

FILMS, VIDEOS & DVDs

# Architecture, Design & Planning

## Shigeru Ban: An Architect for Emergencies

A FILM BY MICHEL QUINEJURE

**new**  
release

The Japanese architect Shigeru Ban is noted for his use of inexpensive construction materials such as paper-board and cardboard tubes, which, in addition to providing emergency DIY prefab housing for earthquake victims, he has used to create homes, pavilions and churches.

In the documentary SHIGERU BAN this innovative architect discusses the practical, philosophical and aesthetic aspects of his work. In addition to his conservationist interest in using recycled materials, Ban discusses his influences, his concerns with the bidimensional and tridimensional nature of his buildings, his aim to incorporate structural elements into the overall designs, as well as their sensitivity to light and shade, which lends unusual vitality to his buildings.

SHIGERU BAN is also a visual exploration of many of Ban's major buildings, including the massive Japanese Pavilion for the 2000 Exposition in Hanover, Germany; the Paper Dome in Gero, Japan; the House with Double Roof in Yamanaka Lake, Japan; the Miyake Design Studio Gallery, the Hanegi Forest Home and the Ivy Structure 2 in Tokyo; the Paper Church in Kobe; and the 9 Square Grids House in Hadano.

While showcasing his designs, SHIGERU BAN reveals that an emphasis on issues of conservation, economy, and accessibility does not necessarily involve a sacrifice in architectural beauty.



*"Shigeru Ban is a global architect. He thinks, travels, and works without boundaries. His work has profound relevance because of its ability to draw together both world events and personal beliefs."*

—Frei Otto, Architect and Engineer

53 minutes | color | 2006

Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order # AD7-01**



FIRST RUN / ICARUS FILMS

# Santiago Calatrava's Travels

A FILM BY CHRISTOPH SCHAUB



Commissioned to design the new transportation hub at the new World Trade Center in New York City, architect Santiago Calatrava is widely recognized as the greatest living designer of structures such as airports and train stations. His awesome and often controversial creations can be found all over the globe.

SANTIAGO CALATRAVA'S TRAVELS accompanies the designer on visits to work sites, illustrates many of his best-known constructions—including railway stations, bridges, concert halls, and airports—and features his comments on the creative process, and his inspirations in architectural and art history. The result is a display of Calatrava's unique structural designs—buildings as visual sculptures, noted for their dynamic



equipoise, which are inspired by waves, trees, wind, wings, the human body, and other natural elements.

*"A splendid film! Breathtaking!... essential viewing for all architectural and building construction students."*

—Leonardo: The Journal of the International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology

*"Enables us to understand his creative thought process and to arrive at a clear comprehension of his work."*

—Ballast Quarterly Reviews

*"Recommended! Makes accessible a timeless art in the hands of a modern master."*—Educational Media Reviews Online

77 minutes | color | 1999  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-02



# The Future of Mud: The Tale of a Mason's Family

A FILM BY SUSAN VOGEL / PRESENTED BY THE MUSÉE NATIONAL DU MALI



**new release** Through the story of a mason in Djenne, Komusa Tenapo, and his family, this documentary examines an African tradition of mud architecture in Mali. The environmental genius of these ancient construction techniques—thick walls with tiny windows that keep the interiors cool despite the stifling heat—is expressed in strikingly beautiful designs that have won the town of Djenne designation as a World Heritage site.

THE FUTURE OF MUD reveals Komusa's hand building methods, utilizing sun-dried bricks made of mud from the flood plain which contains decayed fish and cattle manure that are mixed with organic materials such as straw and rice chaff. The film shows him at work on two building sites, and at the annual repair of the Great Mosque, employing thousand-year-old construction techniques, plus the secret knowledge he inherited from his family of masons, including religious rituals to protect homes and workers from evil spirits.

Komoussa, family members and Madame Diallo, a Cultural Heritage official, present information on the history of Malian architecture. The film also shows the annual replastering of Dejenne's Great Mosque, the largest mud brick building in the world, a day-long, boisterous community effort, and a major public celebration observed by local residents and a few tourists.

