

1 architecte

1 bâtiment

conférence

**IAN
SIMPSON**

BEETHAM TOWER
MANCHESTER,
ROYAUME-UNI, 2007

MARDI 30 JUIN 2009
À 19H00



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IAN SIMPSON ARCHITECTS

The Beetham Tower, Manchester by Ian Simpson
The Pavillon de l'Arsenal
30th June 2009



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WE WANT TO CREATE
GREAT ARCHITECTURE
AND WORK WITH PEOPLE
WHO SHARE THAT VISION

WE ARE COMMITTED TO
DESIGN EXCELLENCE

WE AIM TO DESIGN
BUILDINGS & SPACES
THAT ARE *APPROPRIATE,*
INSPIRATIONAL,
BEAUTIFUL & EXCITING

”

Rachel Haugh & Ian Simpson
Directors



Appropriate

My approach to the practice of architecture is embedded in the theme of contextualism, a fundamental belief that each project must engage with a site's cultural and physical context.

The very substance of any design strategy is derived from the clues offered by its context, both immediate and further afield, at a micro and macro level. I seek: to develop an understanding of the urban fabric of a city, of elements that work well and those that require attention; to engage with a city that is often critically poised for change and enhancement and; to offer designs that have been tested against a site and create appropriate, enjoyable and anchored space, always conscious, however, that buildings can only be accepted by their surroundings if they have the ability to appeal to our emotions and minds.

Inspirational

I see the practice of architecture as an analytical art; every project is a new sketch. Every project is a new sketch and sketches express my inspiration for a project. The fundamental mission of any building is to achieve the functional criteria that defines its purpose; I also believe that the essential substance of the architecture I seek, proceeds from intuition and insight. The design process is based on a constant interplay of reason and emotion.

I believe that architecture must balance the logical and measurable with the intuitive and emotional. We perceive atmosphere through our emotive sensibilities – a form of perception that works incredibly quickly. We are capable of immediate appreciation, of a spontaneous response that is very different from linear thought. I do not work towards architecture from a purely theoretically defined point of departure.

Beautiful

I believe architecture is an expression of the human spirit and should seek to uplift and inspire. With this in mind, I believe a key responsibility of the architect is to seek beauty. A building must work on a number of levels: functionally, climatically, technically and environmentally. Ultimately, it will be viewed by all and should aspire to elegance.

If a building is conceived accurately enough for its place and its function it will develop its own strength, a necessary beauty, a purity of form, one that must be expressed with absolute conviction and without distraction. An aesthetic based upon strength in form, shape and signature and in clear reference to its location, a beautiful solution that can contribute intelligently to the sustainable evolution of a given environment.

Exciting

I believe a building should be representative of its time and moment in cultural history, incorporate contemporary materials and technologies, express a 'language of the moment' whilst appearing timeless and sympathetic to its surroundings.

The creative act by which a work of architecture comes into being goes beyond technical knowledge and historical reference, its focus is on the dialogue with the issues of our time. It must reflect the spirit of the age and the spirit of its inventor. I seek an architecture that is durable, which can melt into society to play its role in that society for a long time whilst contributing to the evolution of the culture, becoming more than a building, becoming a piece of the city.

I believe passionately in the important role the city performs in the economic, social and cultural aspects of human existence. Much of my work with the practice and teaching has been associated with the regeneration of our post industrial cities.

The key principles that underpin my design philosophy are embodied within our major work. The following pages of this section of the proof of evidence describe my process of thinking and illustrate the themes through reference to built and un-built projects.

BEETHAM HILTON TOWER MANCHESTER

The Hilton Tower, situated on Deansgate, at 169m tall, is not only the tallest building in Manchester, it is one of the tallest hotel/residential towers in Europe and the top floor penthouse is the highest living space in Britain.

The development is located at the junction of Deansgate and Great Bridgewater Street, to the south of Manchester City Centre.

The site was previously occupied by the remains of a Victorian railway viaduct and was owned by Hilton UK. Hilton had an extant planning approval for a low rise mixed use hotel and residential development and in December 2002 they invited developers, investors and contractors to provide them with proposals for delivering that development.

