
About the Exhibition

We are pleased to announce *Shigeru Ban: Projects in Progress*, the second solo exhibition of architect Shigeru Ban to be held at TOTO GALLERY·MA. The first was held 18 years ago in 1999.

In addition to designing buildings such as the Centre Pompidou-Metz (2010, France) and Oita Prefectural Art Museum OPAM (2014, Japan), Ban has also continued to design shelters and temporary housing using structural paper tubes to support disaster relief efforts in regions around the world. In 2014, he was awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize—also known as the “Nobel Prize of Architecture”—in recognition of the broad range of his architectural activities.

In this exhibition, we will introduce Ban’s design ideas and initiatives through showing the design and construction processes of his most recent projects from around the world. Today, the architect, who has come to be known for his attempts to make buildings using paper tubes—an inexpensive material that can be easily dismantled, assembled, and recycled—and his efforts to support disaster relief activities worldwide, has found a renewed interest in the characteristics and possibilities of wood, and he has been attempting to create large-scale projects by using the material in diverse forms.

Of particular note among them is the La Seine Musicale, a music complex whose centerpiece is a 1,200-seat hall dedicated to classical music. The project is slated to open on Seguin Island near Paris in 2017, and when completed, it will be the largest of Ban’s career. Inspired by a sailing ship, the complex incorporates rotating solar panels that follow the sun and a circular concert hall nested in an enormous wooden basket composed by a hexagonal grid. The giant cruise-liner-like complex on the Seine is anticipated to become Paris’ new center of culture. The exhibition will feature an approximately four-meter-long sectional model of the project and time-lapse videos showing its complete construction process that promise to draw viewers into Ban’s world of architecture.

The exhibition will also feature other ongoing projects that will be shown for the first time through an immersive presentation of models, mockups, and videos. Visitors will be exposed to the potential of the unconventional environments and comfort that the dynamic forms of Ban’s large-span timber structures offer.

Exhibition Information

Shigeru Ban: Projects in Progress

Date: Wednesday, April 19 – Sunday, July 16, 2017

Hours: 11:00 – 18:00

Closed on Mondays and from 5/2(Tue) to 5/5 (Fri / National Holiday) except 4/29 (Sat / National Holiday)

Admission: Free

Venue: TOTO GALLERY·MA

(TOTO Nogizaka Bldg., 3F, 1-24-3 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 107-0062)

Tel: +81-(0)3-3402-1010

URL: www.toto.co.jp/gallerma

Directions: 1-min. walk from Nogizaka Station (Exit No. 3) on the Chiyoda subway line

6-min. walk from Roppongi Station (Exit No. 7) on the Oedo subway line

7-min. walk from Roppongi Station (Exit No. 4a) on the Hibiya subway line

7-min. walk from Aoyama 1-Chome Station (Exit No. 4) on the Ginza, Hanzomon, and Oedo subway line

Organized by TOTO GALLERY·MA

Planned by TOTO GALLERY·MA Planning and Management Committee

(Special Advisor: Tadao Ando; Members: Kazuyo Sejima, Yoshiharu Tsukamoto, Erwin Viray)

Supported by the Tokyo Society of Architects and Building Engineers; Tokyo Association of Architectural Firms; The Japan Institute of Architects Kanto-Koshinetsu Chapter; Kanto Chapter, Architectural Institute of Japan.

Exhibition Concept

What are architectural exhibits that can only be shown through the format of an exhibition? There is no point to plan an exhibition if it does not present information that cannot be conveyed through print media, such as magazines and books, or through the real buildings themselves. Of course, completion models can only be shown in exhibitions, but it is more meaningful to look at actual buildings than their models. Whereas the design process can be shown in print media, the construction process can be presented uniquely in an exhibition in a way that it cannot be perceived once a building has been completed.

