

Cocoon Treehouse by Alonso Orrego + Tomas Orrego + Pool Porta + Jose Medina

#### INTRODUCTION

This International Architectural TreeHouse Design Awards competition is organised by ArchTriumph and calls on Architects, Architecture Gradu ates, Architecture Students, Designers, Landscape Architects, Engineers, City Planner or Urbanist to enter an idea or concept for a Contemporary Treehouse for a garden, woods, park land Fit for a **Prince.** The Treehouse design should reflect sustainable principles and take into account the welfare of the tree and the environment.

The goal is to provide a contemporary architectural solution to Treehouse design which is of a high quality, functional, feasible, repeatable, elegant and reflecting the uses specified in the Competition's program. The Treehouse must protect users from the elements such as rain, sun whilst providing safe circulation, escape, relaxation and a window to nature with it's views.

Treehouses whether used for play, lodgings, dining or simple spaces of retreats are magical structures which seam to blend into nature and the landscape, be it in the woods, open pastures or mountain areas. Treehouses were all the rage among wealthy adults during the Renaissance and through 16th and 17th century Europe which contradicts some of the expectation of treehouses as play spaces constructed for children.

# **AIM**

The aim of this international ideas competition is to recognise the architectural and design principle involved in designing a high quality treehouse and the role they sometimes play in shaping our ideas of low-cost, low maintenance and sustainable architectural design in many world communities.

This competition investigates, explores and emphasises the importance of sustainable concept in treehouse design as they become ever more popular, more intricate and more commercial.

#### WHAT IS A TREEHOUSE?

A Treehouse or tree fort, are platforms or buildings usually constructed around or among the trunk or branches of one or more mature trees while above ground level. Treehouses can be used for recreation, work-space, habitation, observation or as temporary retreats.

Treehouses can be found in family garden or in resorts around the world or just in communities where this is a way of life and necessary approach to housing. They serve as elevated structures to counter certain geographical areas or as the best safety solutions to an aggressive or risky night environments. They can also be simply a community's way of engaging with nature and with build supported by locally available materials that is kind to the environment.

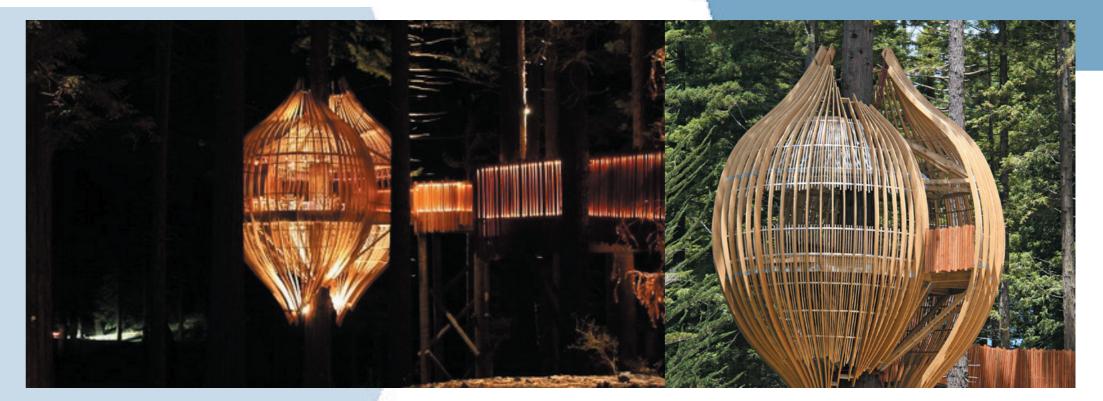
#### THE DESIGN CHALLENGE

The program challenges participants to design an original Contemporary Treehouse fit for a modern **Prince** as a play and discovery space. For this edition participants are requested to design a Treehouse for the young Prince George and friends. The treehouse design should allow for adult supervision from a distance with any use of modern technology kept to a minimum. In the knowledge that every child is their parents prince and princess, combined with an inclusive society we encourage designs that allow for further use for private, public or associated charity events. The treehouse concept must be one that is sustainability and exhibits consideration for the welfare of the tree at it's core. It should also project an image of elegance and connection to nature in its form and aesthetics.

