

## **Jerusalem Archaeological Park Provides 2000 Year Old Site for Pritzker Ceremony**

The presentation on May 29, 2000 of the Pritzker Architecture Prize to Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas will encompass three locations within the Jerusalem Archaeological Park dating back two millennia, and all adjacent to the Temple Mount. Speaking at the unveiling of a recent excavation in the Park in October of last year, Ehud Barak, Prime Minister of Israel, said of the work at the Park by the Israel Antiquities Authority, “We are duty bound to turn these places surrounding us — sacred to Islam, Christianity and Judaism — into a bridge and symbol of freedom of access and worship...”

Thomas J. Pritzker, President of The Hyatt Foundation, expressed gratitude to the state of Israel and the Israel Antiquities Authority, saying, “We are grateful to be able to hold our ceremony in this historic site. I would like to echo the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister, and reinforce the thought that in this Millennial Year, it is appropriate that our international prize for architecture be presented in a location significant to so many religions, especially since religions have been responsible for so much architecture through the ages. And of course, we must not overlook the architectural significance of this site. It was probably one of the most elaborate and complex structures in the known world 2000 years ago. It stands as a physical connection between our times and a period of history that is fundamental to much of western civilization.”

The international prize, which is awarded each year to a living architect for lifetime achievement, was established by the Pritzker family of Chicago through their Hyatt Foundation in 1979. Often referred to as “architecture’s Nobel” and “the profession’s highest honor,” the Pritzker Prize has been awarded to twenty-two architects from eleven countries, including seven from the U.S.A. The presentation ceremonies move around the world from year to year paying homage to the architecture of other eras and/or works by laureates of the prize.

The Jerusalem Archaeological Park extends over one of the few parts of Ancient Jerusalem which have not been built up in the past few centuries. In fact, evidence has been found there of earliest human occupation, and remains of the first settlement established some 5000 years ago. The areas being used for the Pritzker Prize ceremony albeit are of much later vintage, only 2000 years old, and of course, all of King Herod’s constructions of that period were destroyed, as was most of Jerusalem, by the Romans in 70 CE(AD).

Guests will first assemble for a reception on a landing at the top of a monumental staircase (now partially restored) at the southern wall of the Temple Mount enclosure, in an area that originally provided access to one of the entrances to the Temple Mount. There were actually two gates in the south wall during the Second Temple period, known as the “Huldah Gates,” probably so named for a prophetess who lived in Jerusalem during the First Temple Period. The two gates led into tunnels through which people could pass on their way to the Temple above. During the reception, a video presentation of a computer generated

reconstruction of what the entire area looked like two millennia ago will be presented, along with some brief remarks from the archaeologists who are doing the research of the area.

From the reception area, it is a short walk to a more recent excavation site at the southwest corner of the Temple Mount, a place designated as the Herodian Street. This was the main thoroughfare of Second Temple Period Jerusalem. The street runs along the western wall of the Temple Mount and if it were not interrupted by other structures, it would continue along the western wall (known as the wailing wall). According to researchers at the Israel Antiquities Authority, it was in use for merely a brief period before the final destruction in 70 CE (AD). Guests will be seated on the ancient paving and sitting beside the remains of small stone vaults which were shops in ancient times. Looking up at the Temple Mount enclosure wall, a few building stones still project from the face of the wall, all that remains of what was a tremendous arch or vault that was supported on one side by the wall, and on the other by a pier, and which in turn supported another monumental flight of stairs that led from the street to the Temple above. The arch is named for the American Bible scholar Edward Robinson, who first identified the arch in 1839.

When the Roman soldiers deliberately destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple, they dislodged large stones from the arch and hurled them down to the street below. Many of these hundreds of tons of stones remain on the street where they landed two millennia ago.

Following the ceremony, just a few paces away, dinner will be served in the courtyard of the Umayyad Palace, believed to have been built of stones taken from the ruins of the Temple Mount walls in the late seventh and early eighth centuries CE (AD) by the Umayyad rulers during a period of Muslim rule in Jerusalem. It was also during this period that the existing Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock were built.

