

PRESS RELEASE – Architectural Firms Announce Merger and Launch of new Practice

1 July 2021

Internationally-recognised designers Steffen Lehmann and Igor Peraza have announced the formation of a new firm, **si_architecture + urban design**.

Both founding partners have over 30 years of experience as academics and urban designers, and have created award-winning projects globally as lead designers of significant architectural projects. The firm operates internationally.

“This represents an incredibly strong and talented professional partnership to compete effectively and design the most sustainable projects globally”, the partners said. “Today, we couldn’t be more excited to officially announce the creation of our new design partnership, si_architecture + urban design.”

Founding partners are Professor Steffen Lehmann and Professor Igor Peraza, both known for their award-winning buildings and research leadership in green urbanism and urban renewal.

Each project responds to the firm’s philosophy

‘Global Designers of Future Cities: Creating a Greener Future through Design’.

Igor added “We admire each other’s work, and have great respect for each other personally. We have worked together as young architects over 30 years ago in the office of Pritzker-Prize winner Arata Isozaki in Tokyo, and always wanted to form a partnership. The merger discussions began a long time ago and it is a natural fit. We both are dedicated to work at the forefront of contemporary design to deliver the world’s best and truly sustainable architecture, and this is embedded in our research-informed approach, continually exploring new knowledge.”

An increased diversification of project types was also a factor, Steffen noted. “The greatest benefit to our clients will be our ability to offer a more varied project experience base to deliver on high-performance projects, particularly valuable when clients are planning complex mixed-use developments and urban regeneration.”

“We bring a global attitude to solve local problems”, he added, “and sustainability is at the heart of everything the firm undertakes.” Many of the resource-efficiency concepts that are used today have been developed by them in the 1990s and early 2000s.

si_architecture + urban design designs holistically, and the firm’s integrated design approach enables to develop innovative strategies that have a clear focus on the future of the environment.

Responding to this global worldview, the firm consolidates all staff and operations at the new offices in Dubai and Barcelona; additional satellite offices will be created locally for specific projects as required.

About si_architecture + urban design

This is a full-service integrated architectural and urban design firm for regional, national and global clients dedicated to high-quality and sustainable projects. Services offered by si_architecture + urban design consist of architectural design, interior design and urban design/master-planning for the public and private sectors, with a focus on highly-sustainable projects in higher education, institutional, residential, including at the neighbourhood-scale, office buildings, schools, hotel developments, and the adaptive reuse of existing structures.

The firm treats each project as a unique challenge and specializes in the design of super-green projects, sensitive infill, and smart urban design. si_architecture was formed on 1st July 2021 by Steffen Lehmann and Igor Peraza, who both have over three decades of leadership experience as practitioners and academics, and during this time they delivered as lead designers a construction budget of over Euro 1 bill.

More information can be found here: www.si-architecture.com

Global design experts, joining forces: founding partners of
si_architecture + urban design, Professor Dr. Steffen Lehmann
and Professor Dr. Igor Peraza. Steffen is Professor of Architecture
and Urbanism in the USA, and Igor is Professor of Practice in the UAE
(Photo courtesy of Cida de Aragon, 2021)

