Press Release

Taschen publishes a monograph of Norman Foster's career Norman Foster and Philip Jodidio



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With a career spanning across continents and over six decades, the work of architect Norman Foster is nothing short of extraordinary. His creative innovation and holistic approach have made him one of the world's most influential and well-known architects. From the Apple Park campus in Cupertino, California, to the Reichstag in Berlin, the enclosed court of the British Museum in London to the Millau Viaduct in France, with his practice, he has created celebrated landmarks that stand out for their inventive modernity and for what he calls 'a sustainable approach to the design of the built environment'.

This is the first time Foster's complete body of work has been published in one edition on such a grand scale. Produced by Taschen in collaboration with The Norman Foster Foundation and Foster + Partners, it gives a rare insight into the inner workings of his creative practice. It details his personal approach to his work, his inspirations, the link between art and architecture, and the significance and correlation between his passions, such as being an avid aviator, and his work.

This XXL monograph encompasses a lifetime of achievement and originality in two volumes. The first presents his architectural oeuvre and is filled with numerous unpublished images and sketches handpicked by Foster from his archives. Paired with nearly 1000 illustrations, the second book contains eight essays he wrote explaining his sources of inspiration.

Aside from the 1999 Pritzker Prize, he has won the American Institute of Architects Gold Medal for Architecture, the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture, and the Gold Medal of the French Academy of Architecture. This is a magnificent visual journey not only through significant buildings of our time but also into the mind of a genius. Norman Foster sketched every page of this book and spent countless hours with the author and the graphic designer to make it one of the most remarkable architecture books ever published.

The two volumes of this edition are collected in a custom-designed slipcase that folds into a book stand. It is an Art Edition of 300 copies, including a 1-meter-wide signed print of a drawing by Norman Foster, picturing the upcoming multifunctional community and business center InnHub in La Punt, Switzerland.



Norman Foster (born Manchester, 1935) is the founder and executive chairman of Foster + Partners. Over more than five decades the practice's output has encompassed urban masterplans, public infrastructure, airports, civic and cultural buildings, offices and workplaces, private houses and furniture design. Major projects include Beijing Airport, the Millau Viaduct in France, 30 St Mary Axe (also known as the Gherkin) and the Great Court at the British Museum in London, the Hearst Headquarters tower in New York and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Recent projects include Apple Park in California, Bloomberg's European Headquarters in London, the Comcast Tower in Philadelphia and the Norton Museum of Art in Florida. Some of his current projects within the practice include 425 Park Avenue in New York, the Narbo Via museum in Narbonne, the Magdi Yacoub Global Heart Center in Cairo, the community boathouse in Harlem, and the Headquarter Tower for JP Morgan Park Avenue in New York. He is president of the Norman Foster Foundation, based in Madrid with a global reach, promoting interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations of architects, designers, and urbanists anticipate the future. Lord Foster of Thames Bank was appointed by Queen Elizabeth II to the Order of Merit in 1997 and in 1999 was raised to the perage in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. He is the President of the Royal Fine Art Commission Trust and leads the Forum of Mayors for the United Nations.

Philip Jodidio studied art history and economics at Harvard and edited Connaissance des Arts for over 20 years. His TASCHEN books include the Architecture Now! series and monographs on numerous major architects, including Norman Foster, Tadao Ando, Renzo Piano, Jean Nouvel, and Zaha Hadid.



Norman Foster Foundation

The Norman Foster Foundation promotes interdisciplinary thinking and research to help new generations anticipate the future. The first mission of the Norman Foster Foundation is to make visible the centrality of architecture, infrastructure, and urbanism for the betterment of society. To this end, the second mission is to encourage new thinking and research across traditional boundaries in order to help younger generations anticipate the challenges of future change. In particular, the foundation speaks to those professionals who are concerned with the environment architects, engineers, designers, urbanists, civic leaders, planners, and artists. This is at the heart of the Foundation's holistic approach to design and is ever more relevant as populations shift to cities. With the implications of climate change, robotics and artificial intelligence, sustainable design is not about fashion but about survival.

The Foundation holds the Norman Foster Archive and Library, which provide a window into the larger narrative and history of our built environment through the work of Norman Foster. This is complemented and supported by drawings and models from other significant architects such as Claude-Nicolas Ledoux, Le Corbusier, Mies van der Rohe, Charles and Ray Eames, Buckminster Fuller, Richard Rogers, Zaha Hadid and Tadao Ando. Through its research initiatives and programmes, the Norman Foster Foundation encourages the transfer of advanced knowledge in a wide range of design fields. The Foundation's educational initiatives are structured around research, workshops, fellowships and forums, built around the Foundation's core objectives.

The Norman Foster Foundation acts from the United Kingdom, New York and Spain, with its headquarters in Madrid.

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