

# ERICH MENDELSON AWARD

FOR BRICK ARCHITECTURE

Press information

July 2026

**Shortlist for the 2026 Erich Mendelsohn Award for Brick Architecture released**

## 99 Places Where Brick Sets the Standard

**BERLIN.** The jury of the Erich Mendelsohn Award 2026 for Brick Architecture has reached its decision: from more than 500 entries, the jurors selected 99 architecture firms and projects from 18 countries for the final shortlist.

“Good architecture emerges when material, construction and form are in harmony,” says jury member Jórunn Ragnarsdóttir of the Berlin-based firm Lederer Ragnarsdóttir Architekten. “Among the many entries from 41 countries were numerous outstanding buildings that embodied this holistic approach.”

The international jury of the architecture award, which is held every three years, convened in Berlin in early July to evaluate projects in the categories of Residential Building/Apartment Complex, Office and Commercial Buildings, Public Buildings, Recreation and Sports, and Detached House/Semi-Detached House.

“It was a pleasure to see how the use of brick can provide outstanding responses to the challenges of our time,” Ragnarsdóttir concludes. The combination of architectural practice, journalistic expertise and international exchange formed the basis of the distinguished jury session. Alongside Ragnarsdóttir, this year’s jury comprised Max Wasserkampf, member of the Executive Board of the Association of German Architects (BDA); Marie Bruun Yde, editor at Bauwelt; Barcelona-based Josep Ricart, whose firm Harquitectes won the Grand Prix in 2023; and Lena Unger of the Leipzig-based firm Meier Unger. The jury will present Gold, Silver and Bronze awards as well as Special Mentions. The winners will be announced at the award ceremony in Berlin on 4 September. The “Best in Germany” distinction will also be presented for the first time.

### **About the Erich Mendelsohn Award for Brick Architecture**

The competition has been held every three years since 2008 and has been supported in partnership with the Association of German Architects (BDA) since 2011. Since 2022, it has been known as the Erich Mendelsohn Award for Brick Architecture.

The competition’s considerable significance within the world of architecture is reflected not least in the renowned names of the architectural practices recognised in previous editions. The highest distinction is reserved for exceptional Grand Prix projects, including the Siza Pavilion on Museum Island Hombroich (2014), the Bremen State Bank designed by Caruso St John Architects (2017), and the two

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strikingly different Grand Prix winners of 2020: the Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts in Lausanne by Barozzi Veiga and the Nakasone House in Mexico City by Escobedo Soliz. In 2023, the Grand Prix was awarded to the Catalan firm Harquitectes for the Clos Pachem Winery.

## **Initiative Bauen mit Backstein**

The Award for Brick Architecture has been presented by the Initiative Bauen mit Backstein since 2008. At the heart of the initiative are the leading facing-brick manufacturers in the German market. They produce facing bricks and clinker bricks for building owners, architects and investors who value quality and durability.

The quality mark “Recommended Quality for Double-Leaf Brick Construction” represents this commitment to quality. The initiative aims to provide information about current topics relating to brick and to strengthen the use of brick as a building material in its most important application: the double-leaf wall.

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## **Further information:**

Erich Mendelsohn Award for Brick Architecture

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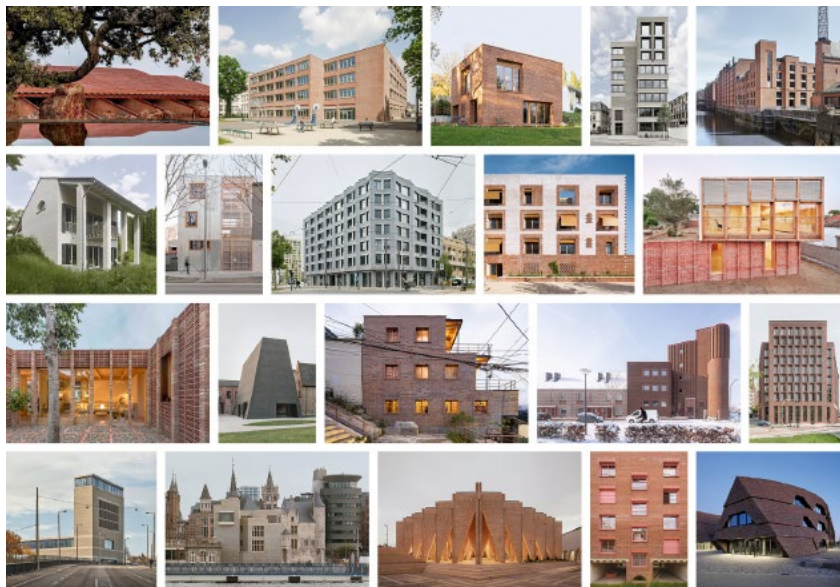
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**Caption:** 99 projects have been shortlisted for the Erich Mendelsohn Award 2026 for Brick Architecture.

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**Caption:** Shortlisted projects for the Erich Mendelsohn Award 2026 for Brick Architecture. (selection)

**Image credit:** © Entries submitted as part of the Erich Mendelsohn Award 2026 for Brick Architecture