## **DESIGN CRITERIA**

A Tree house design within the context of this competition should consider the following:

- Welfare of the tree
- Aesthetics and Material
- · Comfort, Convenience, Fun and Escape
- · Accessibility and Circulation
- Safety and Security



Yellow Treehouse by Pacific Environments Architects - Photos ©Olive Photos and Craig Sydnz

#### THE PROGRAM

#### CONTEMPORARY TREEHOUSE FIT FOR A PRINCE

The program is to design an original Contemporary Treehouse fit for a young **Prince George** as a play and escape space allowing for adult supervision from a reasonable distance. The Treehouse could be set in a garden, hill top, woods or park landscape with interesting views and connection to nature. It should be a space that allows them to connect and enjoy nature - the daylight, moonlight, stars and the sounds of nature (waterfalls, wind, birds, insects and other natural inhabitants).

Treehouses have a magic that stimulate imaginations in natural surroundings and an unforgettable adventure. The uniqueness of a every Treehouse based on the unique feature of the host tree or trees adds to the childhood dream fairy tale like hideout, adventure playground or a space of great escape, set high in the sky. It is also a space of retreat transporting adults from the stresses of everything reality to a world high up the tree-top to be close to nature. Treehouse can be on any deciduous or coniferous tree such as oak, beech, maple, ash, cedar, hemlock, fir, larch or juniper. Participants are also free to use other strong and healthy trees types. Participants are also free to explore the possibilities of placing the Treehouse module amongst the trees, without directly using the branches or trunks but project the illusion of it is being carried by the tree.

The Treehouse design *must be elevated at least 2.5 meters from the ground* and should include the following :

- 1) Self-contained seperate Treehouse module for the young Prince and at least 3 other individuals
- · Possible link a seperate Adult Treehouse (described below without affecting the independence of this module)
- 2) A connecting seperate **Adult Treehouse** for Guardian or Parents for up to 4 Adults
- Linked Access to **Self-contained** Children (young Prince's) Treehouse

