“EVOLUTIONARY HERITAGE” WINS THIRD PRIZE IN THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN COMPETITION FOR THE SOKOLNIKI PARK IN MOSCOW, RUSSIA.

(29. 09. 2014) After making the top ten shortlist for the development of the second stage, the team led by Lola Landscape Architects (NL), Taller 301 (CO), Land+Civilization Compositions (NL), and aZone (RU) will be involved in the further development of Moscow’s largest urban park.

THE PARK
Park Sokolniki is Moscow’s biggest and most visited park, counting 515,7 hectares. It was planted under the rule of Peter the Great and has evolved into an urban city forest, comparable to Tiergarten in Berlin and Bois de Boulogne in Paris, with an intensive park program.
THE COMPETITION
For the competition, 10 finalists were selected, from 6 countries - Russia, the Netherlands, China, France, UK and Spain. They were given two months to develop proposals for the development of the park. "All teams coped with this task brilliantly," - said Sergei Kapkov, chairman of the jury, government minister Moscow and the head of the Department of Culture. According to Kapkov the experience of such an open international competition for the creation of the public space is critical to the capital. "Today, the Department of Culture of Moscow has over a 100 parks under its responsibility, of which its improvement and development should be completed by the end of 2018. During the competition, we met with a number of highly qualified foreign and Russian teams, which we plan to attract in the future for this work," he said.

THE PROPOSAL
The competition entry, called ‘Evolutionary Heritage’, is a proposal for a gradual upgrading of the park. It has always changed and adapted through time, this is its history, its heritage and its character; and thus forms a retroactive manifesto. The park should continue to evolve and change – allowing elements to die, adapt, emerge, and return. Ideas and thoughts from the past can return with a new twist. Every two years a new theme is introduced the park, which structures the realisation of one iconic project, several small scaled interventions, lectures and debates en restructuring of maintenance.
One element of the evolving heritage is to form an iconic project for resilience. It is the realization of a two kilometre long greenhouse on a park axes. It will be the first winter promenade in the world. Walking through the greenhouse would lead one along many examples of resilient development and would be seen as a monument to the famous Kitchen debates. The greenhouse axis is formed by relocating existing municipal nursery. This large space in the forest will be adapted as a glade: a big open space for barbecuing, sunbathing and playing. The species grown in the greenhouse will be drastically diversified in order to plant for a diverse ecology. Next to that, the vegetables will be grown, which can be served in the restaurants in the park.

The consortium shared the third prize with Turenscape (CH). The first prize went to Wowhaus (RU), the second prize went to Debarre + Duplantiers (FR). All winners will be involved in the further development of the park.

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Media Links
http://archi.ru/russia/57483/park-sokolniki-rezultaty-konkursa
LOLA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS is an office for landscape architecture, based in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. LOLA researches and designs the never ending development of the landscape, city as well as countryside. Founded by Peter Veenstra, Eric-Jan Pleijster en Cees van der Veeken in 2006, LOLA designs and researches public space at different scales. Characteristic for the office’s work is the fusion of urban and natural landscape and the integration of innovative spatial phenomena. From our backyards to regional extend, ‘green’ urbanity can be designed, the accessibility of the landscape maximized and our daily environment enriched.

For further information please contact LOLA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS - http://www.lolaweb.nl/

TALLER 301 is a young architecture studio, based in Bogotá, Colombia. Our practice has a highly academic approach to architectural design. Investigation is a crucial component in the process that leads to integral solutions for our clients.
- We think architecture should be rigorous and precise.
- We like clear and strong concepts.
- Every single gesture is important: maximum effect with minimum means.
- Our interests are driven by society’s genuine needs: global issues.
- By working with universal concepts we develop specific solutions.
- Our mind is constantly set on the future, but we never forget to acknowledge the past.
- We embrace new challenges no matter how big or small, local or remote.

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Land+Civilization Compositions is a Randstad [NL] and Istanbul [TR] based office that works and collaborates on issues related to built form, with a portfolio scope from research to design.

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aZONE architectural group was formed in 2006. Early 2011, after several years of common work, its founding partners Azat Hasanov, Anastasia Ivanova and Anton Eguerev matured the original idea into an architectural company. aZONE provides innovative and award-winning services within architecture. The team’s approach ensures that design solutions are thoroughly researched and co-ordinated with clients’ requirements. The scope of work is broad in scale, budget and field of action.

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