

si_architecture + urban design



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global designers of future cities



about us_

si_architecture + urban design
is a highly-focused collaboration.

si_architecture + urban design
is a globally active, integrated design studio based in Dubai, and active in Berlin, Barcelona, Los Angeles, Shanghai, Sydney and other locations.

si_architecture + urban design is Steffen and Igor
- a collaborative with a great team. Both founders are known for the vital role they play in advancing sustainable architecture and urbanism.

Three decades experience: Steffen and Igor met in 1990, when working at the office of Arata Isozaki in Tokyo. Since then, both have been running their own highly successful practices in Berlin and Barcelona.

Steffen and Igor are pioneers in the design of sustainable cities and energy-efficient building design.

As Founding Partners and thought leaders of si_architecture + urban design, Steffen and Igor provide overall vision and project leadership to the firm. Both have a deep understanding of architectural practice.



Founding partners
Dr. Steffen
Lehmann (L),
Dr. Igor Peraza (R)



si_architecture + urban design is an international multidisciplinary design consultant, offering a unique portfolio of architecture, planning and consultancy services.

We specialise in commercial, mixed-use, cultural projects and master-planning developments, both in the region and around the world.

Over 30 years of running our own design studios gives us the deeper insights and entrepreneurship needed to understand what our client is facing next.

si-architecture + urban design will be with you, delivering the design and solutions needed to get you where you want to be.

who we are_

**si_architecture + urban design
is an integrated design practice.**

We are urban strategists with real passion!

si_architecture + urban design works on a wide range of scales and typologies, and we are interested in what architecture and urban design can do, providing new opportunities for the user and the public.

The particular strength of **si_a+u** is in the following four areas:

- Sustainability:** high performance energy-efficient architecture and urbanism,
- Urban infill:** working on challenging inner-city sites, e.g., close to historical monuments,
- Understanding workplaces:** the future of work will be integrated in mixed-use projects,
- Green campus planning:** designing for universities and higher education.

what we do_

si_architecture + urban design combines four unique characteristics:

- **An immense international experience**


Steffen and Igor have both worked globally for many years with internationally recognized architects Arata Isozaki and Enric Miralles, working at the highest level of architectural and urban design.

- **A deep understanding of cities in Asia and the Middle East**

We know the cities and culture of Asia and the Middle East very well. We have lived and worked in Asia and the Middle East; and have been visiting China and the UAE regularly for 30 years, designing cities of tomorrow.

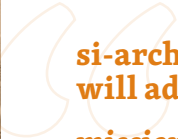


**we enjoy creating compact,
mixed-use and walkable cities**
mission: green and dense!



**Our work is research
informed and the mission
is to create the world's most
sustainable urban design
and architecture.**

**Our built work is mostly
the result of winning design
competitions, and the
work has been exhibited
and published globally.**



si-architecture + urban design will add prestige to your project

mission: enjoy sustainable design!

- **Design that is underpinned by careful research, solid concepts, and a clear, realistic approach to sustainability**

Both, Steffen and Igor are full professors of architecture and urbanism at leading universities in the US, UK, Australia and the United Arab Emirates, changing the world through applied design research and innovation.

Our work is underpinned by clear and actionable principles of environmentally sustainable design and resource-efficiency. We work frequently in partnership, for example with local partners. si_a+u constantly diversifies and expands its design portfolio and works on many different building typologies.

- **We make interdisciplinary design central at the core of what we do**

We open up silos to advance design collaborations and the integration of knowledge.

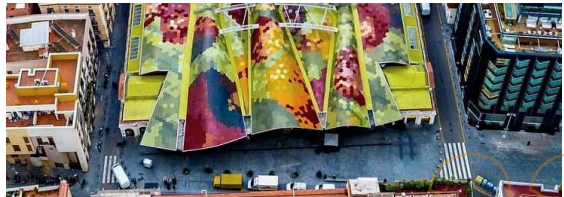
what we offer_

What **si_architecture + urban design** is offering:

The important role of careful research and interdisciplinary collaboration as drivers of all design.

In over 100 projects - through our built works, and in over 20 published books, we share insights into how architecture and urban design can make people healthier and happier.

