

HEATHERWICK STUDIO: BUILDING SOULFULNESS

MARCH 17 [FRI] - JUNE 4 [SUN], 2023 TOKYO CITY VIEW [52F, ROPPONGI HILLS MORI TOWER]

THE FIRST TIME EVER IN JAPAN: EXHIBITION FEATURING 28 KEY PROJECTS BY HEATHERWICK STUDIO, ONE OF THE MOST CLOSELY-WATCHED DESIGN TEAMS IN THE WORLD!

The Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, is proud to present *Heatherwick Studio: Building Soulfulness* from Friday, March 17 to Sunday, June 4, 2023, at Tokyo City View (indoor observation deck).

Established in 1994 in London, Heatherwick Studio has undertaken innovative projects in many cities including New York, Singapore, Shanghai, and Hong Kong, evolving to become one of the most closely-watched design teams in the world. Founder Thomas Heatherwick (born 1970 in UK) recounts how he would often find himself moved during his childhood by the “soulfulness” of small things that were made by craftspeople and artisans. Can the sprawling buildings and urban spaces that make our cities and towns also be imbued with this soulfulness? This is a question that often forms the starting points for a project at Heatherwick Studio. Every design is rooted in a belief that even projects as large as a city can have a human-scale, while harnessing the energies of the natural world and memories contained within architecture into new designs. At the core of this approach is the creation of places for gathering, dialogue, recreation, and enjoyment, instead of the design of “hard” elements that so often characterize products and buildings. Even as the Studio studies the history of objects and places, researches a wide spectrum of materials, and pays homage to traditional craftsmanship, their spaces, which deploy the latest developments in engineering, are replete with innovative ideas that seem to have eluded everyone else. As the world emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic and we re-evaluate our relationship with both the built and the natural environments, Heatherwick Studio’s designs feel more evocative and relevant than ever.

This exhibition is the first one in Japan to showcase twenty-eight major projects of Heatherwick Studio. By looking at the projects – all of which are the result of a process of trial and error, where familiar structures and functions are reassessed, and new ideas are realized – from six different viewpoints: “Coming Together;” “Connecting with Everyone;” “Experiencing Sculptural Space;” “Feeling Nature in Urban Space;”

“Bringing Memories to the Future;” and “Playing and Using,” the exhibition will explore what type of architecture brings with it the sort of kindness, beauty, intellectual stimulation and empathy that move the human heart.



Little Island
2021
New York
Photo: Timothy Schenck

PRESS RELEASE

Inquiries: *Heatherwick Studio: Building Soulfulness* Public Relations Office [within Kyodo PR]
Tel: +81-(0)80-2032-4674 (Ms. Kunitoki) / +81-(0)70-4303-7215 (Mr. Nakai) E-mail: hs-pr@kyodo-pr.co.jp

GENERAL INFORMATION

Exhibition Title: *Heatherwick Studio: Building Soulfulness*

Organizer: Mori Art Museum

Corporate Sponsors: OBAYASHI CORPORATION, SHIMIZU CORPORATION, SUMITOMO MITSUI CONSTRUCTION CO.,LTD., Arup, NIHON SEKKEI, INC., NIKKEN SEKKEI LTD, YAMASHITA SEKKEI INC., ASAMI Electric Corporation, FUJITEC CO., LTD., KANDENKO CO., LTD., KINDEN CORPORATION, KYUDENKO CORPORATION, SAIKYU KOGYO CO., LTD., SANKEN SETSUBI KOGYO CO., LTD., SANKI ENGINEERING CO., LTD., Takasago Thermal Engineering Co., Ltd., Toshiba Elevator and Building Systems Corporation, YUDENSHA CO., LTD.

Curated by: Kataoka Mami (Director, Mori Art Museum)

Exhibition Period: March 17 [Fri] - June 4 [Sun], 2023

Venue: Tokyo City View [52F, Roppongi Hills Mori Tower, 6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo]

Hours: 10:00-22:00 (Last Admission: 21:00) * Open every day.



