



Renzo Piano Museums

By Renzo Piano

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Creating space for the display of works of art has intrigued Renzo Piano throughout his thirty-five years of architectural practice. Today he is acknowledged the pre-eminent designer in this field, entrusted with the collections of the most distinguished art institutions in the world.

Renzo Piano Museums presents a portfolio of eighteen museum projects, beginning with the revolutionary Pompidou Center in Paris and continuing to the most current designs for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Sarajevo. Featured are the Menil Collection in Houston, the Beyeler Foundation on the outskirts of Basel, Switzerland, the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas, the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, and the Morgan Library and Museum in New York. Lush color photographs and handsome presentation drawings and plans convey the form and detail of these extraordinary buildings.

Complementing the visual presentation is an essay by Victoria Newhouse, which surveys Piano's museum work and places it in a historical context. In particular, she focuses on the key elements of Piano's aesthetic: natural light, transparency, and the piazza or gathering space. All were introduced at the Pompidou Center and continue to inform the designs.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Renzo Piano is the founder of the Renzo Piano Building Workshop, a multi-faceted practice with offices in Genoa and Paris. He has been awarded the highest honors in architecture: RIBA Royal Gold Medal, the Pritzker Prize, and the Medaille d'Or, UIA.

Victoria Newhouse is the author of *Towards a New Museum* (1998 and 2006) and *Art and the Power of Placement* (2005).

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