It is a thinking and approach to design that we apply to all of **si_a+u**'s projects.



si_architecture + urban design embodies the optimism that underpins the practice, similar to the “... si! ... Yes!”, embracing a positive attitude that our built environment could be more joyful, engaging, and resourceful.

research institutes_

Design is relevant to fight the climate crisis. Careful design research allows us to create meaning and value through a design that reflects the authentic context, unique identity and spirit of the place.

si_a+u is taking the relevant role of design research serious.



Future Cities Leadership Institute
www.city-leadership.com



Urban Futures Lab, USA
www.urban-futures-lab.com

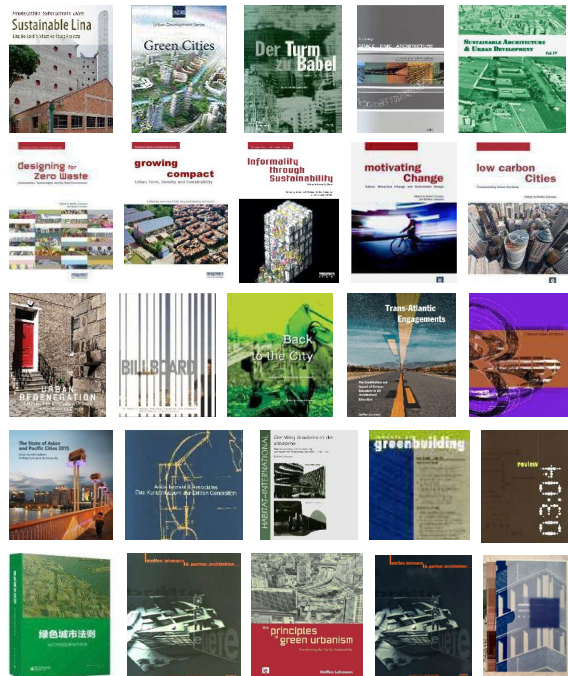


Cluster for Sustainable Cities, UK
www.city-futures.org.uk

publications_

si_architecture + urban design applies actionable and realistic concepts of sustainable design.

Over 22 book publications and over 400+ papers and articles published on sustainable design.



research-informed design_



si_architecture + urban design is constantly projecting itself into the future. The studio has attracted attention worldwide by working with prominent clients, developing extremely creative projects and super-green urbanism.

The integration of principles of sustainable design, interdisciplinary collaboration, technological innovation and organisational clarity play all a vital role.

Steffen and Igor have won and managed over \$15m in competitive research grant funding and led over 20 multi-disciplinary international research projects with industry partners in the built environment, including:

CRUNCH
Food-Water-Energy Nexus
www.fwe-nexus.eu



CRUNCH
The Food-Water-Energy Nexus

Urban Climates Research



URBAN CLIMATES
RESEARCH

Design research and expertise in urban density and the integration of greenery

The world needs great sustainable design more than ever, and si_architecture + urban design is here to serve the needs of our clients and society with appropriate design thinking and implementation.

si_architecture + urban design is determined to create exceptionally, highly comfortable outdoor and indoor spaces with a positive environmental impact. To us, sustainability is not separate from design, but an indispensable component from a project's earliest conception.

For decades, we have successfully applied sustainable design strategies in built, significant projects, both large and small.

Leadership in sustainable urban design thinking

si_architecture + urban design integrates practical design solutions to significantly reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions while re-greening the city.

Our tested concepts have been introduced to a global audience with the 3 book publications: "The Principles of Green Urbanism" (2010), "Low Carbon Cities: Transforming Urban Systems" (2015), and "Urban Regeneration. A Manifesto" (2019).

si_architecture + urban design builds
the world's most sustainable projects.



unique studio culture_

si_architecture + urban design's principles of innovative design thinking and studio culture:

We believe it is primarily about our clients who have entrusted us with their projects. This is why si_a+u will carefully listen to what a client has to say about the design work they need, and provide real value to the client.

We follow four principles:

1

COLLABORATION AND TEAM WORK Interdisciplinary collaboration, recruiting the best people and train them, working with the world's best engineers.

