

VASSILIS SGOUTAS

Architect, graduate of the University of Cape Town (UCT). Helen Gardner Prize

Professional activities

Work experience started in South Africa and Iraq, as designer and planner with Doxiadis Associates specialising in regional and town planning. Co-founder of the "Sgoutas Architects" firm in 1961. In private practice since then.

The firm has completed significant projects in Greece, Germany, the Middle East and North Africa. Works include public buildings and in particular auditoria, commercial buildings, pharmaceutical plants, hospitals, retrofitting of historic buildings, remodelling of administrative buildings and landscaping. Among them, office buildings for Ciba-Geigy, Siemens and Novartis, industrial plants for Pfizer, Upjohn, Union Carbide, Boehringer Ingelheim and Famar, the Athens Management and Conference Centre, the University of Crete Faculty of Medicine, the OIMS Hospital in Tripoli Libya, the Alexander Fleming Basic Biological Research Centre, the EEC Presidency remodelling of Zappeion Palace, the Cerebral Palsy Greece Education and Rehabilitation Centre, the Greek Pavilion at the Frankfurt 2001 Book Fair, the Carthage auditorium and site development project in Tunisia, the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation Cultural Centre and, in collaboration, the Athens Concert Hall and the Thessaloniki Concert Hall.

Numerous awards in competitions. Two of the 30 Ministry of Public Works ex-aequo prizes for the best implemented buildings in Greece and one of 9 ex-aequo awards for innovative housing.

Elected offices

President of the International Union of Architects (UIA) until 2002 and, earlier, its Secretary General. Held various offices at the Greek Architects Association (SADAS). Member of the Technical Chamber of Greece Assembly (1984-2006).

Other activities

Actively involved with lectures and writing, in matters related to the environment, the disabled and poverty. Has represented the Technical Chamber of Greece on missions abroad.

Served on the EEC Helios Committee for the Disabled and the Experts Committees for the "European Manual for an Accessible Built Environment" and the "European Concept for Access".

Co-President of the UNESCO-UIA Validation Council for Architectural Education (2000-2003).

Member of international architectural competition juries in Italy, Holland, Korea, Romania, Russia, South Africa, Tunisia and USA.

Vassilis Sgoutas Prize

The International Union of Architects launched in 2007 the triennial "Vassilis Sgoutas Prize" rewarding architects who have contributed to the betterment of living conditions in areas below the level of poverty.

Distinctions

Honorary Fellow of the Architects Institutes of Australia, China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mexico, Panama, Philippines, Russia, South Africa and USA.

Foreign Member of the State Russian Academy of Architecture and Construction Sciences. Honorary Professor of the International Academy of Architecture (Bulgaria) and the Academy of Architecture and Civil Engineering of Kazakhstan.

Awarded the medals of UAG (Georgia) and Bene Merentibus of SARP (Poland), the insignia of the Superior Council of the Architects of Spain, the Presidential Medals of the AIA (USA) and FCARM (Mexico) and the medal of the Magnesia Chapter of the Technical Chamber of Greece for his "lifelong contribution to architecture".