CORRIERE DELLA SERA

The architectures of the year

Increasingly spectacular museums, sustainable buildings, record-breaking skyscrapers. The projects already inaugurated and the most anticipated ones of 2020

Text by Luca Trombetta   June 17, 2020

In the **GES-2** project there is everything an architect could wish for: a place full of memory, an abandoned industrial space and the possibility of building a place for beauty. The beauty of art, science and conviviality », says the Genoese architect **Renzo Piano** who by the end of the year will transform an ancient power plant in the center of Moscow into the new headquarters of the **VAC Foundation** , a museum with galleries, libraries and concert halls. Inauguration in autumn 2020 for the new **Munch Museum** designed by Juan Herreros and Jens Richter of **Studio Herreros**on the Oslo waterfront, a short distance from the Snøhetta Opera House. As it is almost completed, but you will have to wait until spring 2021, to be able to admire the new **Bourse de Commerce – Pinault Collection** exhibition center   in Paris designed by the Japanese **Tadao Ando** : a cement cylinder inserted inside the elegant French neoclassical palace.

> " DOING ARCHITECTURE MEANS BUILDING BUILDINGS THAT BREATHE, THAT DON'T CONSUME TOO MUCH ENERGY, NIGHT, THAT LIVE IN SYMBIOSIS WITH THE ENVIRONMENT. WE ARE IN FRONT OF A NEW EXPRESSIVE FRONTIER OF THE PROJECT. MADE OF LIGHTNESS, TRANSPARENCY, SENSITIVITY - RENZO PIANO "

It is a nice sign that comes from the world of architecture: starting right from the **museums** , custodians of culture and art who in the lockdown months had to reinvent themselves and distort their calendars. Among these, the most awaited project is certainly the **Academy Museum of Motion Pictures** in Los Angeles, the futuristic cinema museum with its spherical body in concrete and glass, which will open in December, also signed by **Renzo Piano Building Workshop** . It is a year full of commitments for the study of the Italian senator who donated the new **Genoa Bridge** to his city (the last bay is set, is nearing completion) and overseas it is transforming the Miami skyline with the design of a luxurious residential tower which is added to the skyscrapers completed this year by **Zaha Hadid Architects** and studio **Citterio Viel & Partners**.
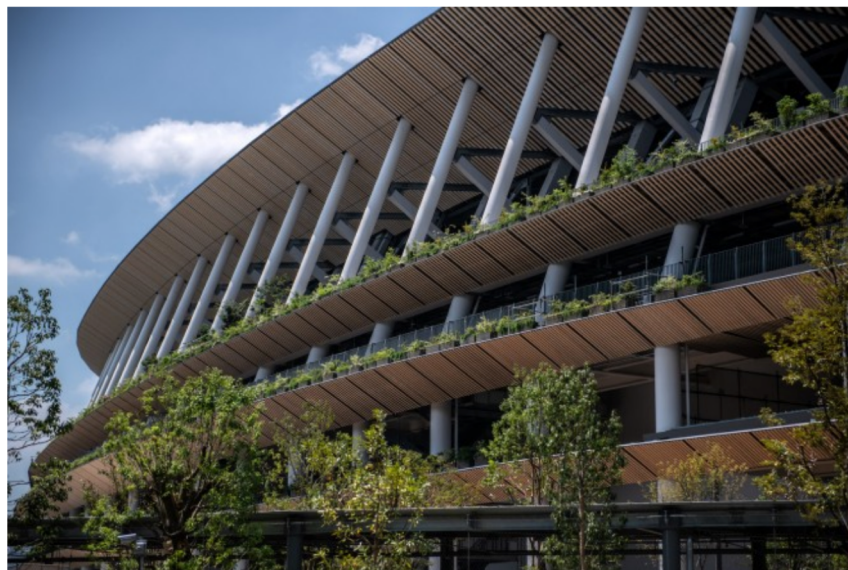
2020 is also shaping up to be a **record year** : with all due respect to Stefano Boeri's Bosco Verticale in Milan, Düsseldorf has opened the largest vertical garden in Europe. These are the **Kö Bogen II** offices , a green shell of 30,000 hedges and 8 km long designed by Ingenhoven Architects. The **Mjøstårnet** (tower on Lake Mjøsa), the tallest wooden skyscraper in the world built by Voll Arkitekter in Norway, also conquers the peaks of sustainable architecture . With its 85 m of fir wood and organic materials, it is not only an engineering challenge, but also a symbol of the green turning point of Northern European architecture. Dizzying numbers also for **Edge**, the sky-deck located on the hundredth floor of the 30 Hudson Yards skyscraper designed in New York by **KPF** and **Rockwell Group** which, with its 345 m, has become the highest panoramic point in the western hemisphere.

Renzo Piano Building Workshop: Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Los Angeles © Joshua White

" NOW THAT THE BIRCHES HAVE BEEN PLANTED ON THE ROOF OF THE DEPOT, THE CIRCLE IS COMPLETE. WE HAVE TRANSFERRED THE PARK AT 35 M ALTITUDE TO THE TOP OF THE BUILDING, WITH A SPECTACULAR VIEW ON THE CITY - WINY MAAS, MVRDV "

What awaits us in the second half of the year? Among the most awaited architectures are the **Depot** of the **Boijmans Van Beuningen** museum in Rotterdam designed by **MVRD** , a cylinder covered with mirrors with a hanging garden; the extension of the **Kunsthaus** in **Zurich based** on a design by **David Chipperfield** and the **1,000 Trees** residential complex by **Thomas Heatherwick** in Shanghai, a structure of 300,000 m2 with a pyramidal shape interspersed with hundreds of green balconies that transform it into a sort of forest at high altitude. The English studio is currently completing together with the **Bjarke Ingels Group**the London headquarters of Google, while the Danish **BIG** have just completed two museum centers: the **Audemars Piguet** private museum in Le Brassus, Switzerland, characterized by a double spiral pattern and the new **Twist** art gallery in the **Kistefos** sculpture park in Norway, a sculptural bridge that with its 90 ° twist extends for 60m on the Randselva river.

Kengo Kuma: Tokyo National Stadium - Carl Court / Getty Images

Inaugurated at the beginning of the year, the new **Tokyo National Stadium** designed by **Kengo Kuma** will have to wait for the summer of 2021 to host the next Olympic Games. Characterized by several orders of wooden cornices, it welcomes hundreds of plants in its external paths to transform the plant - the architect's words - into a "living tree". Just as we have to wait next year for the new contemporary art museum **M +** of **Hong Kong** signed Herzog & de Meuron. But 2020 is also the year of the **Pritzker Prize** to the architects Yvonne Farrell and Shelley McNamara of the Irish studio **Grafton**, designers of the Bocconi building in viale Bligny in Milan (2008), "pioneer in a field dominated by men, and lighthouses for other women with their exemplary professional path", as well as curators of the last Venice Architecture Biennale in 2018 with the theme 'Freespace'. And, even more importantly, it is the first all-female studio to obtain the prestigious award.

The Arte complex designed by Antonio Citterio and Patricia Viel is almost finished on the Surfside promenade in Miami. The 11-storey pagoda structure will house 16 homes featuring travertine jutting terraces. Services for residents include a spa, a tennis court and a clubhouse.