

"I must have been inspired" Joseph Conrad

Polish architect named best in the world for 'James Bond-style' mountain top ski centre

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STUART DOWELL DECEMBER 08, 2023



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Press materials

A Polish architect has been awarded the title of world's best architect for his James Bond-style mountain-top ski centre in Silesia's Beskid mountains.

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Press materials



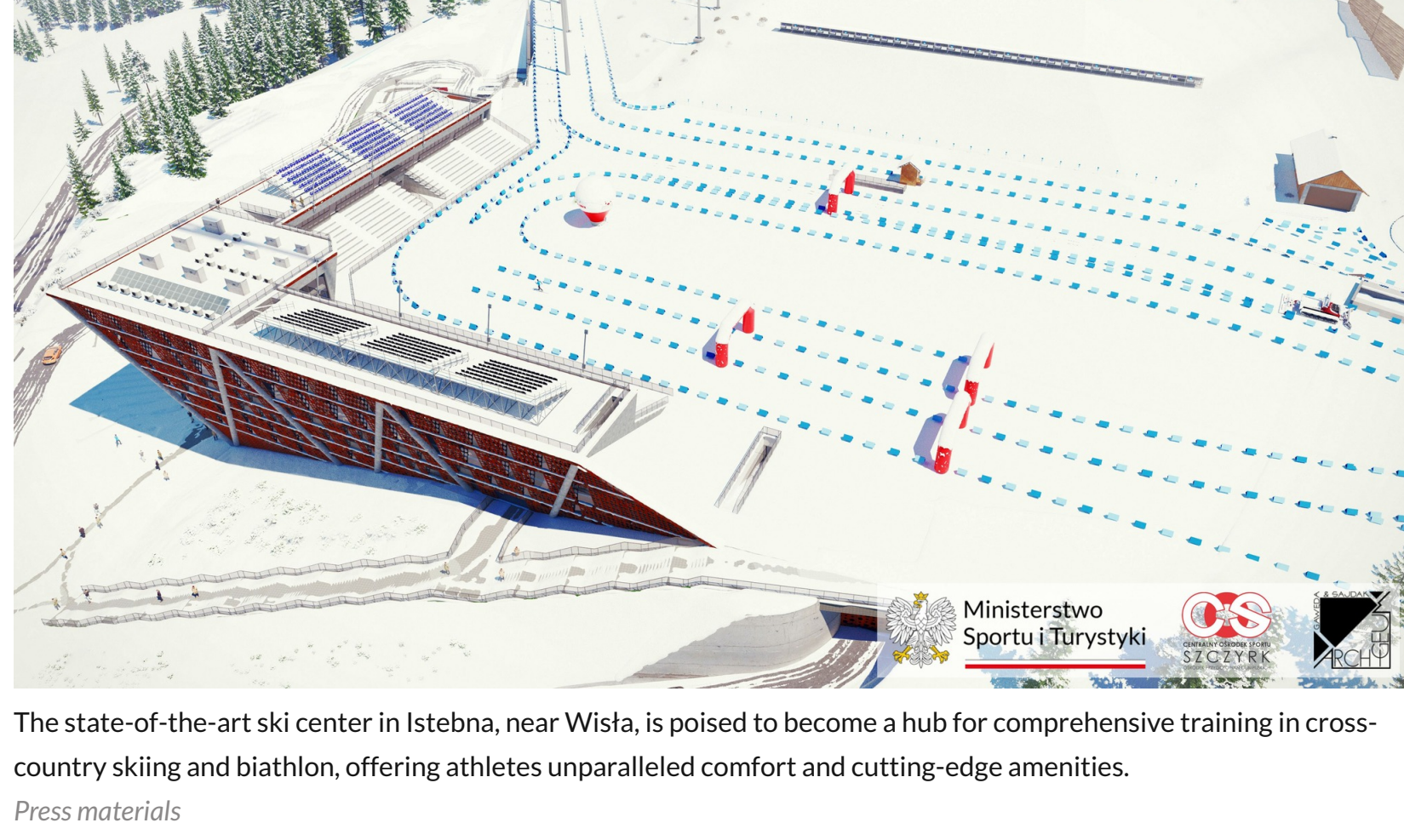
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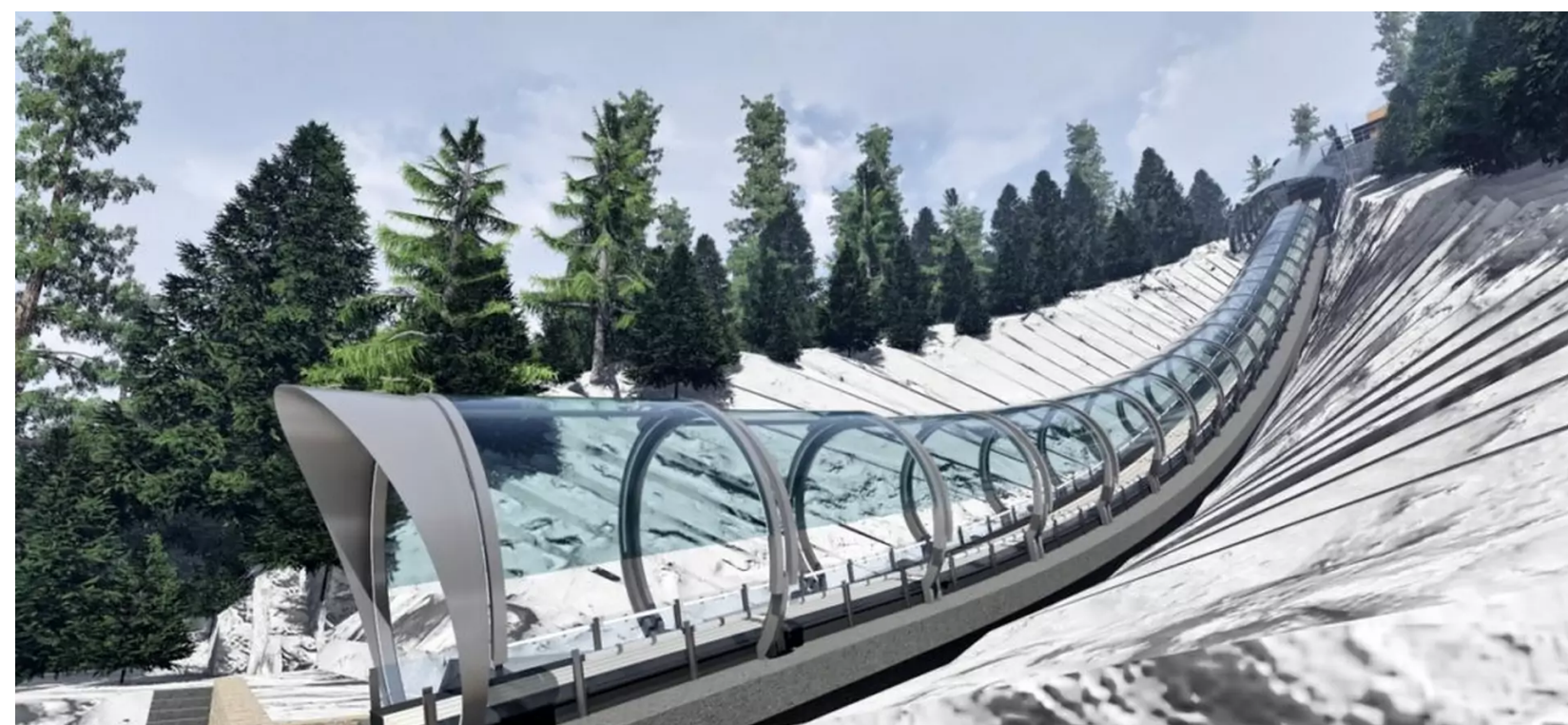
Gawęda explained that the design includes "a built-in hotel function with approximately 100 beds, a large underground car park with approximately 240 parking spaces, regeneration and wellness facilities, gyms, training rooms, social and conference facilities, along with facilities for organizing sports events such as the World Cup or the World Championships and Olympic Games in the future."