In the first exhibition space, we will show the full process leading up to the completion of the La Seine Musicale, a music complex that is currently being built near Paris and will be opening to the public in the spring of 2017. This project is located on the western tip of Seguin Island, which is situated to the west of Paris in the section of the Seine that flows through the commune of Boulogne-Billancourt. The island remained abandoned after the Renault factory closed in 1992. In 1999, the Pinault Foundation proposed to build a museum, but the project fell through. Jean Nouvel later developed a master plan for the entire island, and a PFI competition was held to design a music complex on the former site of the Pinault Foundation's project. In April 2013, we emerged as the winner at the end of the one-and-a-half-year competition period. In this exhibition, we will make use of mockups and videos to illustrate the project's design and construction process that has spanned six years from the competition stage to completion.

In other exhibition areas, we will present design, development, and construction process of ongoing projects such as the Watch Company Headquarters in Switzerland, Tainan Museum of Fine Arts, Mt. Fuji World Heritage Center, Taketa City Kurhaus, Yufu City Tourist Information Center, and Keio University Paper Honeycomb Dome through displaying of their wood and paper structure mockups.

Shigeru Ban

BAN Shigeru Profile

Born 1957 in Tokyo, Japan. Graduated from Cooper Union in 1984. Worked at Arata Isozaki Atelier from 1982 to 1983. Established Shigeru Ban Architects in 1985. Consultant to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) from 1995 to 1999. Founded a disaster relief organization, Voluntary Architects' Network (VAN), in 1995. Notable works include the Curtain Wall House (1995), Japan Pavilion at Hannover Expo (2000), Nicolas G. Hayek Center (2007), Centre Pompidou-Metz (2010), and Oita Prefectural Art Museum OPAM (2014). Awards include the Gold Medal of the France Academy of Architecture (2004), Arnold W. Brunner Memorial Prize in Architecture (2005), Prize for Design of the Architectural Institute of Japan (2009), Honorary PhD from Technical University of Munich (2009), Officer of the French National Order of Merit (2010), Auguste Perret Prize (2011), Prize of the Japan Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (2012), Pritzker Architecture Prize (2014), Commander of the French National Order of Merit (2014), Asahi Prize (2015), and Japan Institute of Architects Grand Prix (2016). Professor of Faculty of Environment and Information Studies at Keio University from 2001 to 2008. Visiting professor at Harvard Graduate School of Design and Cornell University in 2010. Professor at Kyoto University of Art & Design since 2011. Distinguished visiting professor at Keio University Faculty of Environment and Information Studies since 2015.



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Related Program: Lecture

Lecture by Shigeru Ban " Shigeru Ban: Works and Humanitarian Activities "

Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 18:30 (doors open at 17:30; event scheduled to end at 20:30)

Venue: Yurakucho Asahi Hall (2-5-1 Yurakucho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo)

Capacity: 758 people

Admission: Free

Online pre-registration required. Visit www.toto.co.jp/gallerma for details.

Registration period is from Monday, February 20 to Sunday, April 2, 2017.

Selected registrants will be notified by Wednesday, April 12.

Related Publication

Shigeru Ban: Material, Structure and Space

Author: Shigeru Ban

Publication Date: April, 2017

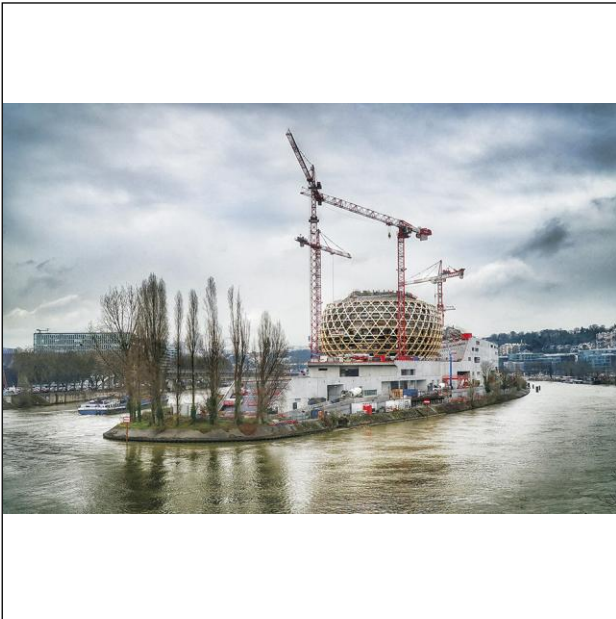
Format: 190mm x 250mm, paperback, 400 pages, texts in both Japanese and English

