



Sir Norman Foster

INTRODUCTION | Sir Norman

Norman Foster was born in Manchester in 1935. After graduating from Manchester University School of Architecture and City Planning in 1961 he won a Henry Fellowship to Yale University, where he gained a Master's Degree in Architecture.

He is the founder and chairman of Foster + Partners. Founded in London in 1967, it is now a worldwide practice, with project offices in more than twenty countries. Over the past four decades the company has

been responsible for a strikingly wide range of work, from urban masterplans, public infrastructure, airports, civic and cultural buildings, offices and workplaces to private houses and product design. Since its inception, the practice has received 470 awards and citations for excellence and has won more than 86 international and national competitions.

Current and recent work includes the largest single building on the planet, Beijing Airport, the redevelopment of Dresden Railway Station, Millau Viaduct in France, the Swiss Re tower and the Great Court at the

British Museum in London, an entire University Campus for Petronas in Malaysia, the Hearst Headquarters tower in New York, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Robert and Arlene Kogod Courtyard at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington and research centres at Stanford University, California.

He became the 21st Pritzker Architecture Prize Laureate in 1999 and was awarded the Praemium Imperiale Award for Architecture in 2002. He has been awarded the American Institute of Architects Gold Medal for Architecture (1994), the Royal Gold Medal for Architect

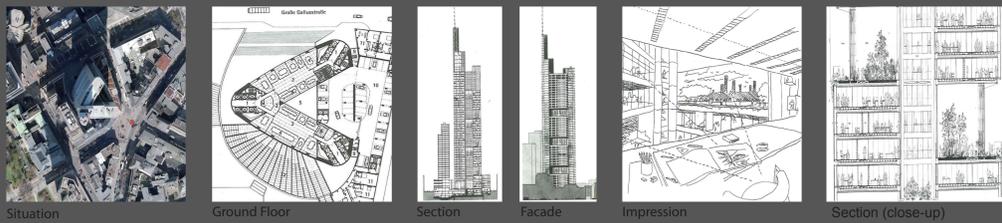
ture (1983), and the Gold Medal of the French Academy of Architecture (1991). In 1990 he was granted a Knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours, and in 1999 was honoured with a Life Peerage, becoming Lord Foster of Thames Bank.

Source: fosterandpartners.com/Team/SeniorPartners

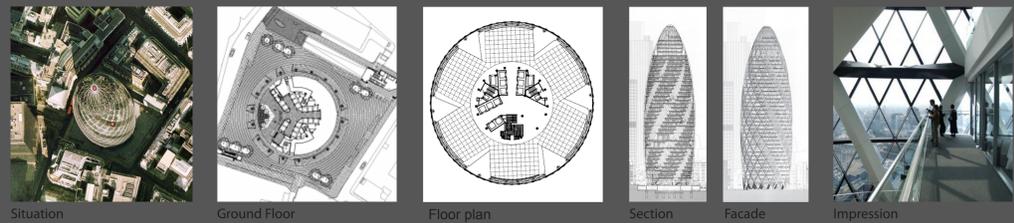
TIMELINE | Ouvre and presence of the theme



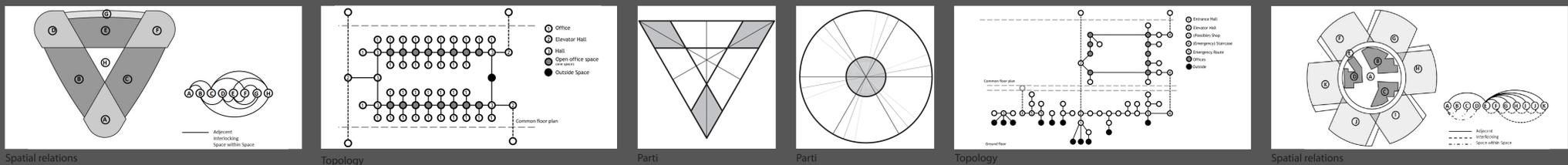
PROJECT DOCUMENTATION | Commerzbank Tower, Frankfurt



PROJECT DOCUMENTATION | 30 St Mary Axe, Swiss Re HQ, London



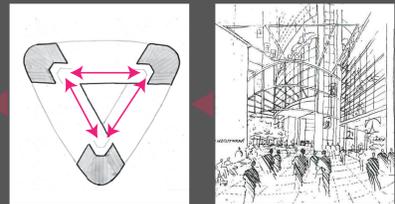
ANALYSIS | Steadman, Ching, Clark&Pause



FORM



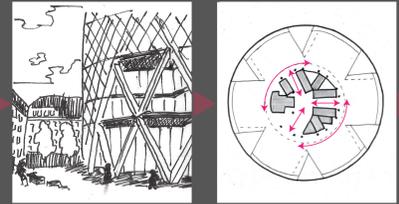
OPERATION



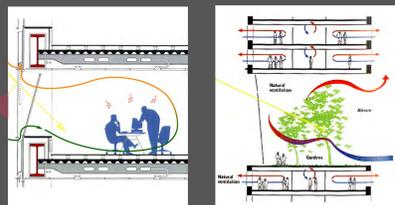
PERFORMANCE

A | Routing
 The architect wants to create clear and functional routes in the buildings and surround it. His buildings must be legible to his visitors.

