

David Nelson

Senior Executive Partner - Head of Design

RCA (MA)

David Nelson is co-head of design sharing design responsibility for all Foster + Partners' projects. He sits on the practice's Design Board that has full responsibility for design within the office. It has the authority to instigate, change and redirect design as deemed necessary. While David's involvement is important in the early, conceptual design phases of a project, he ensures continuity and quality at every stage of a project, as well as encouraging the sharing of expertise across the project teams on various issues, such as urban design and sustainability. David is a Senior Executive Partner, and guides the studio strategically as a member of the Partnership Board.

He studied three-dimensional design at Loughborough College of Art and Hornsey College of Art, specialising in furniture and industrial design, before gaining a Master's degree at the Royal College of Art Environmental Design School. In 1974, he received a travelling scholarship to study town planning in northern Italy. Reflecting this education David also oversees the studios Industrial Design team.

He joined the practice in 1976, working on a number of important early projects, including the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts and the Hammersmith Centre. In 1979, he joined the team working on the design of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, eventually sharing design responsibility for the project. He was made a Director in 1984. He returned to London in 1986 and became the director responsible for a wide range of projects, including the American Air Museum at Duxford, Century Tower in Tokyo and many other projects in Asia, Europe, Australia and the USA.

He has worked on many projects including the New German Parliament in the Reichstag, Berlin. He has also overseen a number of transport projects, including Bilbao Metro in Spain, North Greenwich Transport Interchange and Canary Wharf Underground station in London. Other projects include the Petronas University of Technology in Malaysia, Stanford University Laboratories in California, the McLaren Technology Centre and Production Centre in Woking, the new Supreme Court in Singapore, the Florence High-speed Railway Station, Deutschebank and Lumiere Residential in Sydney, Australia, Central Market and Masdar City in Abu Dhabi and the Apple Campus in California.

He was awarded an Honorary Fellowship of the RIBA in 2002.

Project experience

250 City Road

RMK Headquarters

National Bank of Kuwait

Comcast Innovation and Technology Center

425 Park Avenue

The Corniche

Arcoris Mont' Kiara

China Resources Land

Steve Jobs Theater

Maggie's Manchester

DOT, Lumina pendant light

UAE Pavilion Milan Expo 2015

Buenos Aires Ciudad Casa de Gobierno

Faena House

50 United Nations Plaza

Apple Westlake, Hangzhou

Masdar Institute

Masdar City

Yacht Club de Monaco

Capella Resort

ME London

Cathay Pacific Lounges, Hong Kong
International Airport

Lenbachhaus

Supreme Court Singapore

Jameson House

The Troika

Index Tower

Cove lounge chair

Thames Hub

McLaren Production Centre

The Murezzan

PwC, More London

Lumiere Apartments

Hearst Headquarters

Leslie L. Dan Pharmacy Building

Free University

Deutsche Bank Place

McLaren Technology Centre

Kamakura House

Duisburg Inner Harbour Masterplan

Gerling Ring

Shanghai Jiushi Corporation

Center for Clinical Science Research,
Stanford University

ENEL Power Pylons

Reichstag, New German Parliament

American Air Museum

Canary Wharf Underground Station

Repsol service stations

Red Dot Design Museum

Bilbao Metro

Carré d'Art

Addition to Joslyn Art Museum

Marine Simulator Centre

Izanami Motor Yacht

House in Japan

Century Tower

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank
Headquarters

Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts