COMBO COMPETITIONS

PRESENTS

FAITH!

A PLACE OF WORSHIP IN LONDON

APRIL 13TH - JULY 6TH 2014

FAITH!

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ABOUT COMBO COMPETITIONS

Combo Competitions organizes international ideas competitions for designers of any field: architectural-, landscape-, urban-, interior-, furniture-, industrial-, and graphic designers are all welcome.

The initiative comes from Per Linde, a Swedish architect living in London. Being a frequent competition participant himself, he grew tired of the similarities of design competitions and wanted to bring something new to that world, and decided to do so by founding a brand new competition website.

By emphasizing the *creativity* behind the proposals, and by challenging the competitors to stretch their imagination and innovation even further, Combo Competitions' aim is to not only host a variety of well-advised design competitions, but also to grow into a *platform* for designers to showcase their work online.

Creativity:
With the high quality of graphics in competitions today – CGI's, collages, diagrams – it has become easier for those judging to be seduced by the appeal of the visuals, rather than the actual idea behind a proposal.
To comfortably shift emphasis back towards well-advised concepts, without taking away the importance of appearance and presentation, Combo Competitions is introducing an additional element to competitions: in addition to fulfilling the brief, each participant is asked to add a unique element to the design. Whether this is another structure, a new function tied to the original, or something completely different, is up to the competitor to decide – as long as it adds value to the project. This presents an opportunity to push the participants' creativity even further, and at the same time urge the judges to give all aspects of a proposal equal consideration.

Platform:
By offering each winner a personal page within the *www.combocompetitions.com* domain, displaying their submitted proposals along with the jury's comments, the site will also serve as an online portfolio for the winning competitors.
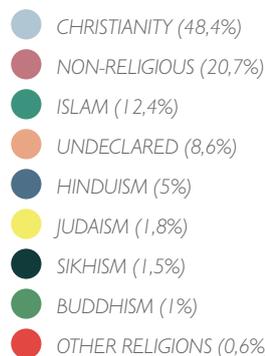
FAITH!

The Oxford Dictionaries define religion as *"The belief in and worship of a superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods"*.

Faith is a powerful word, with different meaning to us all. It can provide hope and security, trust and confidence. It helps numerous people through the day, every day. With faith comes conviction. However, with conviction sometimes follows conflict. And conflicts often stem from a lack of understanding. In a perfect world we would all have a mutual acceptance towards each other, regardless of what we know about someone else's beliefs and opinions. In the meantime, a way to help people embracing a different faith than their own could be to try and educate them.

FAITH! wants to address this by merging two concepts, namely religion and knowledge.

The challenge consists of two parts: to design a place of worship, and a place of information. The idea behind this combination builds on the notion that allowing people of different faiths to come together, and share their thoughts and experiences, could enrich *everyone*.

RELIGION IN LONDON (2011)

- *CHRISTIANITY (48,4%)*
- *NON-RELIGIOUS (20,7%)*
- *ISLAM (12,4%)*
- *UNDECLARED (8,6%)*
- *HINDUISM (5%)*
- *JUDAISM (1,8%)*
- *SIKHISM (1,5%)*
- *BUDDHISM (1%)*
- *OTHER RELIGIONS (0,6%)*

SOURCE: 2011 Census: KS209EW
Religion, local authorities in England and Wales

With its religious diversity and large population, London is a perfect location for trying to bridge gaps between people of different faiths.

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BRIEF

Goal:

Design a place of worship in London!

Twist:

In addition to the actual place of worship, the design proposal should include a component dedicated to informing and educating people who are interested in knowing more about that specific religion. Whether this component is part of the overall structure or a freestanding object - or concept - should be decided by the participant.

Further considerations:

It is left to the discretion of each participant to choose the faith in question. For example: Christianity, Islam, Hinduism or any of the other world religions. Or, departing from the international faiths, it can be an indigenous religion, or a belief associated with a New Religious Movement (NRM). It can even be a cult, or a place for atheists. And of course it does not matter if *you* believe in the faith or not.

Is there a way of using architectural design to awaken someone's curiosity? Can a place of worship be designed to suit its followers *and* function as a beacon, enticing "outsiders" to come closer? With curiosity comes wisdom.

There are no restrictions on the actual building other than it has to be located within the site boundary.

The actual design should benefit *everyone* - from worshippers of the religion in question to a passer-bys, or someone interested in finding out more about the religion.

The main idea of *FAITH!* is to envision a place for worship and - equally important - a way of increasing tolerance between people of different faiths. Although obvious, we ask that the designs are not offensive or derogatory.

Please note that this is an ideas competition only - there is no intention to build any of the submitted proposals.