2

LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABLE DESIGN
Leading with world-class expertise in sustainable design. Mission: High comfort – Low impact!

3

INTEGRATION OF RESEARCH-BASED DESIGN
Commitment to research and applying innovation and solid, research-informed and realistic design principles.

4

DIVERSIFICATION OF PROJECT TYPES AND PLACES
Working worldwide, architecture is a global practice—and keep expanding our design knowledge and portfolio.

people_



Steffen Lehmann, Ph.D., Assoc. AIA, RIBA,
Professor of Architecture & Urbanism

Steffen is Founding Partner and Principal of si_ architecture. Born in Stuttgart (Germany), he is a Professor of Architecture at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he is also the Founding Director of the Urban Futures Lab. In recognition of the international significance of his work, he was appointed as chair-holder of the inaugural UNESCO Chair for Sustainable Urban Development in the Asia-Pacific. He was Head of three schools of architecture, Founding Director of three successful research centers, and Principal Investigator of several large multidisciplinary grants, generating over \$15 million in research grants.

Steffen has advised over a dozen of cities on sustainable urban development, including Berlin, Stuttgart, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane, Abu Dhabi, Ho-Chi-Minh City, Oslo, Helsinki, Brighton and Reno. He became a licensed architect in Berlin in 1993 and founded Steffen Lehmann Architekten BDA as a collective interdisciplinary practice. His firm in Berlin designed and built a construction budget of \$1b, and was actively involved in the urban creation of the 'New Berlin'.



Igor Peraza, Ph.D., Professor of Architecture Practice

Igor is Founding Partner and Principal of si_ architecture. Born in Caracas, he is a Professor of Architecture Practice at the American University of Sharjah, UAE; and a Transformation Fellow at the School of Architecture at UNLV in Las Vegas, teaching the Mexico-City and Barcelona Global Studios. For many years, Igor was a project director at EMBT in Barcelona. He worked for five years at the Atelier of Arata Isozaki in Tokyo, where he met Steffen in 1990. At Isozaki Atelier, he led the Domus (Museum of Mankind) project in La Coruna, Spain.

In 2000, he relocated to Barcelona to work with Miralles Tagliabue EMBT as Director of the award-winning Santa Caterina Market project. He subsequently served as Director of EMBT's Shanghai office, where he led a number of highly innovative projects, including the Spanish Pavilion at the 2010 World Expo. He became a licensed architect in Barcelona in 2000. He has many years' teaching experience and has previously taught at the Polytechnic University of Catalonia, the European Institute of Design, Tongji University in Shanghai, and the Lebanese American University in Beirut.

si_architecture + urban design stands for interdisciplinary collaboration and teamwork. No matter the scale of the project, we put the best minds together to push the creative and technical limits of what's possible.



Fortino Acosta, M. Landscape Arch., Ph.D. Candidate

Fortino is instrumental to the office of si_architecture + urban design. Born in Mexico City, he holds a M.A. in Landscape Architect from the University of Sheffield, and a B.Sc. in Industrial Engineering. He has gained varied practical experience in different countries, and is passionate about sustainable urban design and public space. He speaks English, Spanish and Portuguese.



David Paz, B.Arch.

As a design strategist, David leverages his digital expertise and skills to drive innovative projects. He was born in Madrid and holds a B.Arch. from Setsunan University in Osaka. He did additional training at Harvard GSD and the ETH Zurich and has worked in Japan and Spain. He speaks English, Spanish and Japanese, and works collaboratively with all members of the team.



Mary Krajekian, B.Arch.

Mary excels in merging aesthetics with functionality and is passionate about the sustainable design of mixed-use commercial projects and high-end residential buildings as well as urban design. She grew up in the UAE, studied at the American University of Sharjah and in Barcelona, and knows the Arab region well.



Alina Sebastian, B.Arch.

As a talented architectural graduate, Alina has a breadth of important skills ranging from conceptual planning and design to project management. She grew up in the Middle East, studied at the American University of Sharjah and Barcelona, and knows the Arab region well.

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selected projects_

With over three decades in business, we have worked on countless projects, both small and large.