Total Internal Space: Open to participants

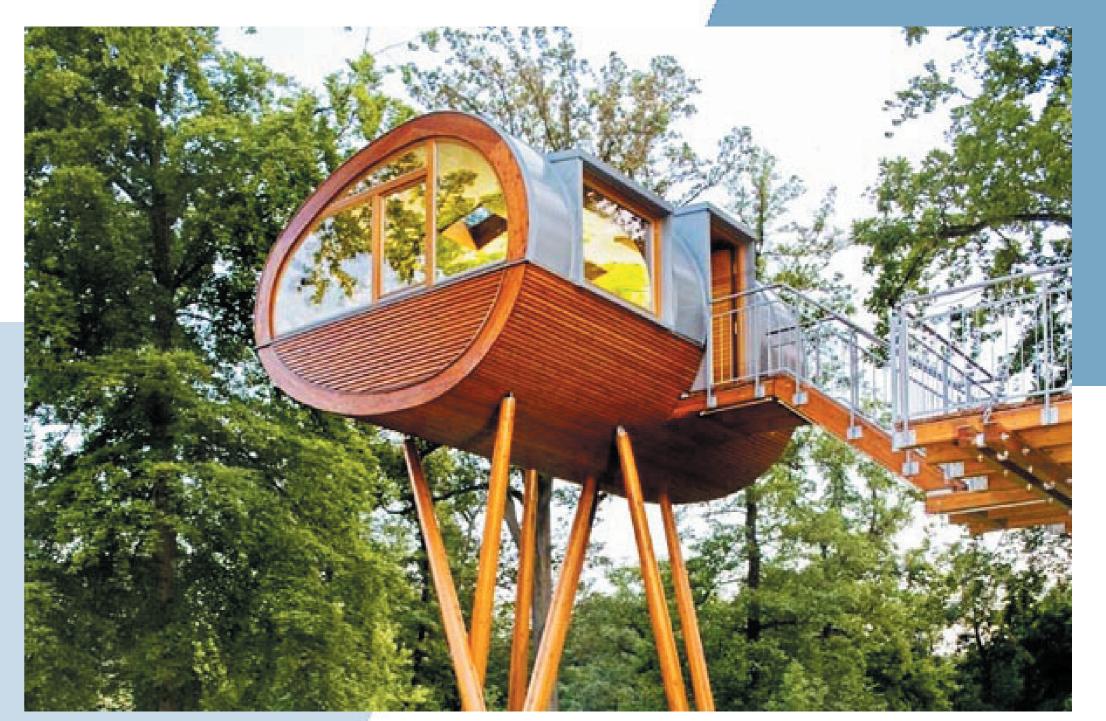
**Site:** Open to participants

All designs proposal should show and detail how the Treehouse is to be supported, anchored and secured onto the Tree as part of the design consideration with the welfare of the Tree and safety of users a priority. Participants are open to suggest solution for artificial lighting, insulation, water, temperature regulation, drainage and waste disposal.

**Note:** Remember to keep screws or bolts intended to directly go into the Tree in your design to a minimulm as these are potential entry point for infections and can damage the health of the Tree. Trees used can be full with green or partially dead tree stump (still habitats for micro-organism). **Disclaimer:** This conceptual competition is not expression of any political views, linked to the Royal Family or UK government. There are no current plans for it to be built.

# **SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

The Treehouse must be elevated at least 2.5 meters from ground level.



Treehouse by Baumraum

# **JURY**

(See website for detail)

## **JUDGING CRITERIA**

Entries will be judged on number of criteria including:

- · The relationship to the natural environment around it:
  - How the architecture relate to the tree and physical location.
  - How the design makes use of creates, or enhances any views and access to the treehouse.
  - How the design has taken into account the environment's weather?
  - How the design is sensitive to the natural environment?
- · Innovative design:
  - How the treehouse organises the space within it.
  - What new ideas for a contemporary Treehouse is reflected in the design.
- · Thoughtful use of materials:
  - What ideas for material to be used.
  - How do the chosen materials enhance the Treehouse.
- · Adherence to the Competition specifications:
  - How the design address the specification in the brief.
- · Quality of the presentation:
  - Well-presented board that visually represent the concept of your design ideas will impress the panel.



## **ELIGIBILITY**

- Architects
- · Architecture Graduates
- · Architecture Students
- · Landscape Architects
- Designers
- Engineers
- · City Planner
- Urbanist

#### **INELIGIBILITY**

- Employees, consultants, agents of ArchTriumph.
- · Employees, partners, friends, family, personnel, office practice or studios associated with any of the Jury.
- · Persons who have taken part in the organisation of our Competitions or the writing of this competition brief.
- · Persons involved in the establishment or in the preparation of the competition (including any feasibility for the Competition subject or topic).

# REGISTRATION

Entrants may register by filling the online registration form and submitting it with the relevant payment where appropriate by through a secure gateway from the ArchTriumph website.

## **FEES**

Entrants are required to pay an entry fee as follows:

- · Early Registration: US\$80 from 19th January 2018 00:00 (GMT) to 08th February 2018 23:59 (GMT)
- Standard Registration: US\$100 from 09th February 2018 00:00 (GMT) to 09th March 2018 23:59 (GMT)
- · Late Registration: US\$120 from 10th March 2018 00:00 (GMT) to 16th March 2018 23:59 (GMT)

Note: Fees are not refundable under any circumstance as stated in the terms and conditions. All deadlines are 23:59 Hours (GMT)

## **METHOD OF PAYMENT**

Applications to register for the Competition must arrive no later than 23.59 hours (GMT) on the date specified in the Timetable. Registration payments can be made to ArchTriumph by the following methods:

