

VEX: Agitated Vernacular ASA International Design Competition 2018

1. DESIGN BRIEF

This year's ASA International Design Competition aims to upend the typical associations of vernacular architecture and design. The term 'VEX' can be approached from a multitude of perspectives, all to challenge, or agitate, the stereotypes of what vernacular should or should not be.

One tends to assume that vernacular architecture is in opposition to modern architecture and lifestyle. There is the perception that vernacular is something that is traditional and therefore is considered to be technologically 'inept' or 'crude'¹. This relegates vernacular design to irrelevance in today's society and also implies that it is immutable and static, and 'unimprovable'²

The challenge of the competition is for participants to create a new type of vernacular with characteristics not commonly associated with vernacular design. The competition is looking to showcase new vernacular design that is mutable, inventive and capable of self-renewal.

The goal is to re-think vernacular as something that can assume performative roles and possess generative potentials. The Jury will reward entrants that can demonstrate vernacular design that is dynamic and is particularly suited to innovation, invention and relevance.

VEX asks:

- How can Vernacular agitate the status quo?
- Can Vernacular be a catalyst, a variable, a process, rather than a static element?
- Can Vernacular be a language from which others can spring from and use?

2. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Each submission must include the following contents:

2.1. SITE LOCATION: The participant can select any specific site as the site of their design. The subject can be architecture, urban design or interior design.

2.2 DESIGN RESPONSE: After identifying the site, provide conceptual drawings, analytical drawings, sections, plans, renderings or perspective drawings in any scale. Demonstrate how vernacular quality modifies the subject and the resulting design outcome.

3. DELIVERABLES:

3.1. Five (5) Graphic Slides: Square Format 420×420 mm each

- High resolution PDF @ 300 dpi
(maximum file size of combined 5 PDF slides: 20* MB)
- Recommendation: font size used in the graphics should not be less than 11 pt. for printing clarity.

¹ Jean-Paul Bourdier, T. Minh-Ha Trinh, "Drawn from African Dwellings", Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1996.

² Alexander Tzonis, Liane Lefaivre and Bruno Stagno, "Tropical Architecture, Critical Regionalism in an Age of Globalization", London: Wiley-Academy, 2001.

- File name: Firstname_Lastname_300.pdf

3.2. Project Description in English, maximum 300 words

- File type: .doc
- File name: Firstname_Lastname.doc

Files that do not meet the specified requirements will not be taken into consideration. For more details on deliverables and submission process please refer to the competition website.

4. AWARDS:

First prize:	4,000 USD
Second prize:	2,000 USD
Third prize:	1,000 USD
Honorable Mention:	3 x 500 USD

5. COMPETITION TIMELINE:

- Official Announcement of competition: January 30, 2018
- Online Registration for competition begins: January 30, 2018
- Deadline for submissions: March 15, 2018
- Announcement of shortlisted entries: April 15, 2018
- Finalist Judging and Awarded entries: May 6, 2018

6. REGISTRATION & SUBMISSION:

- Registration is free.
- Register and submit online at www.asacompetition.com

7. ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE:

- Open to students, architects, urban planners, designers, artists and thinkers.
- Submit as an individual or as a team.
- No restrictions on age, gender or nationality.
- No limits on the number of submissions.
- Work cannot be published elsewhere before.
- Submission cannot be built work or completed projects.
- The entrant should have legal rights and copyrights to all the material submitted.
If the project contains any material or elements that are not owned by the entrant, the submission shall be excluded from any consideration. If it is later known that rights have been violated, the prize and award will be recalled.
- The copyright of the project belongs to the entrant.
- All materials submitted may be displayed and/or published at the discretion of The Association of Siamese Architects under Royal Patronage.

8. JUDGES: TBD

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