



Renzo Piano

Building Workshop

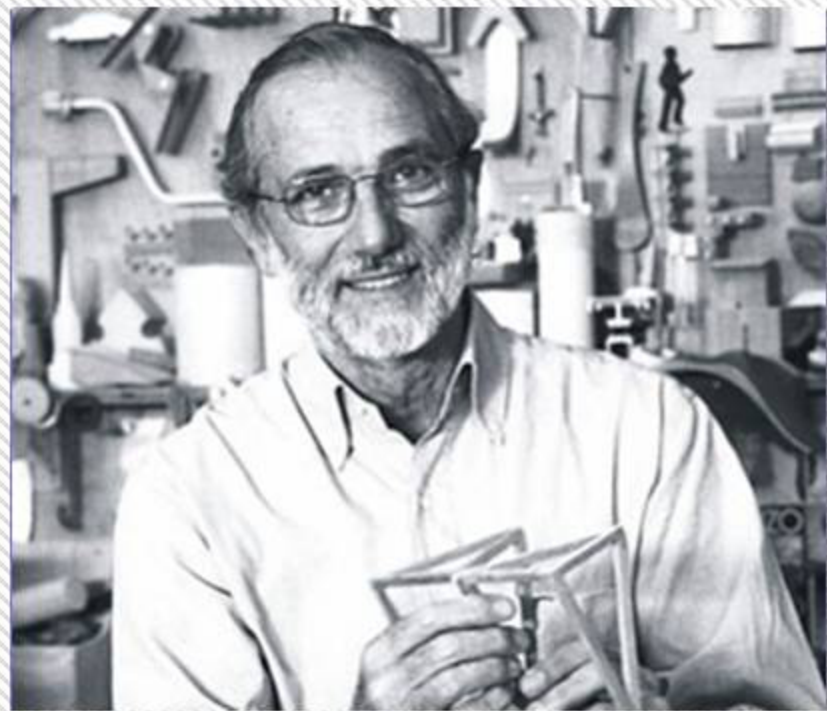
"Knowing how to do things not just with the head, but with the hands as well: this might seem a programmatic and ideological goal. It is not. It is a way of safeguarding creative freedom. If you intend to use a material, a construction technique, or an architectural element in an unusual way, there is always a time when you hear yourself saying, 'It can't be done,' simply because no one has ever tried before. But if you have actually tried, then you can keep going - and so you gain a degree of independence in design that you would not have otherwise."

- Renzo Piano

Renzo Piano

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Italian architect Renzo Piano is the driving force behind the Renzo Piano Building Workshop, a renowned architecture firm that has designed some of the most stunning buildings around the world. Though he is most famous for his work with museums, Renzo Piano has designed all kinds of public buildings, ranging from office buildings to subway stations to wineries.



Renzo Piano



Il Sole 24 Ore HQ
Milan, 1998/2004



High Museum Expansion
Atlanta, 1999/2005



Ircam
Paris, 1973/1990



La Rocca Winery
Gavorrano, 2001/2007

Renzo Piano

Building Workshop

Renzo Piano's work spans 5 continents and 17 countries. The most famous of his projects is the Centre Georges Pompidou, a building that he designed with fellow architect Richard Rogers. Located in Paris, the Centre Georges Pompidou is a 100,000 square meter space devoted entirely to the public arts. The building is virtually turned inside out, with all its walkways and mechanical systems on the outside rather than on the inside. For his work on this building, Renzo Piano won the Pritzker Prize in 1998.