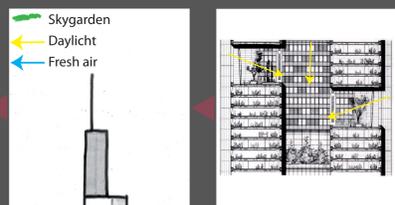
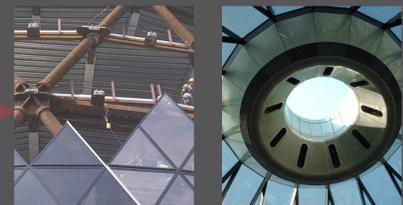
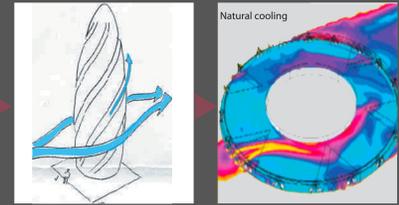
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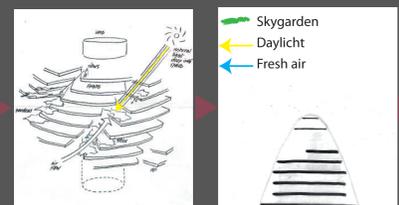
FORM



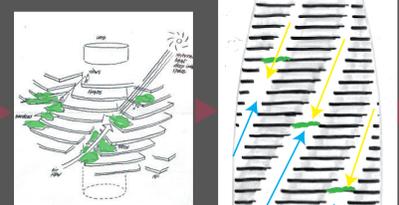
B | Technology
 The architect wants to use the newest technology's to design very sustainable buildings and reducing the CO2. By using innovative and, as much as possible, natural systems he can reduce the consumption of energy.



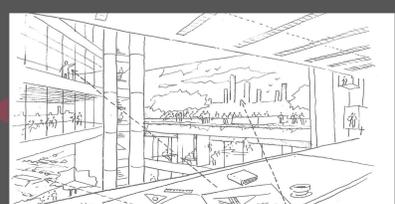
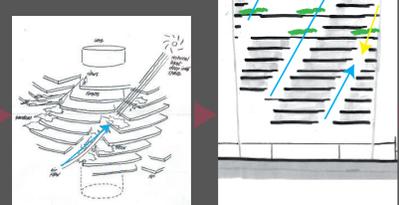
C | Daylight
 The architect wants to use natural light to interact man and nature. Natural light is a part of the quality of life. Daylight upgrades the efficiency and state of mind of the visitors and users of the buildings.



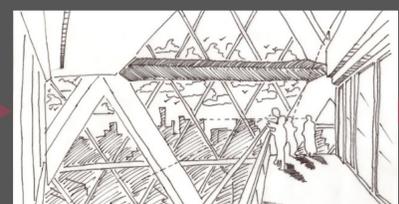
D | Sky gardens
 The architect wants to use sky gardens in these buildings to bring a spatial quality. It connect the users of the building with each other and the directly surroundings.



E | Ventilation
 The architect wants to create a climate quality by using natural ventilation. The CO2 discharge can be reduced by using natural systems to control the climate inside the building.



F | Experience
 The architect wants to let the users experience all the facets of the building like the above mentioned



REFLECTION + CONCLUSION

For these analyses we have chosen two projects from the portfolio of Norman Foster. We choose to analyze work from the beginning of his career and some more actual work. From our research in the beginning of this course the projects showed to be very much alike in function and contained the same principles. It turns out Norman Foster uses these simple key-principles in every of his projects to improve the quality in use and experience for the people who work or live in the building. These principles are translated into performances which can be found above. Because the main principle is to improve the quality of the buildings we choose the main theme to be "to improve the quality of life by

design." First of all the architect wants his buildings to be clear to read from the outside as well as from the inside. He wants clear routes within and outside the building. In the Commerzbank this is realized by putting the vertical transport (elevators, staircases) in the corners and the horizontal transportation in between. The Swiss Re office has a central core for vertical transport and a circular horizontal movement around it, to access the surrounding offices. In every of his designs Norman Foster searches for the most recent technologies to improve the way the building works. Reducing CO2 is an important aspect which can be achieved using the latest technologies. In many

projects Norman Foster is pioneering in technology, where the Commerzbank and the Swiss Re office are examples. Both buildings use the latest technologies from the time they were built to have for example natural ventilation which improves the quality of air inside the buildings and helps cooling the building in summer. Daylight is also to be found a very important aspect in the Norman Foster designs. Both buildings are made to let the users experience optimal daylight. This is an important issue for Foster because he wants use light to interact man with nature. In the Commerzbank the daylight penetrates the building through the sky gardens where the Swiss Re office uses spiral voids to let the

light pass. Another important principle is the use of nature inside the building. Both buildings have implemented sky gardens on different levels. This reinforces the connection with nature for the users and helps reducing CO2. In the Swiss Re office the sky gardens were initially part of the design but in reality we did not find any of the sky gardens in the current situation. The sky gardens also help to let the user experience how the building works. The spatial relations are improved by these spaces through the connection with the offices and the outside, which causes man, nature and technology to connect with each other. The gardens let

the user experience the penetrating sun, the green of the gardens and feel the wind flow through the building. Foster uses key principles in every of his designs in simple but ingeniously integrated systems. By designing these intelligent and integrated systems with above mentioned performances Foster is able to create buildings that are impressive, well working on every level and create a high quality of life.