Publisher: TOTO Publishing (TEL = 03-3402-7138)

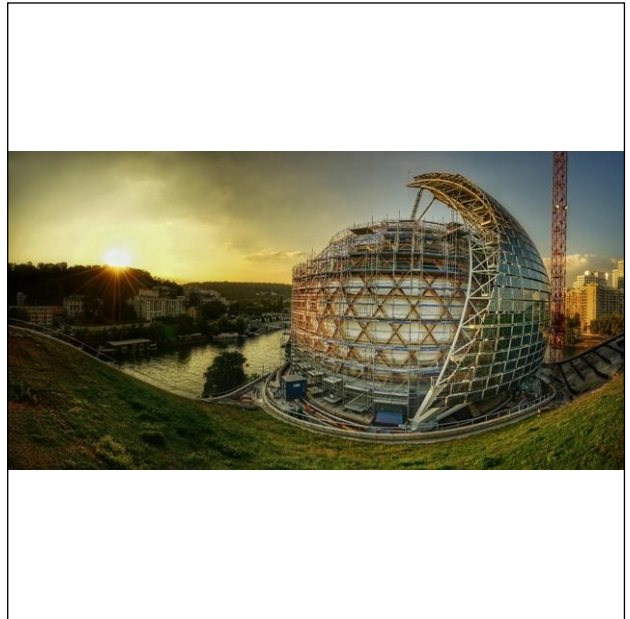
URL = www.toto.co.jp/publishing/



Images for Media Use 1/2



[1] La Seine Musicale (Paris vicinity, France/ 2017)
Architects: Shigeru Ban Architects Europe
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[2] La Seine Musicale (Paris vicinity, France/ 2017)
Architects: Shigeru Ban Architects Europe
©Nicolas Grosmond



[3] Watch Company Headquarters in Switzerland
(Biel/ Bienne, Switzerland/ Projects in Progress)
Architects: Shigeru Ban Architects/ Shigeru Ban
Architects Europe ©Didier Ghislain



[4] Tainan Museum of Fine Arts (Tainan, Taiwan/
Projects in Progress) Architects: Shigeru Ban Architects
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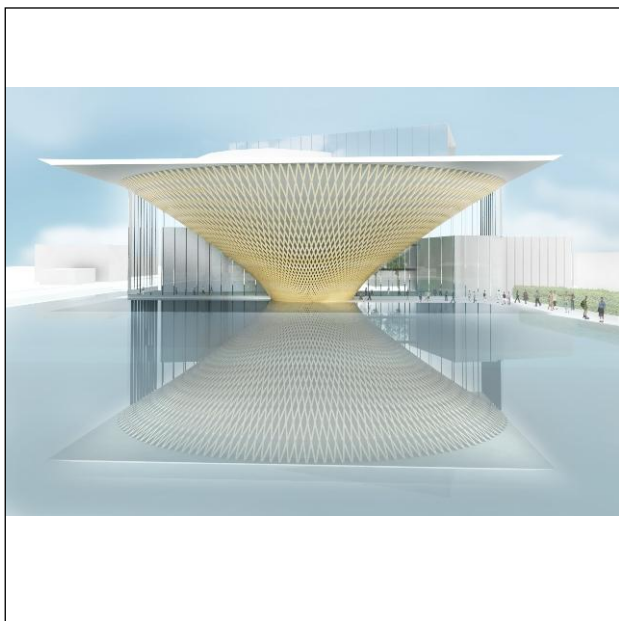
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PR Representatives: Keiko Ono (keiko.ono@jp.toto.com), Mitsuko Morikawa (mitsuko.morikawa@jp.toto.com)

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[5] Mt.Fuji World Heritage Center (Fujinomiya, Shizuoka/
Projects in Progress) Architects: Shigeru Ban Architects
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[6] Taketa City Kurhaus (Taketa, Oita/
Projects in Progress) Architects: Shigeru Ban Architects
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