 **2007 RAI International Festival of Ethnographic Film**

58 minutes | color | 2007  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-04





# Eileen Gray: Designer and Architect

A FILM BY JÖRG BUNDSCHUH

**new release** Eileen Gray (1878-1976) was always ahead of her time. And thirty years after her death, she is still considered the very essence of the Modern.

Everyone has seen her furniture—including the famous Adjustable Table, the Lota Sofa, and the Tube Light—but most people don't really know the designer and architect who created them.

Gray studied at the Slade School of Fine Arts in London before moving to Paris in 1902 where she continued

her studies, mastered lacquer work and established the Galerie Jean Désert, from which she sold her avant-garde, luxury furniture pieces.



EILEEN GRAY: Designer and Architect also examines the history of her architectural creations, including E.1027, built in Roquebrune, France, in 1926. This modernist seaside villa—an L-shaped, flat-roofed building with floor-to-ceiling windows and a spiral staircase—has been declared a French national monument and is now being restored. After Gray left the home in the early 1930s, it was occupied by Le Corbusier, who decorated its walls with colorful murals, which Gray considered a desecration, and the argument destroyed their friendship.

Using archival footage, excerpts from Gray's writings, plus interviews with a museum curator, an art appraiser and a design manufacturer, EILEEN GRAY chronicles this designer's artistic formation, her travels and influences, and her relations with fellow artists and architects such as Jean Badovici, Seizo Sugawara, and Le Corbusier,

52 minutes | color | 2007  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-03



# Lagos/Koolhaas

A FILM BY BREGTJE VAN DER HAAK

Rem Koolhaas—winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize—is a Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at Harvard. For the past eleven years Koolhaas and students from The Harvard Project on the City have come to Lagos, Nigeria regularly to research the type of urban environment produced by explosive population growth.

The Project on the City is framed by two concepts: academia's bewilderment with new forms of accelerated urbanization in developing regions and the maelstrom of redevelopment in existing urban areas; and the failure of the design professions to adequately cope with these changes.

LAGOS / KOOLHAAS follows Koolhaas over a period of two years as he wanders through the city, talking with people and recognizing the problems with water, electricity and traffic. Instead of judging the city to be doomed, he is able to interpret this "culture of congestion" positively, helping to develop a new concept of the big city.



*"Highly Recommended! Excellent! Easy to view and understand. Rem Koolhaas has done it again."*

—Educational Media Reviews Online

*"A fascinating and provocative insight into the very extremes of globalizing modernity and urbanization... engaging and stimulating viewing!"*

—Visual Anthropology Review

 2003 Architects Series,  
Museum of Modern Art (New York)

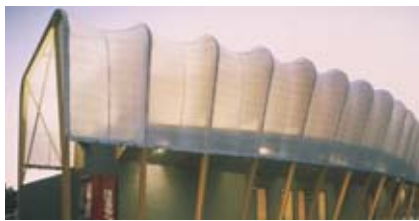
 2003 International Environmental  
Film Festival

55 minutes | color | 2002  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-05



# In the Mind of the Architect

A 3-PART SERIES BY JANNE RYAN & TIM CLARK



From the Modernist ideas of Europe and North America, through the eccentricity of Postmodernism, and to the importance of climate and place, this 3-part series is an investigation into the eclectic world of architects and their creations.

Featuring buildings that are striking, controversial or simply beautiful, and concentrating on the views and motivations of award-winning Australian architects including Harry Seidler, Richard Leplastrier, Paul Katsieris, Peter Corrigan, Bernard Seeber, Phillip Cox, Sean Godsell and many others, IN THE MIND OF THE ARCHITECT explores connections between architecture and the human condition, and discusses the brutal politics of building structures.

- > **Part 1, KEEPING THE FAITH** explores the relationship between architect and client, including projects where the designer is the client.
- > **Part 2, THE PUBLIC GOOD:** With capital on the move from public to private spending, architects must straddle both worlds and balance the desires of business clients with the obligation to the public good. Cities are the battleground, driven by pressure for commercial development.
- > **Part 3, CORRUGATED DREAMS:** The potential of architecture is to enable things to happen—to enhance, not restrict. What gives an architect the confidence to build a great building? Is it a good site, tolerant neighbors, or a gifted contractor? Or is the most important factor a brave client with lots of money?

