

## YAYA hooray for young hopefuls

The five practices shortlisted for the Young Architect of the Year Award have spoken of their delight.

The finalists, selected from more than 70 entries, were announced at a party hosted by BD and Autodesk at the Jerwood Space in Bankside last week.

This year the awards were opened up to practices from across the EU, but fears that this would put British architects at a disadvantage proved unfounded.

Three of the five were from the UK: RCKa, HAT Projects and Studio Weave, along with Ono Architectuur of Antwerp and Josep Camps & Olga Felip Arquitectura of Barcelona.

Hana Loftus, co-director at Colchester-based HAT, said it meant a lot to be shortlisted.

"It's brilliant to have recognition from

people we respect in the industry," she said.

"It's great for our clients too, who take a risk with a young practice. We're excited about presenting to such a diverse jury in November."

She also stressed the significance to Colchester of a local firm gaining an international profile.

"We strongly believe there's a role for architects outside London and a role for regional practices shaping the way their local areas are developing," she said.

The winner will be announced at the Architect of the Year Awards at London's Brewery on December 3. For details of how to book a place at the awards dinner, visit [www.bdonline.co.uk/awards](http://www.bdonline.co.uk/awards).

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Left to right: Studio Weave's Eddie Blake and Esme Fieldhouse, and Tom Grieve of HAT Projects.



RCKa's Tim Riley, Dieter Kleiner, Russell Curtis.



A room full of architectural talent at the YAYA shortlist party.