The following are selected projects that illustrate our design approach, thinking and vision of architecture.

URBAN DESIGN, PLANNING & HIGH-RISE

COMMERCIAL & WORKPLACE

CULTURAL & INSTITUTIONAL

EDUCATION & CAMPUS PLANNING

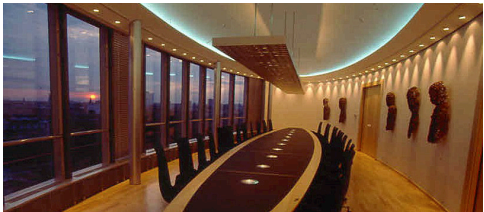
HOUSING

SUSTAINABLE URBANISM

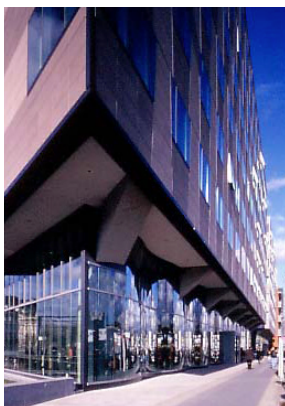
ADAPTIVE REUSE

1

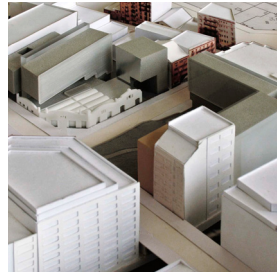
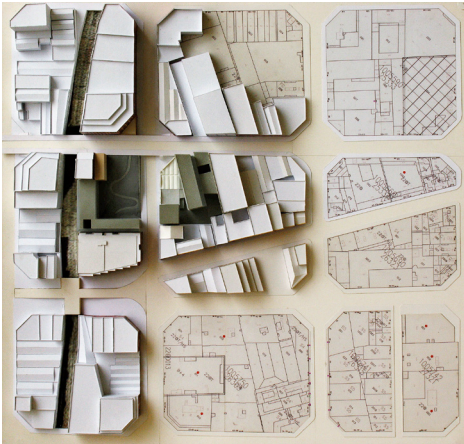
urban design & planning ;
commercial & workplace_



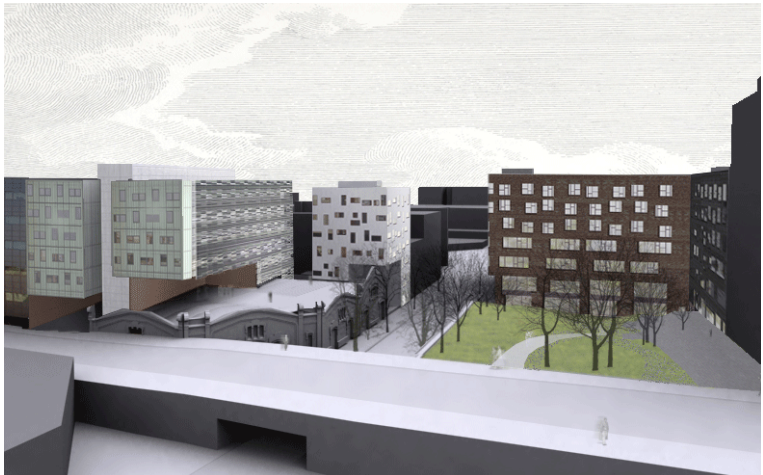
Buildings C2 and C3 at Potsdamer Platz, Berlin, Germany
(schematic design in partnership with Arata Isozaki)



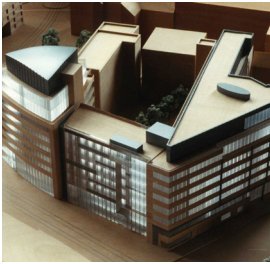
urban design & planning ; commercial & workplace_



**Master plan for Mejora
Urbana 22 @ Barcelona,
Spain**



urban design & planning ; commercial & workplace_



**Master plan for
The Quarter at the
Museum Island,
Berlin, Germany**





4

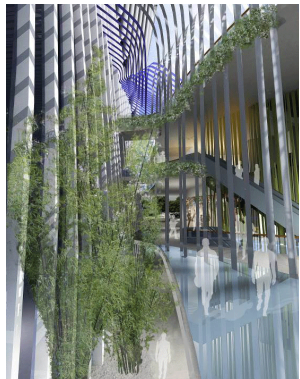
urban design & planning ;
commercial & workplace_