Beetham Organization, a Liverpool based developer, working with the design team who were eventually to deliver the project, presented Hilton with a vision for a much more extensive scheme. In early 2003, a development agreement was signed between Beetham and Hilton and the design team were appointed.

Beetham's brief was to create a substantial mixed use development of exceptional quality incorporating the Hilton hotel, residential apartments, a commercial office building and on-site parking to serve all three uses. This mix and quantum of uses, combined with the City Council's aspirations for a landmark building on this important urban site provided a rare opportunity to create a tall building of distinction which enhances and improves the city and, given the visual connection with the city centre, assists in attracting activity and investment to the south of the centre.

Detailed planning permission was granted in October 2003. Construction work began on site in March 2004 and the first phase of development (the hotel and residential apartments) is now complete. The hotel was opened in October 2006 and the apartments were handed over in phases with Practical Completion in February 2007. The commercial office building is currently awaiting funding.

In outline the first phase accommodation comprises:

- > 279 Hotel guestrooms (inc presidential suite and 2no executive suites)
- > Hotel bar and lounge
- > Restaurant
- > Conference facilities including 600 seat ballroom
- > Health club, including swimming pool
- > Hotel destination bar at level 23
- > 219 residential apartments
- > Basement car parking

The development is split into two easily identifiable elements: a tower containing the residential element (hotel guest bedrooms and apartments) and a lower, 'podium', element containing the hotel public areas separated from the tower by a clear glazed atrium.

The four storey podium element reads as a strong, grounded, solid element, in contrast to the predominantly glazed, crystalline residential tower. The intention is that this solid, grounded podium provides a 'memory' of the massive dark engineering brick railway viaducts which once occupied this site. The envelope to the podium element is formed from storey height polished precast concrete panels. The concrete mix - with exposed black basalt and green Criggion granite aggregates - was developed specifically for this project. The massive nature of the panels can be clearly read and the polished finish gives the podium a deeply smooth, shimmering, glossy appearance which responds in differing ways to changing light and weather conditions and changing points of view. The polishing process, which was carried out using manually operated polishing machinery, has given the podium an almost hand made feel.

In contrast to this, the envelope to the tower is a highly engineered bespoke, fully-sealed, flush, unitised, glazed curtain walling system. Cladding materials include clear double glazing, clear double glazing with a silk screened frit and clear glazing (some with a silk screened frit) with faced insulated panels behind creating a "shadow box" effect. Where required, the system incorporates opening lights and ventilation terminals, but these are concealed behind bespoke, fixed, perforated metal panels, which are glazed flush with the façade adjacent.

The façade design is intended to emphasize the verticality of the building. The joints between adjacent unitised panels are as minimal as possible. Elements such as the metal panels covering the ventilators and the projecting fins which provide shading to areas of clear glazing are aligned vertically, so that they run across a number of floors and break down the horizontal lines of the floorplates.

Each of the elevations to the building has a different treatment according to orientation in order to deal with solar gain issues. This provides a richness and individuality to the design. The residential apartments on the south facing elevation are protected by a double skin façade which forms a naturally ventilated buffer zone. This buffer zone contains balconies which are deep enough to act as an extension of the living space and which provide solar shading to the apartments below. The balconies are protected from the elements by a glazed outer skin which contains a series of vertical pivoting glazed louvres

allowing the occupants of the residential apartments to enjoy, year round, a protected external space with spectacular views across the city and the surrounding countryside. The areas of clear glazing to the south and west elevations are protected by projecting metal 'fins' which shade the window adjacent from the morning or evening sun.

The small floorplates required for the hotel and residential accommodation have allowed the creation of a tower with a very high slenderness ratio. The design of the concrete frame has been refined, in conjunction with WSP Cantor Seinuk, to ensure that the tower is as slender as is physically possible.

