



ARCHITECTS DIRECTORY 2011

As evidence of how highly we rate them, we gathered our rising architectural stars at Renzo Piano's Shard in London, before, with equally high hopes, asking them to design our dream holiday home

PHOTOGRAPHY: DANIEL STIER WRITERS: JONATHAN BELL AND ELLIE STATHAKI

It won't be open for business for another year, but with its central 72-storey core completed, the Shard is already dominating the London skyline. Planned to rise to a dizzying 87 storeys – approximately 310m, which will make it not only the tallest building in the capital but also one of the tallest in Europe – it is no surprise that Renzo Piano's first UK commission has been making headlines.

Built for Sellar Property Group, headed by CEO James Sellar, the Shard's slender pyramidal volume is the force behind the wider London Bridge area's £2bn regeneration – this will include office space in the form of the London Bridge Place development; a roof terrace offering views of London; a piazza and a new concourse

for London Bridge rail station, the capital's fourth busiest. Destined for full completion in 2013, the complex is set to reshape this part of Southwark.

In the past, Sellar's high-profile architectural collaborators have included Herzog & de Meuron and David Chipperfield; the Italian Renzo Piano is a worthy addition to its list, an iconic architect for an iconic development. His construction methods for the Shard include a pioneering strategy allowing for the top and the bottom ends of the building to be developed simultaneously.

For a building designed to appear to float above the ground, the shimmering glass-clad tower is, in fact, very substantial, described by its architect as a 'vertical city'. Including commercial spaces and the five-star Shangri-La hotel and spa

with a set of exclusive residences towards the top, the Shard will have a gross floor area of 111,400 sq m. Meanwhile, its high-level viewing platform is sure to become a key attraction, offering 360-degree views.

It all adds up to a tempting prospect, so for our 2011 Architects Directory photo shoot – gathering together the world's best emerging architects – we aimed high. Securing exclusive access to the Shard and its soon-to-be hotel lobby, we present you with this year's finest architecture crop in a suitably lofty setting. Find their profiles overleaf, along with their visions for a dream, but buildable, holiday home for Wallpaper*. www.the-shard.com, www.sellarproperty.com, www.rpim.com

TOP OF THE WORLD

This picture, Renzo Piano's 87-storey Shard will be the tallest building in London when completed in 2013

Opposite, our pick of the world's best young architects on the 21st floor, in the future lobby of the Shangri-La hotel

- 01 Frank Holtebush, LHVH Architekten
- 02 Frank Lehner, LHVH Architekten
- 03 Olaf Grosse
- 04 Jens Voss, LHVH Architekten
- 06 Katerina Vordoni, VOIS Architects
- 06 Miguel Vieira, Sami Arquitectos
- 07 Fanni Sinanietti, VOIS Architects
- 08 Inês Vieira da Silva, Sami Arquitectos
- 09 Johnny Svendsborg
- 10 Martin Gomez
- 11 Alex Hurst, Hurst Song Architekten
- 12 Daniela Coll, Martin Gomez Arquitectos
- 13 Mischa Witzmann, Karwitz Architecture
- 14 Warren Techenis
- 15 Maxim Laroussi, Architecture Republic
- 16 Olivier Bourgeois, Bourgeois/Lechasseur
- 17 Daniel Welham, Fourfoursix
- 18 Jessen Ruiz Esquivel, Zan-a Arquitectos
- 19 Chris Romer-Lee, Studio Octopi
- 20 Nacho Ruiz Allen, Zan-a Arquitectos
- 21 James Lowe, Studio Octopi