Centre Georges Pompidou
Paris, 1971/1977



Genoa Subway Stations
Genoa, 1983/2003



RPBW Offices
Punta Nave, 1989/1991



Aluminum Research Institute
Novara, 1985/1987

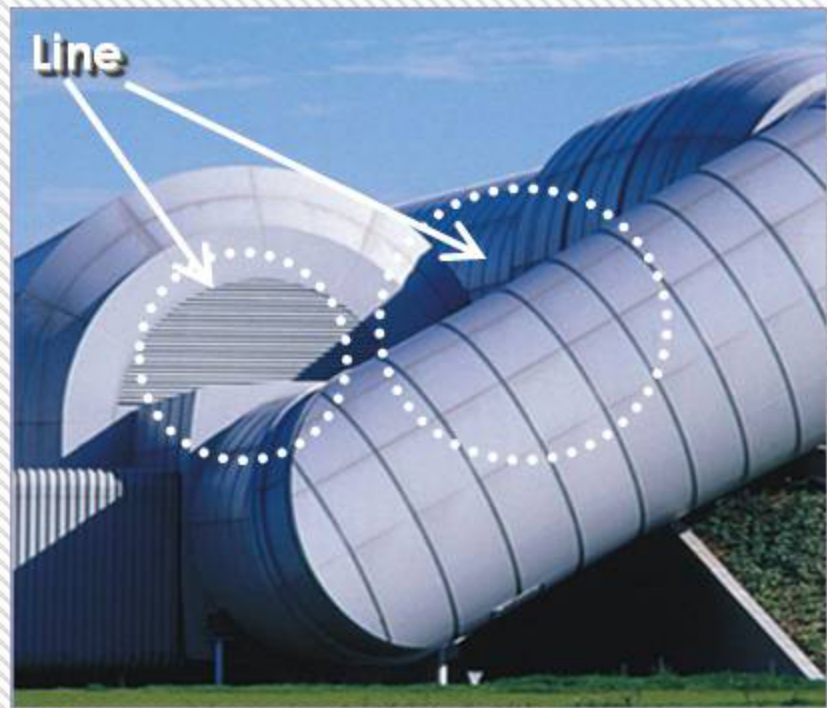


EMI Music France HQ
Paris, 2000/2005

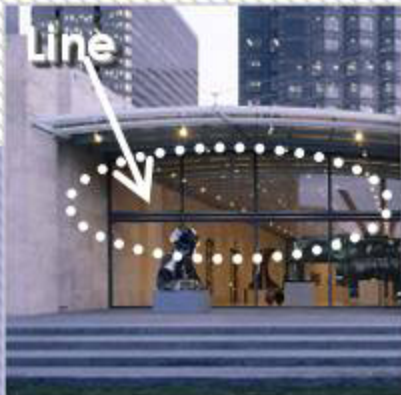
introduction

Renzo Piano Building Workshop

Line is a common element in the architecture of Renzo Piano. The use of line adds structure and formality to a design, as well as the creation of a visual path for the eye to follow. Renzo Piano's design for the Ferrari Wind Tunnel is a prime example of this: the pattern of lines across the cylindrical element serve as a guide that leads the eye across the design.



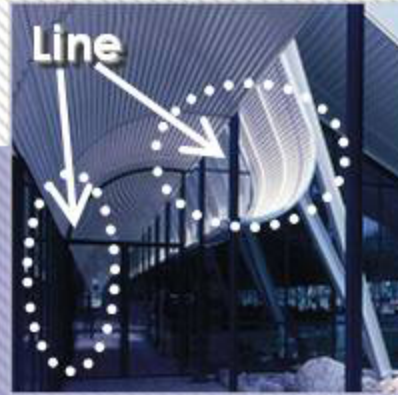
Ferrari Wind Tunnel
Maranello, 1996/1998



Nasher Sculpture Center
Dallas, 1999/2003



Niccolò Paganini Auditorium
Parma, 1997/2001



Lowara Offices
Montecchio, 1984, 1985

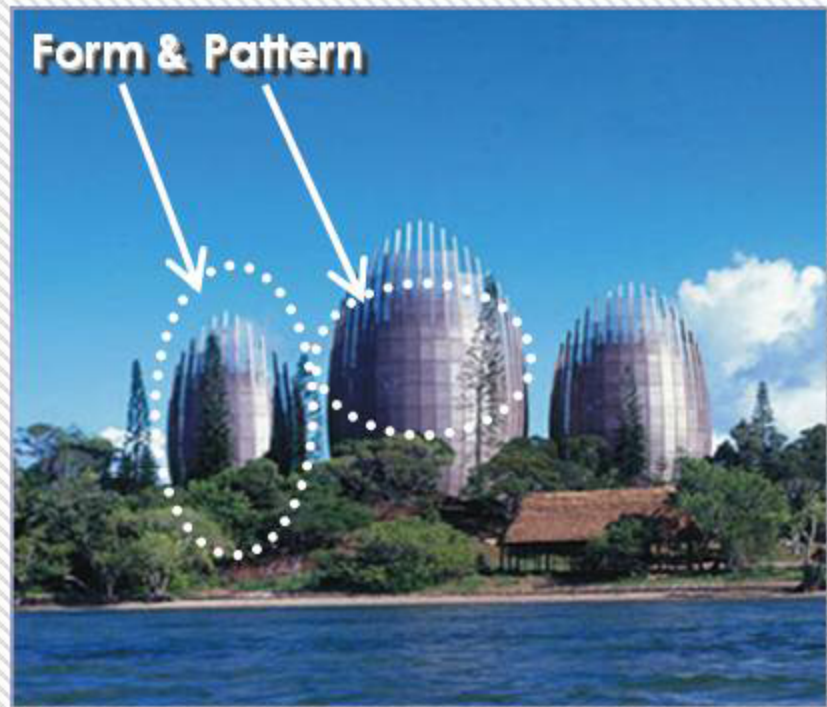


Padre Pio Pilgrimage Church
San Giovanni Rotondo, 1991/2004

elements of design: line

Renzo Piano Building Workshop

Form and pattern are important elements of any design, yet Renzo Piano takes them to a new level. The unusual form of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Center takes on an elliptical shape, almost like a cluster of giant eggs. Each egg-shaped piece of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Center also displays a grid-like rectangular pattern that serves as an attention-grabbing way to reflect sunlight.



Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Center
Noumea, 1991/1998



KPN Telecom Office Tower
Rotterdam, 1997/2000



San Nicola Football Stadium
Bari, 1987/1990



NEMO Building
Amsterdam, 1992/1997

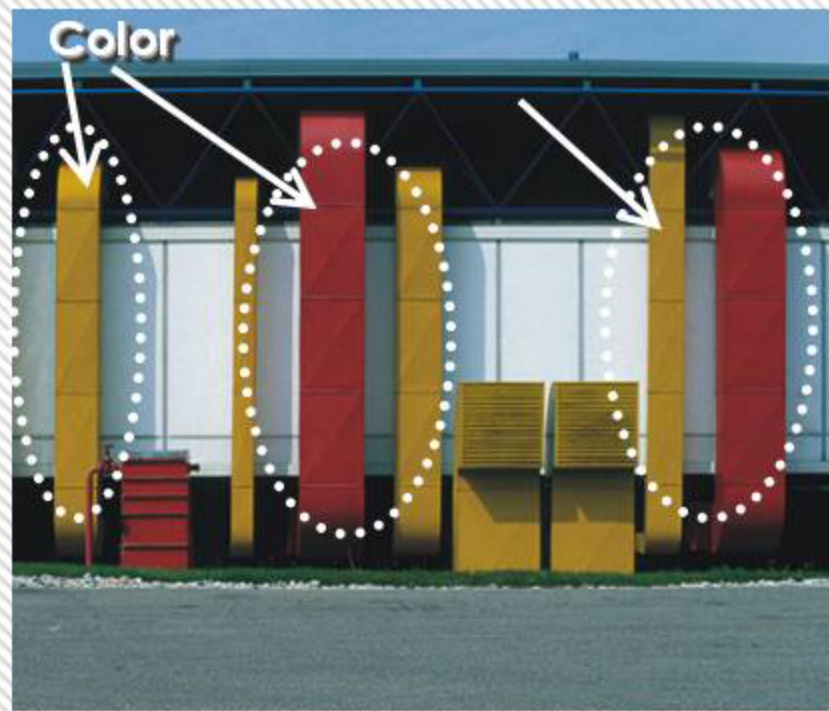


Ushibuka Bridge
Ushibuka, 1989/1996

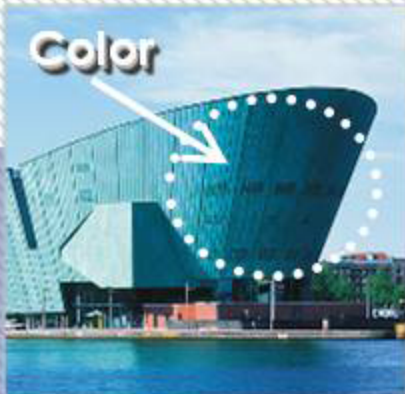
elements of design: form & pattern

Renzo Piano Building Workshop

When looking at buildings designed by Renzo Piano, it's not unusual to come across vibrant splashes of color. As seen in the B&B Italia offices, the addition of red and yellow applied color to the vertical elements adds interest to an otherwise neutral building. Terracotta is also a common material used in Renzo Piano's designs for its integral color, as seen in the Ircam building and the Rue de Meaux housing complex; both are located in Paris.



B&B Italia Offices
Novedrate, 1971/1973



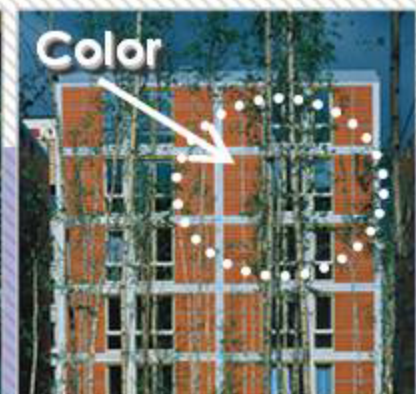
NEMO Building
Amsterdam, 1992/1997



Ircam
Paris, 1973/1990



Genoa Subway Stations
Genoa, 1983/2003



Rue de Meaux Housing
Paris, 1987/1991

elements of design: color

Renzo Piano Building Workshop

All over the world, Renzo Piano's designs stand as a testament to the lighter side of architecture; Piano claims that even his most famous building, the Centre Georges Pompidou, was intended as a "parody of the technological imagery of our time." From San Francisco to Sydney, Pritzker Prize-winning Renzo Piano has made a name for himself that will not be easily erased in years to come.



Centre Georges Pompidou
Paris, 1971/1977



Cite Internationale
Lyon, 1986



Bercy 2 Shopping Center
Charenton le Pont, 1987/1990



Banca Popolare di Lodi HQ
Lodi, 1991/2001



Credito Industriale Sardo
Cagliari, 1985/1992

closing