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KAMRA TAL-PERITI

To support members of the profession in achieving excellence in their practice of architecture and engineering in the interest of the community

15 APRIL 2007

under the patronage of the Swiss Embassy in Malta

architecture_nights **an07**

mario botta

fri 27th april
@ 19:30
power house, vt

KAMRA TAL-PERITI

DESIGN: ALEXIA MERICCA

in collaboration with

VOLTECO
PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS
Halmann
HSBC
AUNTIELUCY

WORLD-RENOWNED ARCHITECT AT ARCHITECTURE NIGHTS THIS MONTH

Architecture Nights 07, organised by the Kamra tal-Periti for the second consecutive year, kicked off on Saturday 24th March at the Aula Magna with world-renowned Italian architect Manfredi Nicoletti, who delivered an enthralling presentation of his projects and theories to a packed house. The debates will now follow with Swiss giant architect Mario Botta - a debate organised with the patronage of the Swiss Embassy in Malta.

For architects and architectural enthusiasts worldwide, Mario Botta certainly needs no introduction. Following an apprenticeship within the architectural studios of Carloni and Camenisch in Lugano, Switzerland, Mario Botta graduated in 1969 from the Istituto Universitario d'Architettura in Venice, under the supervision of architectural professors Carlo Scarpa and Giuseppe Mazzariol. During the period spent in Venice, he met and worked for architecture giants Le Corbusier and Louis I. Kahn.

His professional activity commenced in 1970 in Lugano. His first projects consisted of the case *unifamiliari* in Canton Ticino and subsequently numerous projects all around the world. He has always been heavily involved in the educational aspect of architecture and has, in recent years, created and founded the Academy of Architecture at Mendrisio.

Mario Botta's work has been granted numerous international recognitions, namely the *Merit Award for Excellence in Design by the AIA* for the Museum of Modern Art at San Francisco, the IAA Annual Prix 2005, International Academy of Architecture of Sofia for the Kyobo tower in Seoul, the *International Architecture Award* of the Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design and the "European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage Europa Nostra" for the restructuring of the La Scala Theatre in Milan. Needless to say, there have been several exhibitions dedicated to his work and research.

His most celebrated completed projects include: the theatre and 'House of Culture' in Chambéry; the art gallery *Watari-um* in Tokyo; the *Mediatheque* in Villeurbanne; the *SFMOMA* (Museum of Modern Art) in San Francisco; the Evry Resurrection Cathedral; the *Jean Tinguely* museum in Basilea; the municipal library in Dortmund; the *Dürrenmatt* centre in Neuchâtel; the MART Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Rovereto; the *Kyobo* tower in Seoul; the *Tata CS* administrative buildings in New Delhi and Hyderabad; the Bodmer Foundation museum in Cologne; the Giovanni XXIII pastoral centre in Seriate and the library in Bergamo; the celebrated restructuring of the La Scala Theatre in Milan, the Church dedicated to the *Santo Volto* in Turin and the wellness centre Tschuggen Berg Oase in Arosa.

From among his projects currently underway, the following projects merit due mention: the office and residential complex in Treviso, the University Library in Trento, the Bechtler Art Museum in Charlotte, the Art Gallery and Museum of the Tsinghua University in Beijing, the Leeum offices in Seoul, the Underground railway stations in Naples, the new Auditorium in Rimini and the Architecture Museum in Mendrisio.

The debate will be held at the POWERHOUSE THEATRE at Valletta Waterfront on Friday 27th April at 7.30pm. Entrance to this debate is free.

Architecture Nights 07 is sponsored by HSBC, Attard & Co, HalMann Vella, Steel Structures, Modern Elegance and Auntie Lucy and is being organised in collaboration with Valletta Waterfront and with the patronage of the Swiss Embassy in Malta.