COMPETITION PACKAGE

Upon registering and paying the entrance fee, each competitor/team will be able to download a package containing a CAD file of the site (indicating the actual site boundaries) and context photographs.

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The site is located in the King's Cross development area in the middle of London. Its central location and an extensive transport interchange make it a convenient destination for all Londoners, easily accessible regardless of where they live. The same goes for outside visitors: all in all public transport offers 6 tube lines, 14 bus routes, airport connections and national as well as international rail.

At the northern end of Camley Street Natural Park is a stretch of land that offers a rare mix of components in the urban fabric: both greenery and water in the vicinity of industrial, commercial, cultural & residential areas.

Since the beginning of the redevelopment in 2008, the area has changed considerably, and will continue to do so until its completion in 2020.

The site is located just north of Camley Street Natural Park, on the tip that is currently occupied by St Pancras Cruising Club. For this competition the site is to be regarded as empty - the cruising club will have been relocated elsewhere and the existing buildings can be removed.

Further site considerations: it is left to the discretion of the participants whether the site should be entirely occupied by buildings, or if it should also offer public space. Proposals should provide an access path to the site.

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Required data:

Diagrams/images explaining the project

1 external view

1 internal view

Plans and section necessary to communicate the project

Text - around 500 words or less

Plans and sections can be diagrammatical as long as they clearly explain the spaces and their use.

Please note that these are minimum requirements - participants are welcome to submit additional drawings and images.

Awarded participants will also be asked to submit their proposals as single images (to ease publication) no later than a week after the winners are announced.
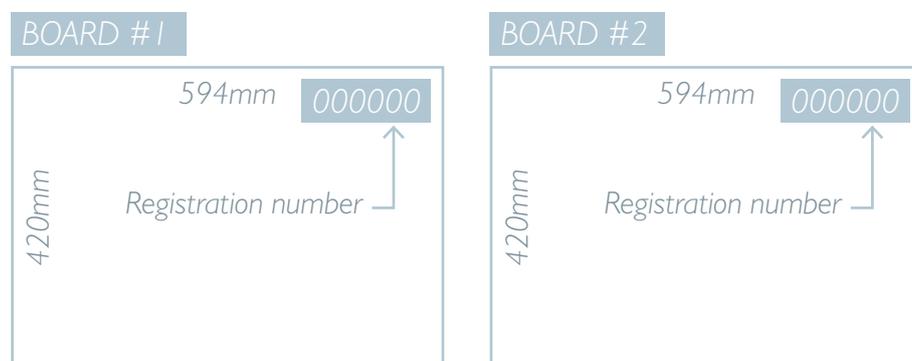
SUBMISSION FORMAT

All entries should be submitted on two digital A2 boards in landscape orientation.

Entries should be submitted as one single PDF file, containing the two pages. The file-name should be the unique, six-digit number given when registering. This number must also be visible in the upper-right corner of each board.

The file size of the 2-paged PDF must be less than **10MB**. Larger files won't upload.

BOARD #1

594mm   *000000*

420mm

Registration number

BOARD #2

594mm   *000000*

420mm

Registration number

FAITH!

The jury consists of one representative from Combo Competitions along with three external jurors, to be announced no later than May 11th.

JUDGING CRITERIA

What to emphasize in your submitted work:
CONCEPT: A well-advised approach to the project, taking into consideration worshippers as well as visitors outside the faith.

DESIGN: An aesthetically appealing structure that addresses tradition & progress within the chosen faith, while at the same time relating to the surrounding context.

COMMUNICATION: A *very* clear explanation (diagrams + images) of the concept and how the building operates, how the two functions (religious & educational) relate to each other and to the surrounding context. The presentation style should support the proposal.

Emphasis will also be placed on the *experience* of the place of worship - the intangible qualities of the space. In other words, try to communicate how a visit there would *feel*.

There will not be specific categories for winning entries (such as *best mosque*, *best church*, *best "other"* and so forth). Instead, the winning proposals will be chosen based on how well they provide an opportunity for believers to practice their faith, combined with how well they welcome and inform those not sharing the faith in question.

PRIZES

1st prize: £1,200 (one thousand two hundred British pounds)
2nd prize: £600 (six hundred British pounds)
3rd prize: £200 (two hundred British pounds)

The jury will also recognize a number of honourable mentions.

In addition to the cash prizes, the winners will receive a personal page within the *www.combocompetitions.com* domain, showing their proposal along with the jury's motivation.