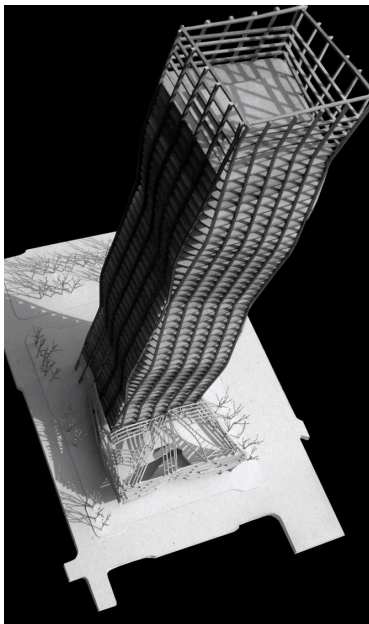
**Urban Renewal of Santa Caterina Market, Barcelona,
Spain (for EMBT)**



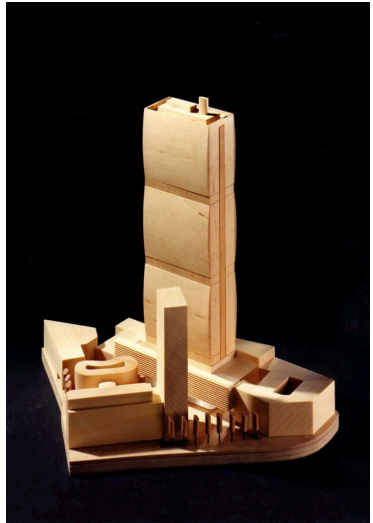
urban design & planning;
commercial & workplace;
high-rise_



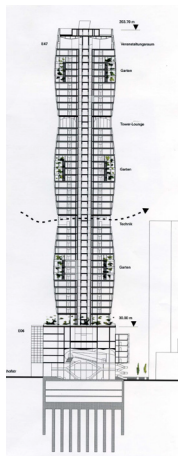
**Tower of Excellence,
Houhai, Shenzhen, China
(for EMBT)**



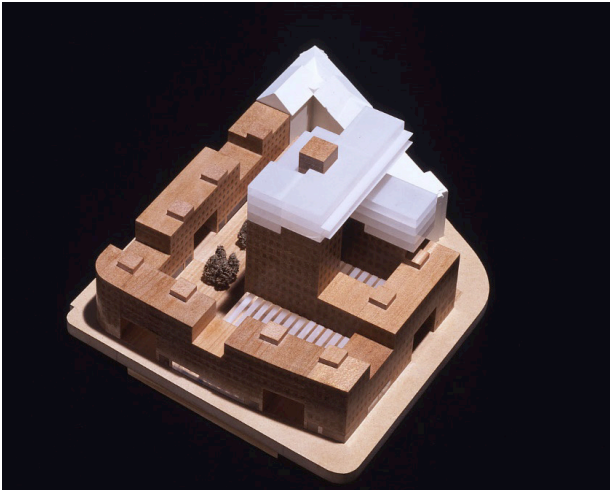
urban design & planning;
commercial & workplace;
high-rise_



