

22 November 2018, St Petersburg

PRESS RELEASE
BERNHARD REMMERS ACADEMY AWARD

In November 2018, the 10th award ceremony for outstanding success in the field of conservation of historic architectural monuments took place in Leipzig, as part of *denkmal*, Europe's largest trade fair for building conservation and restoration.

The architectural ensemble of New Holland Island received the Bernhard Remmers Academy award from the European Institute for the Conservation and Maintenance of Historic Buildings in the category Best International Project. The jury panel declared St Petersburg's New Holland the best among international urbanistic projects for its "outstanding investor engagement, close cooperation of all project stakeholders, and restoration work to an architectural heritage site."

The *New Holland: Cultural Urbanization* team would like to pay particular tribute to the restoration specialists, contractors, architects, in fact to everyone whose efforts were so highly commended by the international panel of judges. The restoration and alteration works to the Commandant's House, The Foundry and the "Prison Tower" were carried out by *VladMiraStroy* and *SZDK*, *Demetra* put in place the initial safety measures, and *Karst* conducted the work to reinforce the foundations of one of the warehouse buildings, the Foundry and the "Prison Tower". The project focused particular attention on the redevelopment and greening of the island, which was carried out by the Dutch company *West 8*, who put together a new design based on the successfully implemented general plan drafted by *WorkAC*. Work on the design of the temporary pavilions, interiors and other elements of the island was carried out by the young St Petersburg architects Sergey Bukin and Lyubov Leontieva.

In 2010, the company *Millhouse* won the tender to receive the investment contract and set to work on the project to restore and redevelop the island of New Holland. From 2011 to 2013, temporary *Summer in New Holland* programmes were organised, during which it was decided to reject the initial idea of building over the empty territory of the island, and instead to organise an urban park space with modern, practical infrastructure. In August 2016 work began on the first phase of restoring the New Holland architectural complex, which entailed redeveloping the park space with temporary pavilions, a system of engineering solutions and utility networks necessary for the island's functioning, as well as the first fully restored buildings. Later on in 2016 and in 2017, the Forge, the Bottle House and the Commandant's House were opened. Restoration work to the façades of the historic buildings is carried out under the oversight of the St Petersburg Administration Committee for State Control, Use and Maintenance of Historical and Cultural Monuments, and in full compliance with the requirements and regulations applicable to federal architectural monuments.

New Holland: Cultural Urbanisation:

New Holland Island
2 Admiralteysky Canal Embankment
St Petersburg
www.newhollandsp.com
info@newhollandsp.com
+7 (812) 245 20 35

Instagram: @newhollandisland
Facebook: @NewHollandSP
Vkontakte: /newhollandsp

**For questions regarding the cultural program, restoration work or island facilities contact New Holland Press
Office: pr@newhollandsp.com; tel. +7 906 268 83 18*

**For questions regarding the investment contract, contact John Mann, john.mann@millhouse.ru*

THE BERNHARD REMMERS AWARD

Since the year 2000, the Bernhard Remmers award for outstanding achievement in the field of architectural monument conservation has been presented every two years as part of the *denkmal* trade exhibition. The award is made for projects which strengthen the significance, value and importance of practical achievements in the restoration and renovation of architectural monuments of cultural or historical importance, for the guiding role of the investor, and for outstanding responsibility on the part of the qualified architects, engineers and specialists in conserving monuments in terms of their aesthetic, economic and ecological quality.

THE BERNHARD REMMERS ACADEMY

The Bernhard Remmers Academy is a non-commercial educational institution located in Germany, which sees as its principal objective the raising of qualification levels and the provision of additional training for craftsmen, designers and specialists in the field of monument conservation. The Academy was established on the initiative of the German Association of Craftsmen, with support from the German Foundation for Monument Protection and the founder of *Remmers*, Bernhard Remmers. The Academy's mission is the preservation of architectural heritage for future generations, and it has provided practically-oriented seminars in Germany for over 20 years. From 2018, these seminars will be organised on an international level. In 2018, the Academy has been putting together a course to raise qualifications in the field of «Preserving architectural monuments», and training will be conducted with the support of *Remmers'* daughter-companies in Belgium, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Poland, Russia, the Czech Republic and Ukraine.

NEW HOLLAND: CULTURAL URBANIZATION

In 2010, New Holland Development, an affiliate of Roman Abramovich's company *Millhouse, LLC*, won the tender for the restoration and renovation of New Holland Island, with the goal of creating a mixed-use complex that will serve as one of the epicenters of cultural life not only for St Petersburg, but for Russia as a whole. To help determine the concept and creative direction of the island's development, *Millhouse* turned to the Iris Foundation, a non-commercial initiative for the support and advancement of contemporary culture and art, launched by Daria Zhukova. This collaboration resulted in *New Holland: Cultural Urbanization*, a fresh approach to the restructuring and modernization of the territory, a monument of cultural and national historical significance. Following the success of the seasonal programs, the project investors decided not to proceed with the original plan to clear the territory to construct a new building. Instead, they chose to organize a full-fledged city park, complete with a modern and convenient infrastructure, which each and every person could find his or her place. The island continues to host cultural programs as well as grand-scale civic initiatives. Future plans for the development of the territory include not only commercial enterprises, but also cultural and educational institutions, research laboratories, and exhibition spaces, whose programming will be overseen by emerging specialists. *New Holland: Cultural Urbanization* helps recruit a team of architects, designers, and urban planners, as well as provide the cultural content for the island's programming and participate in the selection of partners and operators. In August 2016, the first phase of the project came to completion, with the launch of New Holland's park zone, and the island began to operate all year long. As of now, three historical buildings have been restored: the Forge, the Commandant's House and the Bottle House.