- VISA Debit/Credit Card,
- · Master Card,
- · Maestro Card,
- Solo Switch Card.
- · Electron Card.
- · PayPal Account

## **SCHEDULE**

#### SUBMISSION DEADLINE

23rd March 2018 23.59 hours (GMT) ------ Closing Date for Submission

#### **WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT**

06th April 2018 23.59 hours (GMT) ------ Announcement of Winners



#### PRIZES AND AWARDS

# Winners of the competition will receive the following prize and benefits as follows: 1st Prize

- US\$ 1,000 (ONE THOUSAND US DOLLARS)
- · Publication on ArchTriumph website and planned book
- · Featured in palnned exhibited in London
- · Publication on various social media platforms and blogs
- · Publication on various websites and blogs

#### 2nd Prize

- · US\$ 500 (FIVE HUNDRED US DOLLARS)
- · Publication on ArchTriumph website and planned book
- · Featured in palnned exhibited in London
- · Publication on various social media platforms and blogs
- · Publication on various websites and blogs

#### 3rd Prize

- · US\$ 200 (TWO HUNDRED US DOLLARS)
- · Publication on ArchTriumph website and planned book
- · Featured in palnned exhibited in London
- Publication on various social media platforms and blogs
- Publication on various websites and blogs

#### Joining the above will be 5 Triumphant Mention subject to Panel's decision

- · Publication on ArchTriumph website and planned book
- · Featured in palnned exhibited in London
- Publication on various social media platforms and blogs
- Publication on various websites and blogs

The competition offers great opportunity for national and international coverage and exposure to winners including an exhibition in London.



Treehouse by Baumraum

#### **SUBMISSIONS**

A single (1) horizontal digital image board with the details listed below must be submitted via email to address on the ArchTriumph website: Image Format: A single un-compressed JPG or JNG extension file

- Dimensions: 3500 width x 2600 height (pixels) or 36.45 x 27.08 inches or 92.6 x 68.79 centimeters to 96dpi.
- File Name: The image file name must correspond to your unique registration number (Example: 0123456789.jpg where 0123456789 represent the unique registration number assigned to you by ArchTriumph on successful registration for a competition.
- · Max. File Size: 5MB (5 Megabytes)

The presentation technique is open and at the discretion of the competitor and the image submitted should detail the main concept of the design with the following information:

- · Main Design Concept
- · Plans
- Sections
- Perspectives
- · Site Information (Where relevant)

All drawings and documents to be submitted by participants should be in English and measurements expressed using the metric system.

# **SUBMISSION METHOD**

All submissions are to be made through the ArchTriumph website using upload facility where provided or sent via email to competitions mailbox **treehouse@archtriumph.com** adhere to the file format and size.

Please be advised that no receipt acknowledgement will be sent with this method of submission.

#### Note:

- · All submission boards to the competition must be made anonymously and no later than 23:59 hours (GMT) on the date specified.
- Facebook submissions will not be accepted under normal circumstances.

# **PRESENTATION**

Entrant's Unique Registration Number should appear on the upper right side of the image as illustrated below:

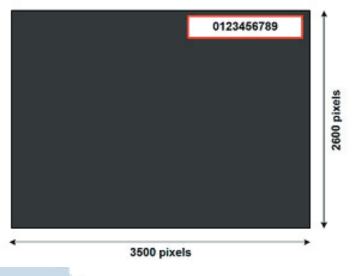


Figure 1

The presentation should clearly document the following where relevant:

- · Proposed design
- · Total area
- · Approach to the project and archor points
- · Layout
- · Materials (MAIN)
- · Site

Any other textual or numerical description should be incorporated into the graphical presentation of the design.



