

## Awards of Merit



**Architecture**  
Buildings Under 1,000 SqM

### LOS MILICS VINEYARDS TASTING ROOM

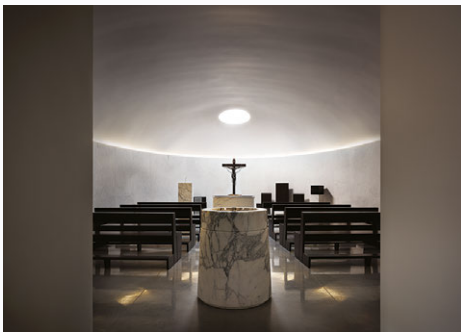
*Elgin, U.S.*

**FIRM:** Chen Suchart Studio, U.S.

**PHOTO:** Dan Ryan

→ The Los Milics Vineyards Tasting Room, in Southern Arizona, announces itself with a series of weathered steel panels, which emerge from the landscape against the backdrop of the Mustang Mountains. These elements seem

ancient, even mythical, evoking Stonehenge or the monolith from *2001: A Space Odyssey*. They line the entryway to the tasting room itself, where light and shadow play across surfaces of ragged concrete and rich walnut. The result is a dining experience that feels not just elevated (literally, as the winery is more than 1,500 metres above sea level) but otherworldly.



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### SAINT CATHERINE'S CHAPEL

*Florence, Italy*

**FIRM:** Audax, Canada

**PHOTO:** Pietro Savorelli

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER** → Renaissance-era principles collide with modernist sophistication at Saint Catherine's Chapel, a minimal-

ist house of worship near Florence for members of the Fiorentina professional football club. The church — the work of Toronto firm Audax — is buried beneath an artificial hill. One enters it through a vaulted arcade whose arches grow in size, a nod to Francesco Borromini's principle of forced perspective. This processional passageway eventually opens onto a pristine oval sanctuary in which a central oculus brings sunlight pouring onto the concrete floors, the white walls and the Carrara marble fixtures.



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### INUUSIRVIK COMMUNITY WELLNESS HUB

*Iqaluit, Canada*

**FIRMS:** Lateral Office with Verne Reimer Architecture, Canada

**PHOTO:** Andrew Latreille

dark winter months. Functionality hardly comes at the expense of aesthetics. The corrugated metal cladding is arranged in a syncopated pattern, with pops of bright colour — a common flourish in the region. The architects also brought the tundra into the design program with the first ever Arctic green roof.



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### TEKAKAPIMƏK CONTACT STATION

*Stacyville, U.S.*

**FIRMS:** Saunders Architecture (Norway) with Alisberg Parker Architects and Reed Hilderbrand (U.S.)

**PHOTO:** James Florio

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE WINNER** → The Tekakapimək Contact Station — [a visitors' centre in the Katahdin Woods and Waters](#), a national park in Maine — takes environmental integration to another level. The building is treelike, with its Douglas-fir glulam columns, milled-cedar cladding and biomorphic cantilevered forms. But Norwegian firm Saunders Architecture went further, partnering with local Wabanaki Nations to honour Indigenous design principles: bird-safe glass, a sunrise lookout and sightlines in all four cardinal directions. The team also incorporated cutting-edge sustainable systems, from geothermal heating to solar arrays to passive ventilation, in order to keep the building entirely off-grid.