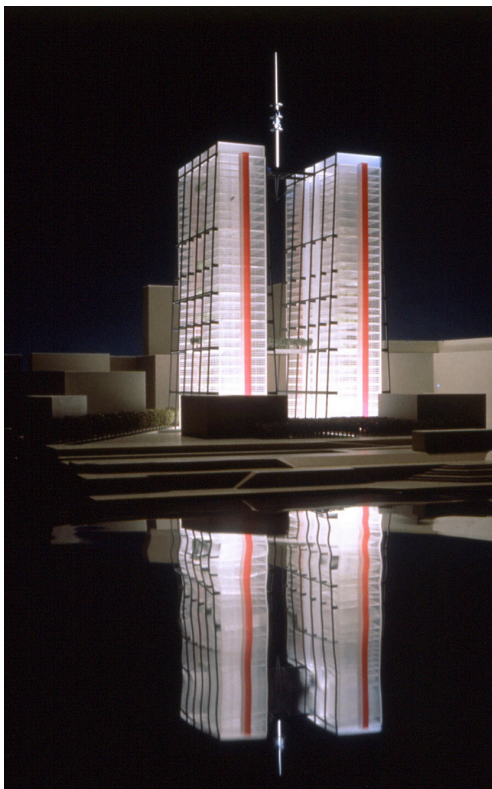
**Max Tower High-Rise,
Frankfurt a.M., Germany**



urban design & planning;
commercial & workplace;
high-rise_



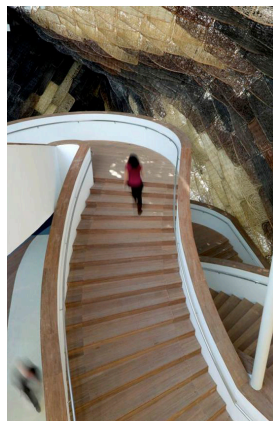
Berlinger Volksbank High-Rise, Berlin, Germany
(in partnership with Arta Isozaki)



Donau City Twin Towers High-Rise, Vienna, Austria
(for Arata Isozaki)



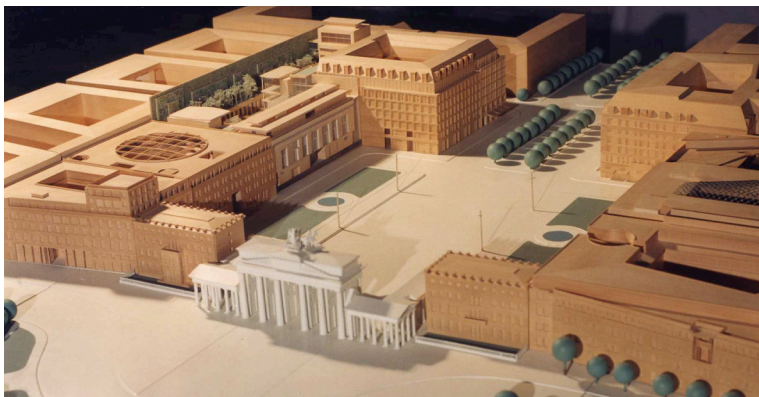
Spanish Pavilion at the 2010 World EXPO, Shanghai, China
(for EMBT)



cultural & institutional_



French Embassy and Residence in Germany, Berlin
(in partnership with Christian de Portzamparc)



