

## Renzo Piano Building Workshop

The Renzo Piano Building Workshop (RPBW) is an international architectural practice with offices in Paris and Genoa.

The Workshop is led by 11 partners, including founder and Pritzker Prize laureate, architect Renzo Piano. The company permanently employs nearly 130 people. Its 90-plus architects are from all around the world, each selected for his or her experience, enthusiasm and caliber.

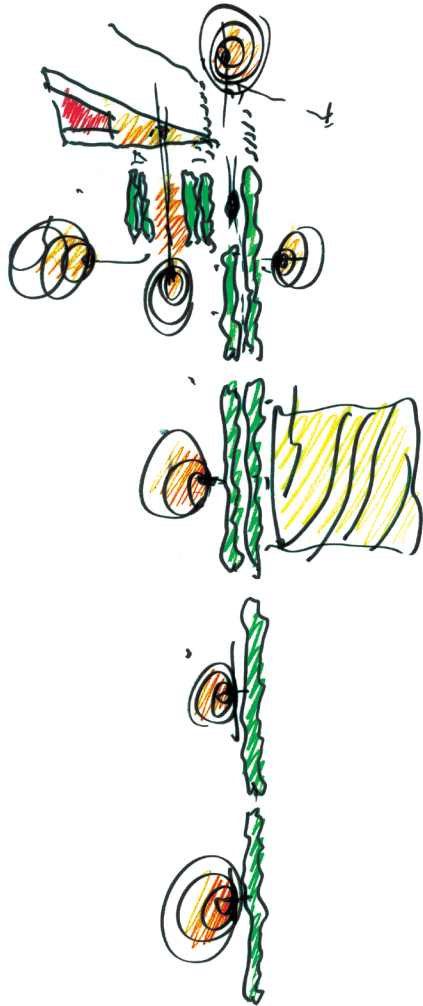
The company's staff has the expertise to provide full architectural design services, from concept design stage to construction supervision. Its design skills also include interior design, town planning and urban design, landscape design and exhibition design services.

Since its formation in 1981, RPBW has successfully undertaken and completed more than 120 projects across Europe, the United States, Australia and East Asia. Among its best known works are the Menil Collection in Houston, Texas; the Kansai International Airport Terminal Building in Osaka; the Kanak Cultural Center in New Caledonia; the Beyeler Foundation in Basel; the Rome Auditorium; the Maison Hermès in Tokyo; the Morgan Library and the New York Times Building in New York City; and the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. Recently completed works include the Shard in London and the new Whitney Museum in New York.

The quality of RPBW's work has been recognized by more than 70 design awards, including major awards from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA).

In all its work RPBW aims to address the specific features and potential of a particular situation, integrating them into the project while responding to the requirements of the program. It continues to push the limits of building technology—innovating, refining and experimenting—to come up with the very best solution for each situation.

RPBW's method of working is highly participatory, with clients, engineers and specialist consultants all contributing from the beginning of a project and throughout the design process. Its approach to design is not strictly conventional and involves the use of physical models and one-to-one scale mock-ups to help test and develop our proposed design concepts. The company also believes that the design process is not linear and that it requires architects to think and draw on different scales at the same time, considering each finished detail in the development of the overall design.



### Renzo Piano, Chairman, Founding Partner

Renzo Piano was born in Genoa in 1937 into a family of builders.

While studying at Polytechnic University of Milan, he worked in the office of Franco Albini. In 1971, he set up the Piano & Rogers office in London together with Richard Rogers, with whom he won the competition for the Centre Pompidou. He subsequently moved to Paris. From the early 1970s to the 1990s, he worked with the engineer Peter Rice, sharing the Atelier Piano & Rice from 1977 to 1981.

In 1981, the Renzo Piano Building Workshop was established. It now has 150 staff and offices in Paris, Genoa and New York.

Renzo Piano has received numerous awards and recognitions among them the Royal Gold Medal at the RIBA in London (1989); the Kyoto Prize in Kyoto, Japan (1990); the Goodwill Ambassador of UNESCO (1994); the Praemium Imperiale in Tokyo, Japan (1995); the Pritzker Architecture Prize at the White House in Washington (1998); the Leone d'oro alla Carriera in Venice (2000); the Gold Medal AIA in Washington (2008); and the Sonning Prize in Copenhagen (2009).

Since 2004 he has also been working with the Renzo Piano Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the promotion of the architectural profession through educational programs and educational activities. The new headquarters was established in Punta Nave (Genoa), in June 2008.

In September 2013 Renzo Piano was appointed senator for life by the Italian President Giorgio Napolitano, and in May 2014 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Columbia University.

### Antoine Chaaya, Partner, RPBW

Antoine Chaaya is an Architect DPLG based at the Paris office. Born in Lebanon in 1960, he studied architecture at the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK) in Lebanon and after graduating joined the Paris office in 1987. He worked as lead architect on a variety of projects including the Kanak Cultural Center in New Caledonia and the Potsdamer Platz project in Berlin.

Since becoming a partner in 1997, he has been the partner in charge of many other projects including the “Il Sole 24 Ore” headquarters in Milan, The Broad Contemporary Art Museum (BCAM) and The Resnick Pavilion at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Current projects include Phase One of the new Columbia University Manhattanville Campus with four academic buildings, a residential project in Miami, the headquarters of the SGBL Bank in Beirut, as well as the Beirut City Museum.

He has lectured in France, Lebanon and the USA, including talks at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

Antoine was appointed a member of the board in 2014.