*"Wonderfully interesting. Rich and diverse."*—Ballast Quarterly Review

*"A masterful job of explaining architectural concepts [and] a very stylish production."*—The Age

*"Fascinating! Beautifully presented, photographed and argued."*—The Mercury

 **Best Documentary, 2000 Victorian Architecture Awards**

 **The Bates Smart Award for Architecture in the Media (2000)**

3 x 55 minutes | color | 2000  
Sale/DVD: \$490 | **Order # AD7-06**



# Kochuu: Japanese Architecture / Influence & Origin

A FILM BY JESPER WACHTMEISTER



KOCHUU is a visually stunning film about modern Japanese architecture, its roots in Japanese culture, and its interplay with the Nordic building tradition. Winding its way through visions of the future and traditional concepts, nature and concrete, gardens and high-tech spaces, the film investigates how many contemporary Japanese architects strive to unite the ways of modern man with the old philosophies in astounding constructions.

KOCHUU, which translates as "in the jar," refers to the Japanese tradition of constructing small, enclosed physical spaces. The film illustrates key components of traditional Japanese architecture, such as reducing the distinction between outdoors and indoors, disrupting the symmetrical, building with posts rather than with walls, modular construction techniques, and its symbiotic relationship with water, light and nature.

The film illustrates these concepts through views of, among dozens of other buildings and gardens, the Imperial Katsura Palace, the Todai-Ji Temple, the Naoshima Contemporary Art Museum, the Sony Tower, numerous teahouses and gardens as well as examples of the cross-fertilization evidenced in buildings throughout Scandinavia, and shows how "invisible" Japanese traditions are evident even in modern, high-tech buildings.

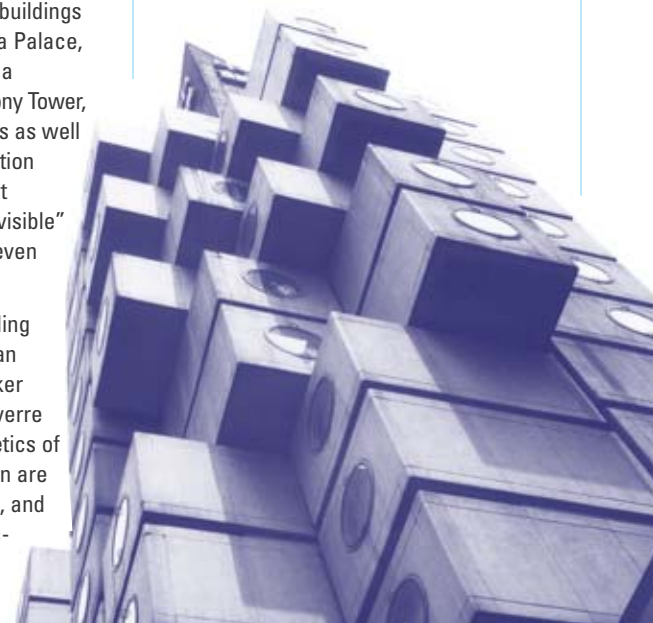
KOCHUU introduces Japan's leading architects as well as Scandinavian contemporaries—including Pritzker Prize winners Tadao Ando and Sverre Fehn—to explore how the aesthetics of Japanese architecture and design are expressed through simple means, and also shows that the best architecture expresses spiritual qualities that enrich human life.

*"A small film with big thoughts... a dynamic dialogue in design spanning the past, present, and future... Wachtmeister's film footage of architects describing their design ideas within their realized buildings is a veritable historical document."*—Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians

 **2004 International Film Festival of Docs on Architecture**

 **2004 International Festival of Films on Art**

53 minutes | color | 2003  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | **Order # AD7-07**





# Great Expectations: A Journey Through the History of Visionary Architecture

A FILM BY JESPER WACHTMEISTER

**new release** The new film from the director of KOCHUU (see Page 7), this is an astonishing journey through the history of innovative, futuristic, utopian and sometimes bizarre architecture projects—from the beginning of the 20th century to today.

