Oy

The Concrete Structure of the Year competition was organised for the 42nd time and 14 entries were submitted this year. The award is distributed every year to a construction project that best represents Finnish concrete construction. The purpose of the competition is to introduce and promote Finnish concrete architecture, technology and construction. The competition was organised by the Association of Finnish Concrete Industry.

The Jury of the Concrete Structure of the Year 2011 competition consisted of MSc **Lauri Kivekäs** from Betonikeskus ry as the Chairman, as well as architect **Anu Puustinen** appointed by the Finnish Association of Architects, SAFA; construction architect **Asko Eerola** as a representative of the Association of Finnish Construction Engineers and Architects, RIA; Professor **Jari Puttonen** Appointed by the Finnish Association of Civil Engineers, RIL; MSc **Tapio Aho** as a representative of the Concrete Association of Finland; and journalist **Minna Joenniemi** from the Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE, cultural programs, as an invited representative of the media. Architect SAFA, Editor-in-Chief **Maritta Koivisto** from the Concrete Magazine as well as MSc **Olli Hämäläinen** from the Association of Finnish Concrete Industry have acted as secretaries of the Jury.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Association of Finnish Concrete Industry: Maritta Koivisto, gsm +358 40 9003577 or maritta.koivisto@betoni.com,

Olli Hämäläinen, gsm +358 50 1513 or olli.hamalainen@betoni.com

<http://www.betoni.com/fi/Tietoa+betonista/Vuoden+Betonirakenne>

Media photos of the project are available at:

<http://www.betoni.com/fi/Tietoa+betonista/Vuoden+Betonirakenne/Kuvapankki/2011/>

CANDIDATES FOR CONCRETE STRUCTURE OF THE YEAR 2011 (14 candidates)

Port Tower, Kokkola – Arkkitehtuuritoimisto Antti Luutonen

Mestaritunneli Tunnel, Ring Road I, Espoo – FCG Planeko Oy

Oikarainen Bridge, Rovaniemi – Sito Oy

Lövö Bridge, Kimito Island – Ramboll Oy

Student housing complex TYS Ikituuri, Turku – Arkkitehtitoimisto Sigge Oy
Renovation project of Pirkkola sports centre, Helsinki – Siren Arkkitehdit Oy
Music House, Helsinki – LPR-arkkitehdit Oy
Jampankaari apartment building, Järvenpää – Arkkitehtistudio Kujala & Kolehmainen Oy
Housing Corporation Kaanaankatu 6 ja Kaanaanpiha 4, Helsinki – Huttunen - Lipasti – Pakkanen Arkkitehdit Oy
Sellonhuippu residential complex, Espoo – Cederqvist & Jäntti Arkkitehdit Oy
As Oy Helsingin Flooranaukio / Kiint. Oy Lontoonkuja 5, Helsinki – Arkkitehtuuritoimisto Heikkinen & Komonen Oy
Housing project Espoon Koukkuniemenranta, Espoo – Arkkitehdit Kirsi Korhonen ja Mika Penttinen Oy
Student Housing Corporation Joensuun Elli , Joensuu – Arcadia Oy, artworks: Maria Mughal
Renovation project of Raatti stadion, Oulu – Siren Arkkitehdit Oy