

## ***Piran Days of Architecture\_PIRANESI Award 2021\_MONTENEGRO***

This is the first year the architects from Montenegro are taking part in the PIRANESI Award competition 2021, traditionally given out at the Piran Days of Architecture international conference. While selecting the architectural realizations, the selector from Montenegro has focused on public buildings which, placed at very specific and dimensionally restrictive locations, establish an innovative dialogue with the immediate environment, users and the community at large. The five selected buildings are all examples of good practices that emancipate architectural and visual standards in Montenegro.

**Commercial Showroom “ENT-EXT”** (Studio Enforma, 2019) and **BETULA Design Center** (Studio Synthesis, 2021) are two commercial buildings located next to each other along the Adriatic highway (Budva – Tivat/Kotor) near the airport in Tivat. By creating the necessary distinction to the chaotic peri-urban zone they are located in, both buildings represent original and innovative solutions. Clearly introverted, the “ENT-EXT” building is based on the idea of duality (“ENTerrier-EXTerrier”, which is also the name of the company) or the concept of “space in space”, forming a green oasis within a monolithic cubic form, the “soft” contents inside the “hard” envelope. The BETULA building is more extroverted, “semi-soft/hard”, with a semi-atrium and a double facade made of aluminium perforated panels, producing the effect of a visual monolithic facade during the day and attractive transparency at night.

**Business Center GLOSARIJ** (Studio GRAD, 2021) is a building in a similar environment, but exclusively for administrative purposes. With a displaced parallelepiped volume at the level of the first floor, as well as the matrix modularity in function followed by the reduced architectural vocabulary, it visually regulates the deregulated urban landscape of disreputable warehouses and unarticulated traffic infrastructure on the outskirts of Podgorica.

**Faculty of Fine Arts** in Cetinje (Andjelka Badnjar, 2020) is a reconstruction of one part of the industrial complex “Stari Obod”, which is how the existing industrial building became incorporated into a new volume. Modern materials and contrasting facade cladding create a dynamic envelope. The emphasized multiplication of certain architectural elements, which functionally corresponds to the classrooms and art studios inside, supports the industrial character of the building and preserves the recognizable “genius loci”.

**The House of Olives** in Bar (Studio Arhing, 2021) represents a fluid system evolving into open and closed spaces, indicating the transposition of the vernacular spatial matrix of the Old Bar and its multi-layered cultural heritage. Different architectural elements and materials, characteristic of a complex context, create spatial segments rich in visual sequences. The emphasized “hollowness” (“void”) inside of building becomes an integral part of its volume, allowing additional visual transparency.

Montenegrin national selector  
Slavica Stamatović Vučković, PhD, Architect  
Associate professor, Faculty of Architecture, UofM

