

Press release

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Battersea studio opens to the public for London Open House weekend

London Open House Saturday 19 September 2009, 10am to 5pm

Entry is strictly on a first come first served basis

No pre-bookings, last entry at 4.45pm

Wheelchair access available

Foster + Partners Studio

Riverside

22 Hester Road

London SW11 4AN

Foster + Partners will be opening its Battersea studio to the public as part of the 2009 London Open House weekend. Entry is to the mezzanine floor with views over the 60-metre studio and recent projects will be on display.

Additional buildings designed by Foster + Partners that will be accessible during Open House 2009 include The Willis Building (City of London), Wax Chandlers' Hall (City of London), City Gate House & 50 Finsbury Square (Islington), City Hall (Southwark), More London - Ernst & Young HQ (Southwark), One Bishops Square (Tower Hamlets), and HM Treasury (Westminster).

Notes to editors:

Foster + Partners has been responsible for many instantly recognisable buildings, including 30 St Mary Axe, the Great Court at the British Museum, the Millennium Bridge in London, the Reichstag in Berlin and the HSBC Headquarters in Hong Kong.

Open House London is an annual celebration of the capital's architecture. It takes place during this weekend of 19 - 20 September 2009, when over 700 buildings, many of which are normally closed, are opened to the public. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the richness of London's architectural heritage.

Completed in 1990, Riverside is a pioneering example of a building that combines living and working in one place. The building itself has eight storeys, with Foster + Partners studio occupying the lower three levels and apartments located on the upper floors, all of which share spectacular views of the river.

The main studio is entered via a flight of stairs that leads to a top-lit, galleried space. The studio is a 60-metre long, double-height volume with a mezzanine containing the six main meeting rooms and presentation spaces.

For further information

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Underneath this mezzanine is an extensive library and innovative model shop, which is enclosed behind glass panels where the processes are noisy. Everyone in the studio, whatever their job description, has a place at one of the long workbenches; the arrangement is very fluid with no division between design and production.

For further information please visit www.openhouse.org.uk

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