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To conceptualize the design, Gawęda and his team of architects embarked on several international trips, studying similar facilities and conducting a thorough analysis of the infrastructure needs.

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Simultaneously, Gawęda received the "Sports and Leisure Facility of the Year 2023" award for his cutting-edge design of a shielded tunnel on the inrun of the Wielka Krokiew ski jump in Zakopane, addressing the problem of icy and snow-covered tracks for jumpers.



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The delighted architect who is the owner, and chief architect of the Archigeum studio in Zielonka said: "This award is a nice distinction not only for me, but above all for the entire design team that we form. [...]"

"The design topics that we implement result from our interests, which is an advantage, but also a value in itself. Architecture, that we create is not the result of plebiscites or surveys - it is an expression of our design views and beliefs, because we do not look for or make compromises in design.

"Architecture is either good or bad."



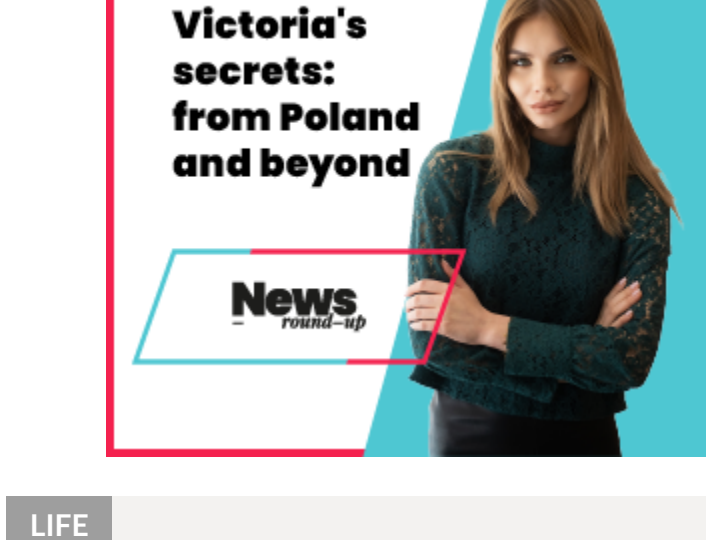
Gawęda, an architecture graduate from the Silesian University of Technology in Gliwice, outshone stiff competition from the Music Tower in Tokyo and the Palmer&Turner Consultants building complex in Shanghai to receive this distinction.

Moreover, he also secured the international '40 under 40' competition in 2023, as announced by the American Chicago Athenaeum and the European Centre for Architecture, Design, and Urban Studies, solidifying his place among the 40 most promising figures in world architecture from Europe.

In describing his approach, Gawęda said: "For me, design is like the stage of a theater or directing a film. My designs are props in the human space of life."

TAGS: ARCHITECTURE, AWARD, SKI, PRZEMEK GAWĘDA, ARCHITECT OF THE YEAR, ARCHITECTURE COMMUNITY, BIATHLON STADIUM, KUBALONKA

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