A selection of the winning proposals will be published on various websites and blogs and/or their printed counterpart. Previous publications include, among others: Bustler, ArchDaily, WA - Wettbewerbe Aktuell and Ottagono.
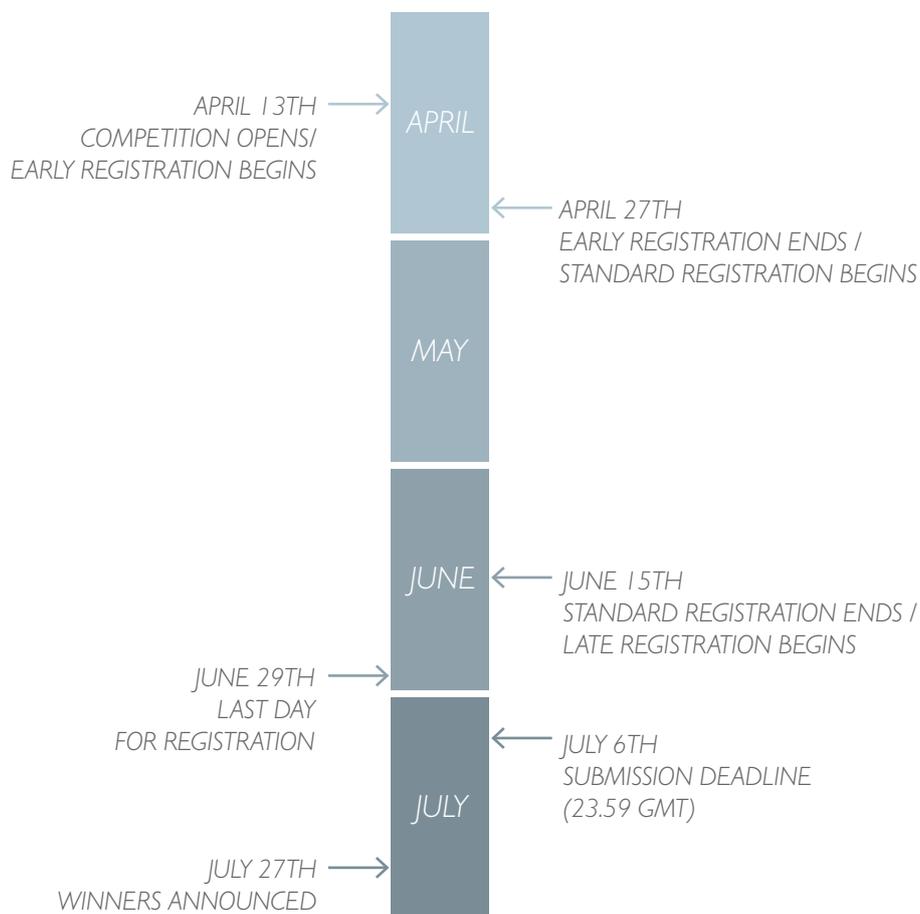
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The competition opens on April 13th, 2014. The registration fee is £40 until April 27h, when early registration ends and standard registration begins (fee £50). Standard registration ends on June 15th, when late registration begins (fee £60). Last day of registration is June 29th, one week before the submission deadline, which is on July 6th. Winners will be announced no later than July 27th.

Please note that all deadlines are 23.59 GMT.

APRIL 13TH
COMPETITION OPENS/
EARLY REGISTRATION BEGINS

APRIL

APRIL 27TH
EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS /
STANDARD REGISTRATION BEGINS

MAY

JUNE

JUNE 15TH
STANDARD REGISTRATION ENDS /
LATE REGISTRATION BEGINS

JUNE 29TH
LAST DAY
FOR REGISTRATION

JULY 6TH
SUBMISSION DEADLINE
(23.59 GMT)

JULY

JULY 27TH
WINNERS ANNOUNCED

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ELIGIBILITY

The competitions of Combo Competitions are open to all individuals and groups interested in any of the creative disciplines spanning from graphic design to urban design, and everything in between.

Students and professionals are equally welcome. Each submission can be created by an individual, or by a team of 2-4 participants.

INTELLECTUAL AND PROPERTY RIGHTS

Participants in the competition guarantee to Combo Competitions the originality of their proposals and the unhindered exercise of the intellectual and property rights over them. Once submitted to Combo Competitions the proposals will then become freely available for online publication on *www.combocompetitions.com* and all other websites that Combo Competitions may choose.

If there should be any reason a participant wishes not to have his/her work published he/she must request it in written form from Combo Competitions, within 14 days of the submission deadline for the competition.

Please refer to *www.combocompetitions.com/terms* for full Terms & Conditions.

GOOD LUCK

Thank you for your interest in Combo Competitions - we look forward to your entry.
Good luck!