Admission:

	[Weekdays]		[Sat., Sun. & Holidays]	
	On-Site	Online	On-Site	Online
Adults	¥ 2,000	¥ 1,800	¥ 2,200	¥ 2,000
Students (University/High School)	¥ 1,400	¥ 1,300	¥ 1,500	¥ 1,400
Children (Age 4 through Junior High School)	¥ 800	¥ 700	¥ 900	¥ 800
Seniors (Ages 65 and over)	¥ 1,700	¥ 1,500	¥ 1,900	¥ 1,700

- * It is encouraged to make advance booking for a designated date/time slot and purchase the admission ticket on the booking website.
- * Admissions without advance bookings will be allowed so far as the time slots have not filled up on the day of your visit.
- * You will be admitted to Mori Art Museum (53F, Roppongi Hills Mori Tower) by adding to the *Heatherwick Studio* exhibition admission ¥500 across the board.
- * Those who with an admission ticket to the Mori Art Museum will be admitted to *Heatherwick Studio* exhibition (Tokyo City View) by adding ¥700 across the board.
- * Additionally, just for a limited period from Friday, March 17 to Sunday, March 26, 2023, *Heatherwick Studio + Roppongi Crossing 2022* (exhibition on view at the Mori Art Museum) combo tickets, however Weekdays/Online ONLY, will be on sale. Adults: ¥2,200 / Students (University/High School): ¥1,700 / Children (Age 4 up to Junior High School): ¥1,100 / Seniors (Ages 65 and over): ¥1,900
- * All prices include tax.
- * Admissions to Mori Arts Center Gallery, and Sky Deck (rooftop observation deck) are separate.

General Inquiries: 050-5541-8600 (Hello Dial, within Japan) / +81-(0)47-316-2772 (Hello Dial, from overseas)
www.mori.art.museum/en

The latest exhibition press images are available on our website for downloads:
<https://tayori.com/f/heatherwick-en/>

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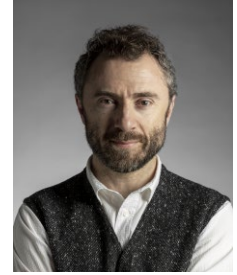
Thomas Heatherwick

Founder, Heatherwick Studio

Thomas Heatherwick is one of the UK's most prolific designers, whose varied work over two decades is characterized by its originality, inventiveness and humanity. Defying conventional classifications, Thomas founded his studio in 1994 to bring together architecture, urban planning, product design and interiors into a single creative workspace. Working across multiple scales, locations and typologies, Heatherwick Studio has developed into a team of 200 makers and inventors with no signature style. Led by human experience rather than any fixed dogma, the Studio creates emotionally compelling places and objects with the smallest possible climate shadow.

From their base in London, the Studio team is currently working on over thirty projects in ten countries, including *Azabudai Hills / Lower Levels*, a six-hectare mixed-use development in the center of Tokyo, the new headquarters for Google in London (in collaboration with Bjarke Ingels Group) and *Airo*, an electric car that cleans the air as it drives.

The Studio has also recently completed *Google Bay View*, Google's first ground-up campus; *Little Island*, a park and performance space on the Hudson River in New York; *The Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (Zeitz MoCAA)* in Cape Town; and *Coal Drops Yard*, a major new retail district in King's Cross, London. Thomas' forthcoming book, *Humanise*, will be published by Penguin in 2023.



Thomas Heatherwick
Photo: Raquel Diniz

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Japan's First! Heatherwick Studio's 28 Major Projects Showcased All at Once**
- **Referential Items Such as Models and Material Samples from Various Projects Completed through Trial and Error to Be on View**
- **A Full-Scale Model (Partial; over 4 Meters in Height) to Be Exhibited of London's Double-Decker Bus Heatherwick Studio Redesigned after 50 Years, Utilizing the Large Space of the 11-Meter-High Open Ceiling for the Observatory!**
- **Unique Exhibition Space Inspired by Japanese Store Curtains and Banners**
- **Space to Enjoy Tokyo Cityscape from the Observation Deck While Sitting on a Playful Chair *Spun* Designed by Heatherwick Studio that Rotates 360 Degrees**



New Routemaster 2012 London
Photo: Iwan Baan



Azabudai Hills / Lower Levels
2023 (expected) Tokyo
© DBox for Mori Building Co., Ltd.

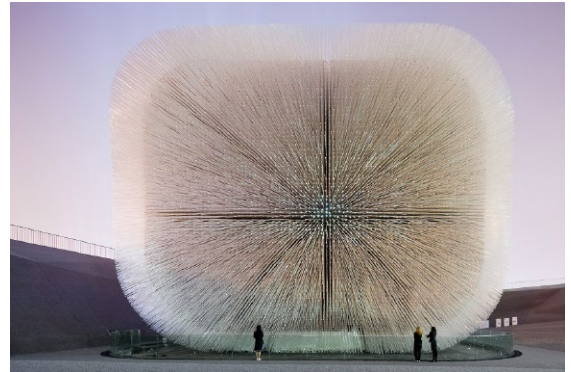
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SECTIONS

Section 1: Coming Together

“A whole” is made up of various “parts.” Many of Heatherwick Studio’s projects can be likened to a holistic big picture with a compelling power, achieved through an aggregation of details that have been meticulously conceived. This approach offers us a glimpse into how the Studio assembles the “souls” that inhabit each small part in an attempt to create a single, huge space capable of stirring human emotions.



Shanghai Expo UK Pavilion
2010
Photo: Iwan Baan

Section 2: Connecting with Everyone

Heatherwick Studio has created many open spaces where people can come together naturally and start a conversation or dialogue. By opening up spaces that tend to become closed and cloistered, and establishing connections with adjoining spaces, the Studio takes a creative approach to the design process, crafting opportunities for togetherness, and a connection with natural light and air.



Heatherwick Studio and Bjarke Ingels Group
Google Bay View
2022 Mountain View, CA
Photo: Iwan Baan

Section 3: Experiencing Sculptural Space

One of the most distinctive characteristics of Heatherwick Studio’s designs is the attention given to three-dimensional, sculptural form. These buildings can resemble sculptures that have been conceived at a human scale, but in reality are designed to work as spatial experiences on a city scale. There is no loss of handcrafted detail or warmth in the choice of materials and texture that would be expected from an artist or artisan craftsman.



Hainan Performing Arts Center
2020 (contracted)
China
Courtesy: Devisual

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Section 4: Feeling Nature in Urban Space

The natural world is filled with ecologies of metabolism. The energies that emerge out of them enrich and enliven the hearts and minds of people who live in urbanized environments. Heatherwick Studio approaches every project with the ambition of creating a lasting and positive impact by designing places that people will love and enjoy, providing enriching and fulfilling experiences. By exploring the function of nature within urban environments, so that trees and plants that are not merely ornamental, but incorporate the energy and spiritual well-being of the natural world into urban settings.



1000 Trees
2021
Shanghai
Photo: Zhu Qingyan

Section 5: Bringing Memories to the Future

History is an accumulation of human stories. Buildings are also repositories of memories belonging to the people who have spent time in them. Heatherwick Studio feels that it is its mission to bring to the future the memories of buildings that have outlived their original function. Although the Studio carries out bold conversions that leverage the designs of the original buildings, one can also see a commitment throughout to repair and restore elements to their former state.



The Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (Zeitz MoCAA)
2017 Cape Town
Photo: Iwan Baan

Section 6: Playing and Using

The designs of Heatherwick Studio have a playful streak to them. *Friction Table*, the shape of which can be freely changed from a circle to an ellipse and back again, was the result of the bold idea to imbue furniture with a versatility that could respond to individual needs. *Spun*, a chair that could be considered as a sculptural work, rotates 360 degrees while tracing an arc when someone sits on it. This accumulation of versatile, unbridled ideas has been applied throughout the Studio's buildings on the considerably larger scale of architecture.



Spun
2007-
Courtesy: Magis
Photo: Susan Smart

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