

1/2005

## Great Beginnings: Contemporaine Celebrates the New Year with Honor Award for Architecture

The 2005 AIA Honor Awards for Architecture recipients indeed present an impressive and diverse body of work. The 13 selected projects include both up-and-coming and well-known architects and firms. Undeniably, civic structures reigned supreme this year, with 6 projects in that realm awarded.

A sampling of building types reveals houses, churches, an auditorium, a barn/stable, museum, conservatory, sauna, and library. Eleven projects are in the U.S., one is in Italy, and one in Canada. Vancouver-based Patkau Architects Inc. captured two Honor Awards for Architecture this year.

### Contemporaine at 516 North Wells, Chicago

#### Perkins + Will, for CMK Development

The 28-unit condominium building contains a 4-story base for retail and parking and an 11-story residential tower. Located in Chicago's River North, an area of mid-rise warehouses turned into residential lofts and towers, the Contemporaine successfully mediates the varying scale and context with its sculptural tower and the articulation of its functioning parts. The jury liked that the building "moves beyond Miesian forms to create a compositional expression viewed from every side. The simple gesture of separating the base, meeting the contextual demands of the pedestrian street is effective in scale and interest. The expressed concrete, the pinwheel balconies, and the stepped terraces give a wonderful precedent in a sea of 'modern lofts' and neo-Georgian apartment buildings. Expressing the garage function is refreshing and honest. It works, and shows there is a different way."

Photo © Steinkamp/Ballogg Photography.

—Heather Livingston

### 2005 AIA Honor Awards for Architecture jury

Chair Thomas W. Ventulett, FAIA, TVS & Associates

Frank Harmon, FAIA, Frank Harmon Architect

Amira Joelson, Assoc. AIA

Brenda A. Levin, FAIA, Levin & Associates

Susan Lipka, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, University of Texas

Vivian Loftness, FAIA, Carnegie Mellon University

Thomas Phifer, AIA, Thomas Phifer and Partners

Joseph M. Valerio, FAIA, Valerio Dewalt Train Associates

Danielle S. Willkins, American Institute of Architecture Students