Since the end of the 19th century, due to industrialization and rapid technological progress, mankind has been confronted with new problems and possibilities. Visionary architects and artists, motivated by contemporary problems, including housing shortages, urban decay and pollution, set about to create changes in our ways of living that challenged conventional concepts of the good, the true and the beautiful.



> **Levitt and Sons** – Responding to the need for affordable housing for returning WWII veterans, the Levitts' designs for inexpensive and rapidly constructed tract homes in Long Island, New York gave birth to the American suburban dream.

> **Lucio Costa and Oscar Niemeyer** – Their sleek but functionalist architecture and innovative urban plan for Brasilia, the capital city of Brazil, built in only four years in the late '50s, remains one of the most modern cities in the world.

> **Buckminster Fuller** – Aiming to create conditions for a sustainable life on earth by using fewer resources, Fuller designed the lightweight Geodesic Dome, of which today more than 300,000 have been built worldwide.



> **Moshe Safdie** – Safdie's reinvention of the apartment building, introduced at Montreal's Habitat '67 Expo, features a prefab, modular design for middle-class urban housing, where every apartment has a garden.

> **Antti Lovag** – This French architect's concept of "Habitology," designing architecture for human needs, abandon corners for natural curves and spheres, as seen in his Maisons Bulle and Yellow Round Houses.

> **Paolo Soleri** – Soleri's concept of "arcology," seen in the ongoing Arcosanti project in Arizona, fuses architecture with ecology in crystal-like, hyperdense desert cities designed for pedestrians.

> **Jacque Fresco and Roxanne Meadows** – Their Venus Project in Florida, blending functionalism, ecology and science-fiction, aims to create a utopian vision of urban planning for a new society.

With archival and contemporary footage, animation and interviews, GREAT EXPECTATIONS traces the story of these grand architectural visions, both realized and unrealized, by great thinkers with revolutionary, if not always successful, ideas.



GREAT EXPECTATIONS introduces us to the most significant visionary architectural movements and personalities of the 20th century, including:

> **Rudolf Steiner** – The Austrian philosopher and educator who designed the mammoth concrete structure of the Goetheanum auditorium and other buildings for the anthroposophy colony in the Swiss countryside.

> **Le Corbusier** – The Unité d'Habitation apartment building in France, responding to the postwar housing shortage, was designed as a self-contained environment, a building you would never have to leave.



*"Exciting... these architects seldom get the chance to speak freely in this way. This gives the content weight and lends plausibility to their visions... GREAT EXPECTATIONS gives one an appetite for visionary architecture."*

—RUM (Swedish architecture and design magazine)

*"Astounding images of more or less bizarre projects are intertwined with fantastic interview material... a documentary that treats the viewer seriously."*—Svenska Dagbladet

56 minutes | color | 2007  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-08

# Renzo Piano: Work in Progress

A FILM BY MARC PETITJEAN

**new release** Renzo Piano, the world-renowned architect, owes his fame in part to the vast scope of his work. From the Pompidou Center in Paris to the Centre Jean-Marie Tjibaou in New Caledonia, and from the De Menil Museum in Houston and the Kansai International Airport Terminal in Japan to *The New York Times* tower in Manhattan and the San Nicola Stadium in Italy, Renzo Piano constructions are found throughout the world.



A personal and professional portrait, **RENZO PIANO** brings together many of his closest collaborators—architects, engineers, and maquette-makers—to create a “real-life” portrait of an architect who sees his profession as a living thing, evolving with time and practice.

*“Subtly reveals the artist and his philosophy behind his monumental projects.”*

—Leonardo Digital Reviews

52 minutes | color | 1999  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-09

By following three projects at different stages of progress—including the Padre Pio liturgical center and the Nola Cultural & Commercial Center in Italy, the first discussions about the Paul Klee Museum in Bern, and the opening of the reconstructed Potsdam Square in Berlin—**RENZO PIANO** examines the artistic philosophy of Piano and the working methods of his Renzo Piano Building Workshop.

