Ivorypress presents the work

Norman Foster: Drawings 1958-2008

This publication, presented in two volumes, showcases the architect’s career through 200 drawings, as well as by compiling the speeches and debates from the series “Art, Sustainable Architecture and Economics” held at Ivorypress Art + Books in September 2009.

**Book signing:** Norman Foster will be signing copies of this book on Tuesday 5th October from 6pm to 7pm at Ivorypress Art + Books.

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This coming Thursday 5th October, the publisher Ivorypress will present the book accompanying the exhibition Norman Foster: Drawings 1958-2008, which was held at Ivorypress Art + Books in September 2009, having been curated by Luis Fernández-Galiano, architect and Professor of Architectural Projects at the Universidad Politécnica of Madrid. The presentation will take place at Ivorypress Art + Books and will feature an appearance by the author, Norman Foster, who will sign copies of the book between 6pm and 7pm.

The publication, the first in the Ivorypress Architecture collection, comprises two volumes which, from various perspectives, deal with key issues in sustainable architecture over recent decades. The first volume includes transcripts of the discussions held at Ivorypress Art + Books as part of the abovementioned exhibition, under the title “Art, Sustainable Architecture and Economics”. The speeches and debates are divided into three main topics: “Art and Architecture”, with the participation of Deyan Sudjic, Director of the Design Museum in London, and the artists Richard Long and Not Vital; “The Economic Factor in Architecture”, with Ricky Burdett, Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning at the London School of Economics, Jordi Gual, chief economist at La Caixa and Saskia Sassen, Professor of Sociology at the University of Columbia (New York); and “Sustainability and Architecture” with Herbert Girardet, Director of Programmes for the World Future Council and Stefan Behling, senior partner at Foster + Partners and Professor of Architecture at the University of Stuttgart.

Through their proposals and reflections, the participants in these discussions address some of the principal problems of sustainability on our planet. Their texts cover the exponential increase in the population, especially in cities, which creates a spiral of uncontrolled urbanisation and heavy consumption of natural resources. Also discussed is the integration of art within architecture and economics as part of the training of future architects.

The second volume brings together around 200 drawings and sketches which chronicle the architectural work of Norman Foster from the beginnings of his career in the 1950s up to his most recent projects such as the Caja Madrid Tower and the Central Market in Abu Dhabi. These drawings – mostly taken from fifty notebooks – make up the exhibition Norman Foster: Drawings 1958-2008. These projects reveal from the outset a desire to integrate architecture within its environment and to create structures which are sustainable for housing, transport, production and services.

In the words of Herbert Girardet, “the future and development of cities depend on a series of principles” such as the reduction of the ecological footprint, compact urban development, the supply of renewable energy, and transportation emission reduction, among others. Accordingly, the creative process followed by Norman Foster exemplifies “the capacity of architecture to improve our cities and our lives”, as is argued by Luis Fernández-Galiano and reflected in this publication.