



**DET KONGELIGE AKADEMI FOR DE SKØNNE KUNSTER  
AKADEMIRAADET**

*Akademiraadets opgave er at fremme kunsten og rådgive staten i kunstneriske spørgsmål*

The motivation for The Sonning Prize recipient Renzo Piano by  
The Royal Academy of fine Arts:

The architecture by Renzo Piano and his Building Workshop is outstanding and extraordinarily as absolute achievements of this fine and rare combination when art, architecture and the art of engineering come together in a synthesis, - and yet they are human spoken with great sense for the human kind.

The architecture embraces this era and time in their formal language, in materials and in the ability to use the latest modern technologies and at the same time they belong in the classic Italian and European architectural tradition and philosophy by speaking from both place and culture.

A great intellectual curiosity along with high skills of making solutions dissolves into convincing techniques are recognized in elegant structures and constructions full of beauty whether they carry weight or light. But Renzo Pianos conviction on the social aspect of architecture makes him and the building workshop as preoccupied with cities, urban planning and housing as with landscapes and sustainability.

This is clearly outspoken in Paris in the Centre Georges Pompidou with the large sunken space in front, in the Berlin citymixture at the Alexander Platz, near Bern at the landscape of the Paul Klee Museum as well

as in Rome at the open amfi in between the auditoriums of Parco della Musica.

Finally I shall quote the Danish painter and member of the Royal Academy of fine Arts Niels Reumert who was the first author of your nomination for this fine prize:

‘When the Norwegian painter Ludwig Karsten was asked what art was all about his answer was ‘It is to take saucepans into the world of Goods’ ‘Renzo Piano creates architectural spaces and city spaces that take care of humans as beings. If we believe that misery can diminish our daily life to a state of poorness Renzo Pianos architecture does the opposite, - with serious humour they make great value to our minds.’

Kristine Jensen

President of the royal academy of fine arts.

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