The hotel's destination bar and executive lounge, at level 23, are the highest publicly accessible spaces in the city and offer panoramic views of Cheshire, Lancashire and Derbyshire. It is at this level that the building cantilevers 4m out over Great Bridgewater Street in a move designed to articulate the change in programme, from hotel below to residential apartments above. Both bar and lounge contain glass lenses within the cantilevered section of floor upon which customers can stand, suspended 75m above the street below.

Whilst the lower levels of the building are about creating a place for people to enjoy, that is rooted in the life of the city, the top is light and appears to challenge gravity. The glazed skin of the buffer zone to the south façade cantilevers above roof level to form a crystalline 'blade'. This glazed element blurs the distinction between the building and the surrounding skies and is intended to make the crown of the building appear to dematerialise.



Ian Simpson

BA (Arch) Comm Dip Arch (Dist) RIBA FRSA
 Director, Ian Simpson Architects

Lecturer at Manchester University School of Architecture 1987–1994
External examiner for the South Bank University and Newcastle University
Vice President (Architecture) for Liverpool John Moores University
Design Academy
Board Member for Oldham and Rochdale Housing Market Renewal (HMR)
Pathfinder
Fellow of the RSA, The Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts,
Manufactures and Commerce
Member of Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment
Design Review Panel for four years

Ian was born and brought up in North Manchester. He studied architecture at Liverpool Polytechnic and after he completed his studies he left to work in London with Foster and Partners.

He is a founding partner and co-director of Ian Simpson Architects, a design-led architectural practice established in 1987 and employing around 50 people in offices in Manchester and London.

He is the partner responsible for overseeing all design projects, and is the primary client contact within the practice.

He has lectured extensively, both nationally and internationally, on architecture and the work of the practice, including The Observer Urban Regeneration Conference 2002, The Drum Originality Conference 2003 and The Manchester School of Architecture 2003. Recent conferences and lectures include City Centre Redevelopment event, Manchester, April 2004; Manchester Square event, London, May 2004; Connect04, Leeds, June 2004, MIPIM 2004: invited speaker for Marketing Manchester stand event, Beautiful Skylines, 2005, Rochdale Development Agency, 2005, LSE Tall Buildings Lecture 2006, Bradford Architecture Symposium 2006, Builder and Engineer Awards 2006, Hotel Property Network event 2006, Young Planners Conference 2006, CUBE Lecture 2006, Forum for the Built Environment event, 2007, Institute of Directors Lecture 2007, Women in Property event 2007, Think Event - Tall Buildings: Eco friend or eco foe Lecture, 2007. He has judged many design competitions and high profile awards and is a regular contributor to radio and TV programmes.

Current projects of Ian Simpson Architects are located across the country in cities including Manchester, Leeds, Newcastle, Glasgow, Birmingham, Leicester and London. The practice's portfolio comprises a variety of building types including museum, gallery, university, large-scale residential, commercial, retail and arts/theatre.

The practice's ambition is "to create great architecture and work with people who share that vision". Ian Simpson Architects won the competition to masterplan Manchester City Centre following the IRA bombing in 1996 and has been closely involved with regeneration initiatives in cities across the UK.

The practice has won many design awards for its innovative approach and focus on design excellence, including RIBA awards for Urbis, No 1 Deansgate, The Manchester Museum, The Transport Interchange, The Hilton Tower and Trinity College Cambridge; Civic Trust Awards for No 1 Deansgate, The Manchester Museum and The Hilton Tower; and Housing Design Awards for No 1 Deansgate, The Hilton Tower and The Foyer Birmingham.

Key projects recently completed, on site and in design include: Urbis, No 1 Deansgate, The Manchester Museum, The Hilton Tower and Origin, Manchester; Beetham Tower Holloway Circus, Birmingham; Beetham Tower 1 Blackfriars Rd, London and Lumiere, Leeds.