Treehouse by Baumraum

## **COMPETITION ENTRY CONDITIONS**

- · Design entered into the competition cannot be of an existing design and as such must be original and should have never been entered into any other competition, published or exhibited.
- · Entry can be attributed to an individual or team (maximum 4 individuals).
- · The competition is open to individual ideas or interpretation, however the design should adhere to the specification in this brief.
- · ArchTriumph reserves the right to cancel this competition or alter any of the rules at any stage, should it deem it necessary to do so or as a result of circumstances outside of its control.
- · Submitted design should be anonymous with no identifying marks, name, stamp or signature other than the Unique Identification Number.
- · Submitted board must be 3500 width x 2600 height (pixels) or 36.45 x 27.08 inches or 92.6 x 68.79 centimeters to 96dpi of 10MB maximum size saved in RGB jpeg (\*.jpg) format. Submitted board must be named as follows: 0123456789.jpg where 0123456789 represents your Unique Registration Number assigned to registrant after successful registration.
- · All Entries should be submitted via email using the email address provided and should arrive by the specified deadline.
- · The competition closes at 23:59 Hours (GMT) on the date specified in the Competition schedule. Entries received after this specified deadline date will not normally be considered for the competition.
- · There are no cash alternatives available for eligible prize winners.
- · By submitting your entry to the Competition, you represent and warrant to ArchTriumph that all submitted design do not contain any offensive or defamatory content and that it is an original design executed by you, free from any third party rights, in particular that under no circumstances does it constitute, whether entirely or in parts, any infringement upon the intellectual property rights or any other rights of third parties. This shall also apply if the design is used for promotional purposes in connection with the promotion of the competition.
- · Copyright and all other rights remain that of the author. Any design used by ArchTriumph shall include a credit to the author. Use may include publication in any ArchTriumph media sponsor publication. All entrants understand that any image submitted to the competition may be used by ArchTriumph for marketing and promotional purposes including in any media for such uses as exhibitions, print and digital media directly related to the ArchTriumph competition, though there may not be monetary compensation or otherwise.

# **COMPETITION ENTRY CONDITIONS (Continues...)**

- · Entrants must have sole copyright, authorship, ownership and any associated rights to design entered into the competition.
- · Entrants must rightfully and legally be allowed to have credits for the design attributed to them.
- · Each Contestant grants to Sponsor, Administrator, and others acting on behalf of Sponsor, a royalty-free non-exclusive worldwide license to display publicly and use for promotional purposes their Submission in perpetuity. This license includes posting or linking to the Submission on the official Sponsor and Administrator websites and partner websites.
- The Design will be judged through the process set by ArchTriumph with its staff reviewing all entries and a panel of Jury selecting a winner based on the criteria stated herein.
- · You agree and acknowledge by entering the Competition, that ArchTriumph is permitted to use your registration data. All personal information will be used by ArchTriumph in accordance with its Privacy Policy.
- ·The winning entry will be displayed on the ArchTriumph website, various blogs and on ArchTriumph Facebook page and communicated through twitter.
- · ArchTriumph retains the right to refuse any entry without giving a reason.
- · ArchTriumph and the panel decision is final and by entering the Competition You hereby accept these Competition Rules and the Terms and Conditions detailed on the ArchTriumph website.
- · ArchTriumph as Organisers and Sponsors must be mentioned in all promotions or Publications or Public Relation exercise as a result of a design for the Competition.
- · ArchTriumph as Organisers and Sponsors must be notified should an interest be express in realising any design from the Competition.
- · These conditions and the terms listed in the conditions section at http://www.archtriumph.com/terms form the agreement for this competition.
- · The competition language is English and the rules herein are governed by the laws of England and Wales.
- · These conditions and the terms listed in the conditions section at http://www.archtriumph.com/terms form part of the agreement for this competition.



Peak District Treehouse by Tomas Gurcinas



Contemporary Treehouse by Martin Safar + Jan Stolek



Oritatami House By Steffi Diola + Chris McGrath + Will Swales



The Bird's Nest by Inrednin Gsgruppen



Fourfold Pattern Treehouse By Khaled Abou Taam + Nada El-Lakkis + Nehmat Khalil + Ekaterina Abou



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