Jetting from one design workshop to another, and from one worksite to another, we see how Piano tries to stay true to the artisanal approach that underlies his initial creations, and his efforts to find answers to the specific problems of these projects in terms of the history and geography of the construction locales, their function, and the financial context.



# Regular or Super - Views on Mies van der Rohe

A FILM BY JOSEPH HILLEL & PATRICK DEMERS

In 1967, at the end of a career spanning more than six decades, which included the design of the Seagram Building in New York, the Lake Shore Drive Apartment Buildings in Chicago, and the Neue Nationalgalerie in Berlin, architect Mies van der Rohe designed a simple gas station near Montreal. The story of that gas station is the point of departure for **REGULAR OR SUPER**, which examines Mies’ body of work (more than 70 buildings).

Mies began his career in Germany early in the 20th century, and during the Thirties taught at the Bauhaus School of Art and Design in Berlin. In 1938, Mies emigrated to Chicago where he designed 22 buildings for the Illinois Institute of Technology. Over the next three decades, in a radical break from the predominant beaux arts style, he refined a distinctive, modernist architectural style emphasizing glass and steel in a variety of buildings whose structures creatively integrated surrounding public space.

**REGULAR OR SUPER** examines many of Mies’ classic buildings, combining their striking



facades with observations from, among others, Rem Koolhaas, Elizabeth Diller and Phyllis Lambert, and anecdotes from customers and neighbors of the gas station, plus comments from his biographer and family members.

*“★★★★[4 out of 4 stars!] Should be seen immediately by anyone with an interest in architecture.”*—The Gazette

*“Stylish... compelling and informative... Mies van der Rohe’s buildings seem to come alive.”*—Booklist

*“Recommended! Finely crafted... any library with an architecture collection should purchase it.”*

—Educational Media Reviews Online

 **Best Photography, 2005**  
 **Rome Documentary Festival**

 **2005 Chicago International**  
 **Documentary Festival**

57 minutes | color | 2004  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-10





# Sotsgorod: Cities For Utopia

A FILM BY ANNA ABRAHAMS

After the Revolution the resources on the desolate Russian steppes became crucial in the Communist plan for a new utopia. Huge cities had to be built to house hundreds of thousands of workers, but Soviet architects could not design such cities: the old guard was politically suspect while young designers fantasized about flying cities. So, in the late 1920s and early '30s, well-known Western architects were invited to create the workers' paradises.

SOTSGOROD tells this unknown story in the architects' own words. Some of the last survivors are interviewed: Jan Rutgers (of the Autonomous International Colony Kuzbass), Magarete Schutte-Lihotzky (of the Ernst May group, famous for the super efficient kitchen), and Phillipp Tolziner ("Bauhaus Brigade"). Those who have passed away speak through their letters and lectures, including Hannes Meyer, Hans Schmidt and Ernst May. Some believed they were making an essential contribution to the workers' struggle; others were seizing an unheard of opportunity to apply their design philosophies and spatial theories to entire cities.

SOTSGOROD also visits four of the cities today—Magnitogorsk, Orsk, Novokuznetsk and Kemerov. By looking at the quality of day-to-day lives there, the film measures the success of the once robust ideals of the architects.



*"The reminiscences are interwoven to good effect with archival footage from the 1920s and early 1930s that both provides a visual context and helps to convey something of the chaotic, and sometime even inspirational, spirit of time and place."*—Slavic Review

*"A probing, eye opener of a documentary... A valuable historical document."*—Archis

 **1995 International Documentary Festival Amsterdam**

 **1995 International Festival of Films on Art**

92 minutes | color | 1995  
Sale/DVD: \$398 | Order # AD7-11



# Waste = Food

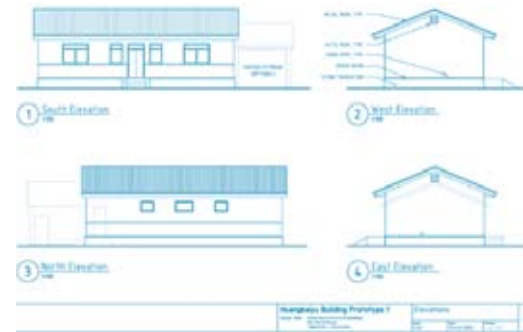
A FILM BY ROB VAN HATTUM

**new release** In a world where more and more societies with high consumption rates generate excessive amounts of waste, traditional environmental notions of reducing or recycling waste products are no longer sufficient. The new theory of ecologically intelligent design argues that manufacturers' products, when discarded, should either be completely recyclable in the Technosphere or become biodegradable food for the Biosphere.