TEAM + AWARDS

2009 **RICS North West Awards** – *Best Residential Building*: Parkway Gate, Manchester
MSA Design Awards – *Overall Winner*: Parkway Gate, Manchester; *Winner* – *Large Residential category*: Parkway Gate, Manchester; *Commendations* – *Community category*: National Wildflower Centre, Liverpool; Primary School, Grasmere
Urban Land Institute Awards for Excellence – *Shortlisted*: Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester
(1st Prize) National Wildflower Centre – a RIBA International Competition for a new education and conference centre in Knowsly

2008 **Manchester Confidential** – *Best New Building*: Parkway Gate, Manchester
RIBA National Award – Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester
RIBA Awards – Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester; Holloway Circus, Birmingham
RICS North West Awards – *Project of the Year Award*: Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester; *Design and Innovation Award*: Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester
Manchester Tourism Awards – *Tourism Bar of the Year*: Cloud 23, Hilton Tower, Manchester
Civic Trust Award – Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester
Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat – *Best Tall Building Award*: Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester
The Concrete Society – *Building Category Winner*: Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester
RIBA Awards – Transport Interchange, Manchester
RICS North West Awards – *Design and Innovation Award*: Transport Interchange, Manchester
Manchester Tourism Awards – *Large Visitor Attraction of the Year*: Urbis, Manchester
MSA Design Awards – *Overall Winner*: Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester; *Winner* – *Sport and Leisure category*: Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester; *Winner* – *Community category*: Transport Interchange, Manchester

2006 **European Hotel Design Awards** – *Shortlisted* – *Best Hotel Architecture* – *New Build*: Holloway Circus, Birmingham
MCR10 Awards – *Best Architect*: ISA; *Best Living Space*: No.1 Deansgate, Manchester; *Most Instrumental Individual in the Regeneration of the City (Private Sector)*: Ian Simpson

2005 **Roses Design Awards** – *Architect of the Year*
MSA Design Awards – *Winner*: Andy Robson Design Award
Civic Architectural Design Awards – *Commendation*: Hush House, Chester

2004 **Housing Design Awards** – *Winner* – *Unbuilt Projects category*: Beetham Hilton Tower, Manchester
RIBA Awards – Manchester Museum, Manchester
MSA Design Awards – *Winner* – *Sport and Leisure category*: Manchester Museum, Manchester; *Winner* – *Unbuilt Retail category*: Beetham Hilton Tower
Evening Standard Awards – *Winner* – *Lifestyle category*: The Jam Factory, London
Civic Trust Awards – No 1 Deansgate, Manchester; Manchester Museum, Manchester; *Special Award* – *Urban Design*: Millennium Quarter, Manchester; *Commendation*: Urbis, Manchester

2003 **Manchester Civic Society Award** – *Joint Winner* – *Phoenix Design Award*: Manchester Museum, Manchester
Housing Design Awards – *Winner* – *Completed Scheme category*: No1 Deansgate, Manchester
RIBA Awards – Urbis, Manchester; No 1 Deansgate, Manchester
MSA Design Awards – *Overall Winner*: Urbis, Manchester; *Winner* – *Residential category*: No 1 Deansgate, Manchester; *Winner* – *Sport and Leisure category*: Urbis, Manchester
MIPIM – *Finalist* – *Residential category*: No 1 Deansgate, Manchester
American Institute of Architects Design Excellence Awards – *Commendation*: Urbis, Manchester
Northwest Regional Structural Awards – *Winner* – *Most Innovative Project* [awarded by the Institution of Structural Engineers, Lancashire and Cheshire Branch]: No 1 Deansgate, Manchester

2002 **Built in Quality Awards** – Urbis, Manchester; No 1 Deansgate, Manchester
Roses Design Awards – *Best Residential Project*: No1 Deansgate, Manchester
(Semi-Finalist) World Trade Center – Requests for Qualification for Innovative Designs for World Trade Center Site, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation
Model Housing – RIBA exhibition showing residential schemes; model of Holloway Circus Tower exhibited
Architecture by Stealth – Exhibition following the development of the Urbis and The Manchester Museum projects
(Short-listed) Manchester Civil Justice Courts – International competition for the Civil Courts of Justice in Manchester
Housing Design Awards – *Winner* – *Unbuilt Projects category*: Holloway Circus, Birmingham
Insider North West Property Awards – *Architects Practice of the Year*
What Home – *Gold Award* – *Best Apartment and Best Development*: No 1 Deansgate, Manchester

