



## ARCHITECTURE NEWS

### Royal Gold Medal 2015

Architects Sheila O'Donnell and John Tuomey, received on Tuesday 3 February 2015 the Royal Gold Medal, the world's most prestigious architecture award at a special event at the RIBA at 66 Portland Place, London. Given in recognition of a lifetime's work, the Royal Gold Medal is approved personally by Her Majesty The Queen and is given to a person or group of people who have had a significant influence "either directly or indirectly on the advancement of architecture". Ireland's last Royal Gold Medallists were engineer Peter Rice (1993) and architect Michael Scott (1975).

Speaking at the Gold Medal ceremony, RIBA President Stephen Hodder praised Sheila O'Donnell and John Tuomey as 'the epitome of the architect's craft'. Gold Medal nominator and distinguished architectural critic Joseph Rykwert said: "Irish architecture has flourished and is the envy of this island. " Niall McLaughlin, who also nominated Sheila O'Donnell and John Tuomey added: "everything they do speaks of the best of us". A tour de force in contemporary Irish and British architecture, Sheila O'Donnell and John Tuomey co-founded their practice O'Donnell and Tuomey in Dublin during 1988, having previously worked together for internationally renowned architects Stirling Wilford Associates and Colquhoun & Miller in London. Their acclaimed Saw Swee Hock Student Centre for the LSE has won numerous awards including RIBA London Building of the Year and the RIAI's Best International Building 2014.

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