

Press release

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Foster + Partners exhibition to open in Shanghai this month

'Foster + Partners: the Art of Architecture' will be staged at SPSI, the Shanghai Oil Painting and Sculpture Institute, from 25 July to 25 August 2012.

The exhibition is the first major survey of the studio's work to be held in China. It reveals details of a number of new projects underway in the region, including headquarters for Citic Bank in Hangzhou, a new tower in Nanjing and the Vantone development in Shanghai. It is also an opportunity to see the original models and sketches for high-profile completed buildings, such as Beijing International Airport, the Millau Viaduct in France, Hearst Tower in New York and the Swiss Re headquarters in London.

Arranged around the themes of infrastructure, sustainability, high-rise, urban planning, history and culture, the works on display highlight the diversity of the practice's work and showcase a growing portfolio of projects in China. They also illustrate into the changing nature of architectural practice over the past forty years – a timeline will illustrate the 227 projects in 20 countries completed by the practice since its inception in 1967 as Foster Associates. Allowing visitors a unique insight into the workings of the studio, a special exhibit created for the exhibition explores the design process from first client meeting to completed building and post-occupancy studies.

'Foster + Partners: the Art of Architecture' is also timed to celebrate the recent opening of the studio's Shanghai office, which is based in the Jiushi building on Zhong Shan Nan Road – a tower designed by the practice and the first project to be completed a British firm of architects in China.

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