2000 **David Urwin Awards** – *Commendation*: Trinity College, Cambridge

1999 **Housing Design Awards** – *Winner* – *Completed Scheme category*: Foyer, Birmingham
RIBA Awards – Trinity College, Cambridge

1998 **(1st Prize) Urbis** – a £28 million International Design Competition for a new build gallery for Manchester City Council
Greenwich Millennium Village – limited development competition for housing and mixed use development on the Greenwich Peninsular for the Millennium (in conjunction with EDAW, Allies and Morrison, Fielden and Clegg, Pardey Associates and others)

1997 **(Shortlisted) National Wildflower Centre, Liverpool** – EC advertised competition, one of six practices to be shortlisted

1996 **(1st Prize) Rebuilding Manchester** – a £500 million International Urban Design Competition for Millennium Manchester to create a framework for the future (in conjunction with EDAW, Baxter, Benoy)
(1st Prize) Landscape Proposals for a New Park in Hulme – limited Architectural Competition for Hulme Regeneration Limited, Manchester City Challenge (in conjunction with Landscape Projects)

1995 **(1st Prize) Trinity College Cambridge** – provision of Graduate and Undergraduate facilities and College Bar
(Short-listed) Manchester City Art Gallery – International Architectural Competition, one of six practices to be short-listed

1994 **(1st Prize) St. Mary's Church Triangle** – Architectural Competition for redevelopment strategy for group of four listed buildings
(1st Prize) Manchester Museum – limited Architectural Competition
(1st Prize) Museum of Science & Industry In Manchester – limited Architectural Competition: site strategy and two new galleries
(1st Prize) Merchants Warehouse – limited Architectural Competition for refurbishment and redevelopment of existing listed building
(2nd Prize) Merchants Bridge – open Competition for the design of a new pedestrian bridge in Castlefield for C.M.D.C.
226th Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy of Arts – three projects selected for inclusion

1993 **(1st Prize) Northern Quarter Regeneration Study** – international Competition for Manchester City Council (Urbanistics Consortium)
(1st Prize) Foyer – international Design Competition for Britain's first purpose-built Foyer, a transitional centre for young people
Making Places – exhibition in Manchester and London

1991 **(1st Prize) Lexan Leisure Centre for the Eighties** – national Architectural Competition

1988 **(1st Prize) Best Northern Site Scheme Competition** – two Houses at Energy World, Milton Keynes
(1st Prize) ICI Darwen – limited Architectural Competition for a new Headquarters Building
(3rd Prize) National Architectural Competition – residential redevelopment of Addison Square, Lancing, Sussex
40 under Forty – selected for inclusion within a major Exhibition of the work of young British Architects organised by the RIBA 1986