10_education & campus planning_

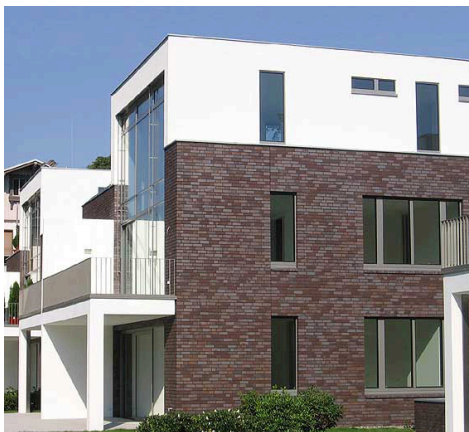


**Green Campus of Fudan University, School of Management,
Shanghai, China (for EMBT)**



11 housing_





Urban Villas at Eichenallee, Berlin, Germany



12 housing_



Villa T. in Frankfurt a.M., Germany

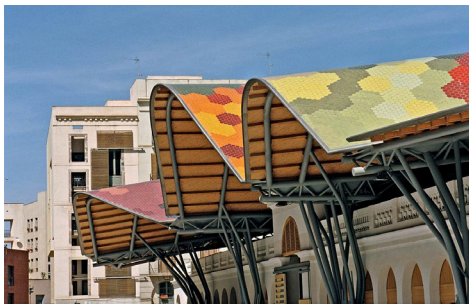




13 housing_



**Urban Renewal and Housing at Santa Caterina Market,
Barcelona, Spain (for EMBT)**

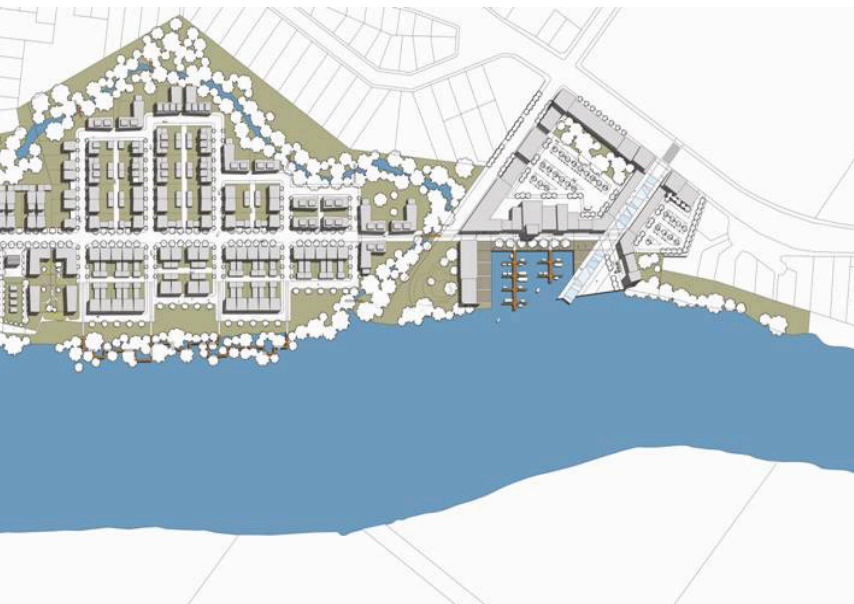
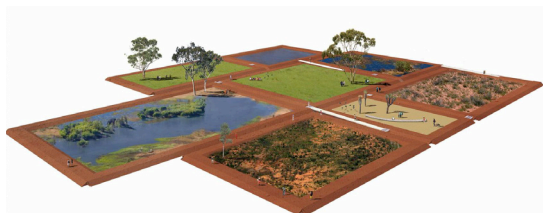


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urban design & planning;
sustainable urbanism _



**Sustainable Urbanism - Masterplan for Taree,
New South Wales, Australia**



urban design & planning _

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Masterplan for Mildura Riverfront, Victoria, Australia

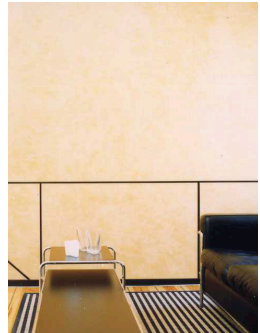
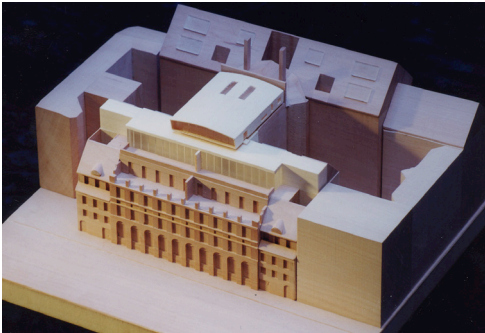


Masterplan for Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia



16

adaptive reuse_



Extension to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Berlin, Germany



Reuse of Historical Railway Arches, Berlin, Germany

testimonials_



"We are pleased to provide a very positive reference for si_architecture + urban design and recommend their services. They provide professional, confident leadership from the initial design through construction, and I believe the exceptional architectural and urban design, their responsive and diligent commitment to client satisfaction, and the professional attitude and integrity are the main reasons why clients chose to work with them."

– Her Excellency Dr. Shaikha Al Maskari, Chairperson of the Board, Al Maskari Holding, Abu Dhabi, UAE


"What an amazing journey it has been over a period of ten years! The architects were involved in the creation of the new city centre for the formerly divided city of Berlin, from the first vision to the final opening of the new Potsdamer Platz district. They are urban strategists with a real passion, and their practice is an urban strategy powerhouse that always inspired and met our very high expectations."

