WHAT MAKES A BUILDING?

FOSTER + PARTNERS
What makes a building?
I wondered aloud
Is it just lines and shapes?
I can’t work it out

Start with some ground
It may be hilly or flat
Dig a big hole
Where the building will be sat
This makes the base
Like the roots of a tree
To keep it strong and stable
So it won’t fall on me

Then come the walls
And doors to go about
Maybe some windows
To let the inside-out
The roof is laid above
To keep us dry in the rain
Chairs, cushions and curtains
So it isn’t so plain

And that’s a building
But wait, how could I have missed
The people that live here
The most important bit!
An empty building
Is the saddest thing
Fill them with people
And that’s when they sing
A building therefore
Is just incomplete
Without you inside it
To make its heart beat.