CONFÉRENCES «1 ARCHITECTE - 1 BÂTIMENT »
CONSULTABLES EN ACCÈS LIBRE SUR WWW.PAVILLON-ARSENAL.COM

- 2009 **Ian Simpson**, Beetham Tower, Manchester, Royaume-Uni
- 2008 **MVRDV**, Winy Maas, Didden Village, Rotterdam, Pays-Bas
Mario Cucinella, Centre de Direction Forum, Rimini, Italie
Yona Friedman, Les ponts de Shanghai
- 2007 **Finn Geipel**, LIN FINN GEIPEL + GIULIA ANDI, Alvéole 14, Transformation de la Base sous-marine de Saint-Nazaire
FOA, Farshid Moussavi, John Lewis Department Store, Leicester, United Kingdom
Rudy Ricciotti, Le Pavillon Noir, Centre Chorégraphique National d'Aix-en-Provence
Manuelle Gautrand, Logements «Solaris», Rennes, France
Franck Hammoutène, Extension de l'Hôtel de Ville de Marseille
- 2006 **Edouard François**, Hôtel Fouquet's Barrière, Paris
Jean Nouvel, Tour Agbar, Barcelone, Espagne
Plot Architecture, Julien de Smedt, 230 logements, Copenhague, Danemark
- 2005 **Bernard Tschumi**, Siège et Manufacture de Vacheron Constantin, Genève, Suisse
Louis Paillard, Ecole supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Valenciennes
Inaki Abalos, Tour Woermann, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Espagne
Dick Van Gameren, Dutch Embassy, Addis Abeba, Ethiopie
Stefan Behnisch, Norddeutsche Landesbank am Friedrichswall, Hanovre, Allemagne
Toyo Ito, Tod's Omotesando, Tokyo, Japon
Jean-Marc Ibos et Myrto Vitart, Maison des adolescents, Paris et Caserne des Sapeurs-Pompiers, Nanterre
- 2004 **Antoinette Robain et Claire Guieysse**, Centre national de la Danse, Pantin
Massimiliano Fuksas, The new Milan Trade Fair, Italie
Hans-Walter Müller, Volume Chaillot II, Paris, architectures gonflables
NOX Architects, Lars Spuybroek, Maison Folie, Lille
Peter Stutchbury, Bay House, Sydney, Australie
- 2003 **Daniel Libeskind**, World Trade Center, New York, USA
Philippe Barthélémy et Sylvia Grino, Kowa Building, Kobé, Japon
Jacques Moussafir, UFR Arts PARIS 8, St-Denis
Rémy Marciano, le gymnase Ruffi, Marseille
- 2002 **Isabel Héroult et Yves Arnod**, la patinoire "Pole Sud" de Grenoble
David Trottin et Louis Paillard, PÉRIPHÉRIQUES, maison MR, Pomponne, et maison icône, Montreuil
François Roche, R&Sie... , maison Barak, Sommières, France
Anne Lacaton et Jean-Philippe Vassal, site de créations contemporaines, Palais de Tokyo, Paris
Marc Mimram, La Passerelle Solférino et le Passage des Tuileries, Paris
Dominique Lyon, « Les Tilleuls » 55 logements P.L.A., Gagny
- 2001 **Shigeru Ban**, Japon, Pavillon du Japon, Hanovre 2000, Allemagne
Louisa Hutton, Sauerbruch Hutton Architectes, siège social GSW, Berlin, Allemagne
Nicolas Michelin, LABFAC, Maison des Services Publics, Montfermeil
Francis Soler, Immeuble de logements, Clichy
Xaveer de Geyter, Maison à Brasschaat, Antwerp, Belgique
Mark Goulthorpe, dECOi architect(e)s, façade de l'Opéra, Birmingham, U.K.
Carlos Ferrater, Hôtel, Palais de Catalogne, Fitness Center, Barcelone, Espagne
Alfredo Paya Benedito, Musée de l'université San Vicente del Raspeig, Alicante, Espagne
Joao Luis Carrilho Da Graca, Pavillon de la Connaissance des Mers, Lisbonne, Portugal
Annette Gigon, Agence Gigon/Guyer, Musée Liner, Appenzel, Suisse
Félix Claus, Agence Claus en Kaan Architekten, Cimetière Zorgvlied, Amsterdam, Pays-Bas
Manuel Gausa, Actar Arquitectura, Espagne, M'House, des logements à la carte, Nantes
- 2000 **Willem Jan Neutelings**, Bâtiment Minnaert, Université d'Utrecht, Pays-Bas
William Alsop, Bibliothèque de Peckham, Londres, U.K.
Hans Hollein, Complexe scolaire de New Donau City, Vienne, Autriche
Henri Ciriani, maison privée, Pérou
Bernard Tschumi, École d'Architecture de la Ville et des Territoires, Marne-la-Vallée
Patrick Berger, Siège de l'UEFA, Nyon, Suisse
Christian de Portzamparc, Tour LVMH, New York, USA
Architecture Studio, Parlement Européen, Strasbourg
Dominique Perrault, Piscine et le Vélodrome Olympiques, Berlin, Allemagne