– Dr. Manfred Gentz, Chairman, Debis Immobilien Management, Stuttgart, Germany

"Their unique selling point is being able to think outside the box when assessing a complex design challenge. Steffen was key to the design and delivery of our new headquarters in the centre of Berlin, a building with high-performance workplaces for 500 people at the Association of German Banks. The architects developed a genuine rapport with the BdB as their client, and we trusted them to do the right thing. Their direct approach is refreshing and Steffen puts himself in his client's shoes, which is always of great benefit. They designed and executed our new collaborative headquarters in Berlin that our employees, members and clients enthusiastically love being in."

**– Dr. Manfred Weber, Chairman, Bundesverband
Deutscher Banken, Berlin, Germany**






“We have been working with Steffen on urbanisation, sustainable development and environmental design issues for several years. He has been a member of our advisory group and his critical knowledge on future cities and research in sustainable urbanism always attracts keen interest and attention. We highly appreciate his tireless and constant contributions to the vision of Adelaide’s more sustainable future. As a city, it is important for us to have new approaches and access to cutting-edge research and knowledge that supports our daily work.”

**– Stephen Yarwood, Formerly The Hon. Lord Mayor,
City of Adelaide, Australia**



“As curator and artistic director of the Laneways projects, which involved twenty collaborating teams of artists and architects to design and built temporary installations in the urban public space of Sydney’s city centre, Steffen managed the entire project. It was a huge success, and one of the works became a permanent installation. We had always the confidence that everything has been dealt with, and overall it was a good collaboration alongside out team.”

**– Clover Moore, The Hon. Lord Mayor, City of Sydney,
Australia**



"The architects were very helpful and reliable, providing us with critical insight into our construction project and provided innovative solutions. We appreciated their down-to-earth attitude and ability to explain complex things clearly. Despite the very challenging budget situation, they managed the project as General planer and created a beautiful new embassy and residence at Pariser Platz, in the heart of the city."

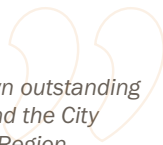
**-- Claude Martin, Ambassador
of France to Germany, Paris/Berlin**



"It was a great pleasure working with Steffen and Igor – their diligence, hard work, and understanding throughout the process was greatly appreciated and made our work easier than it might otherwise have been. They are easy to work with and at the same time laser-focused. We look forward to working together again. Thank you very much for the amazing collaboration! The consortium is very pleased with everything produced and we hope we can continue to develop new interesting synergies and projects in the future."

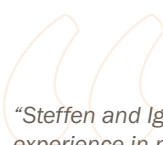
**– Dr. Daniela Melandri, EU Research Funding Manager,
Future Cities Catapult & Dr. James Taplin, Research
Lead 'Urban Living', Innovate UK**





“Over the last ten years, Steffen has shown outstanding leadership in advising our organisation and the City of Helsinki and the Helsinki Metropolitan Region concerning future urban development. He has an international and well-established reputation as leader in Green Urbanism and we have invited him several times to contribute to our urban strategies and hold seminars. His work and visits to Helsinki have not only made a significant contribution to the field of sustainable urban development, but has shaped and continues to shape our thinking about the future of our metropolitan region.”

**– Irma Karjalainen, Director, Helsinki Region
Environmental Authority, Finland**



“Steffen and Igor have more than 30 years of leadership experience in practice and a distinguished and widely recognized 20-year career in academia. I am impressed with their enthusiasm and passion for architecture, their many accomplishments, and their unparalleled international experience.”

– Dwayne R. Eshenbaugh, President AIA Nevada, USA

An aerial, sepia-toned photograph of a city, likely San Francisco, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous buildings and a prominent river or bay winding through the center. The text is overlaid on the upper left portion of the image.

**We understand today
and shape tomorrow.**

**We provide
international
design standards
with local
capability.**



contact us_

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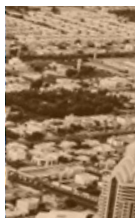
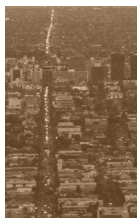
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