adapted by major corporations, visiting a Swiss textile factory, a German clothing manufacturer, the Nike shoe headquarters, a U.S. furniture manufacturer, the Ford Motor Company, and a government housing project in China.

WASTE = FOOD also illustrates McDonough's environmentally sound architectural designs, where buildings function like trees, and become part of nature rather than conflict with it, including his designs for Ford's new River Rouge plant, a GreenHouse factory for the Herman Miller company, and a model village in rural China.



*"An exciting introduction to the work of American architect/designer William McDonough and German ecological chemist*

*Michael Braungart, who may well be starting a new industrial revolution."*  
—The Flaming Grasshopper

*"Brilliant... This isn't just feel-good hippy stuff."*—Jamie Andrei, WordPress.com

 **2007 International Science Film Festival, Athens**

 **Silver Dragon, 2006 Beijing International Science Film Festival**

 **2006 International Documentary Film Festival, Amsterdam**

51 minutes | color | 2006  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-12

WASTE = FOOD explores this revolutionary "cradle to cradle" (as opposed to "cradle to grave") concept through interviews with its leading proponents, American architect William McDonough and German ecological chemist Michael Braungart, coauthors of *Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things*. Their ideas are increasingly being embraced by major corporations and governments worldwide, unleashing a new, ecologically-inspired industrial revolution.

The film shows how their "intelligent product system," utilizing completely non-toxic and sustainable production methods, has been

# More Architecture Documentaries!

## The Discreet Charm of Bucharest

A FILM BY HARIN WEGSJO



Featuring 99-year-old architect Iulian Neamtu, this film examines architecture in Bucharest, where small buildings and shady courtyards are dwarfed by grim Stalinist complexes built during Ceausescu's reign.

40 minutes | color | 1998  
Sale/DVD: \$375 | Order # AD7-13

## Empathy

A FILM BY AMIE SIEGEL



This documentary/fiction hybrid features a playful segment about modern architecture's relationship to psychology and the psychoanalytic architect Richard Neutra.

*"Delightfully quirky."*  
—The Chicago Reader

92 minutes | color | 2003  
Sale/DVD: \$440 | Order # AD7-14

## From Courtyard House to Block Apartment

A FILM BY WYNETTE YAO



Examines the reasons why the traditional Chinese courtyard house is giving way to Western style block apartments and how the Chinese have adjusted to new patterns of form and space.

*"With an excellent eye for detail [it] contrasts traditional houses with modern urban apartments."*—Choice

23 minutes | color | 1987  
Sale/DVD: \$220 | Order # AD7-15

## Living with the Past

DIRECTED BY MAYSOON PACHACHI

Documents a unique approach to historic preservation in Cairo, one of the few medieval cities in the world that remains relatively intact.



*"Recommended!"*  
—Library Journal

56 minutes | color | 2001  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-16

## Magnitogorsk: Forging The New Man

A FILM BY PIETER JAN SMIT

Profiles the designers, builders and residents of the site for a blast-furnace complex constructed in the Thirties, when a city was built at breakneck speed on the steppes of the Urals.



*"Superb... Highly recommended."*  
—MC Journal: The Journal of Academic Librarianship

60 minutes | color | 1996  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-17

## Under Construction, or the Place I Was Born No Longer Exists

A FILM BY IGNACIO AGÜERO

In the Providencia Barrio of Santiago, Chile, a neighbor lives through the demolition of the house next door and the construction of a high-rise apartment building in the same place, over a two-year period.

58 minutes | color | 2001  
Sale/DVD: \$390 | Order # AD7-18

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...a journey through the history of visionary architecture!

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