As has become tradition with Pritzker ceremonies, on the day before the presentation, guests will be provided with architectural tours of Jerusalem. Plans are to include the following landmarks on the tours: the already mentioned Dome of the Rock and Al-Aqsa Mosque which will not be accessible during the ceremony; the Church of the Holy Sepulchre; the Garden of Gethsemane; the Western Wall (known as the wailing wall); the Holocaust Museum; the Rockefeller Museum; the Israel Museum which includes the Billy Rose Sculpture Garden, designed by Isamu Noguchi, and the Shrine of the Book (designed by American architects Fredrick Kiesler and Armand Bartos) where some of the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed; both the Jerusalem Center of Brigham Young University and the Hebrew University; and the Israel Supreme Court (designed by the brother and sister team of Ram Karmi and Ada Karmi-Melamede of Tel Aviv).. The choices were made to provide a cross section of multi-religious and secular, as well as both modern and historic sites.

J. Carter Brown, chairman of the Pritzker jury, stated, “In more than two decades of prize-giving, a tradition of moving the ceremony to world sites of architectural significance has evolved becoming, in effect, an international grand tour of architecture. Modern buildings by Laureates of the Pritzker Prize

*...Continued on page 20*



01

(Above) Robinson's Arch and the paved street looking southeast where the Pritzker Prize ceremony will be held. Photo by Y. Lehman. Courtesy of Israel Antiquities Authority. A close look reveals a person standing on the paved street which will give an indication of scale. (Below) A view from the real time virtual reality computer model of the Herodian Temple Mount being constructed as a cooperative venture between the Israel Antiquities Authority and the Urban Simulation Team @ UCLA. The model will be the focal point of the permanent exhibition in the Davidson Orientation Center currently being built at the entrance to the Jerusalem Archaeological Park. Before touring the excavations, visitors will have the opportunity to explore the model in the Center's interactive classroom and experience the majesty of the Temple Mount as it stood prior to its destruction in the year 70 CE.



02

have been used, such as the National Gallery of Art's East Building designed by I. M. Pei; Frank Gehry's Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain; and Richard Meier's new Getty Center in Los Angeles . In some instances, places of historic interest such as France's Palace of Versailles and Grand Trianon, or Todai-ji Buddhist Temple in Japan, or Prague Castle in The Czech Republic have been chosen as ceremony venues. Some of the most beautiful museums have hosted the event, from Chicago's Art Institute to New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, where the setting was 1982 Laureate Kevin Roche's pavilion for the Temple of Dendur. In homage to the late Louis Kahn, we were in Fort Worth's Kimbell Art Museum in 1987. California's Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens was the setting in 1985. Two years ago, the 20th anniversary of the prize was held at the White House returning to the city in which the first two ceremonies were held at Dumbarton Oaks, designed by yet another Pritzker Laureate, the very first in fact, Philip Johnson. And of course, last year we were privileged to be in the Altes Museum by Karl Friedrich Schinkel; the classic modernist New National Gallery by Mies van der Rohe; and the recent work of another Pritzker Laureate, Rafael Moneo, The Grand Hyatt Hotel in Berlin."

Brown continued, "As the purpose of the Prize is to heighten awareness of the art of architecture, the variety of these sites has reinforced the attention the Prize has brought to the work of preeminent living practitioners, as well as architects from the past. This year in Jerusalem, we will be going into the distant past, which is no less important to how we perceive architecture." He further recalled that one of the Pritzker Prize founding jurors, the late Lord Clark of Saltwood, perhaps best known as art historian Kenneth Clark who gained worldwide fame for his television series and book, *Civilisation*, went even further back in time, saying, "A great historical episode can exist in our imagination almost entirely in the form of architecture. Very few of us have read the texts of early Egyptian literature. Yet we feel we know those infinitely remote people almost as well as our immediate ancestors, chiefly because of their sculpture and architecture."

\*For clarity we are showing both time designations:

BCE Before the Common Era equivalent to BC

CE Common Era equivalent to AD

# # #

## **A Brief History of the Pritzker Architecture Prize**

The Pritzker Architecture Prize was established by The Hyatt Foundation in 1979 to honor annually a living architect whose built work demonstrates a combination of those qualities of talent, vision, and commitment, which has produced consistent and significant contributions to humanity and the built environment through the art of architecture. It has often been described as “architecture’s most prestigious award” or as “the Nobel of architecture.”

The prize takes its name from the Pritzker family, whose international business interests are headquartered in Chicago. They have long been known for their support of educational, religious, social welfare, scientific, medical and cultural activities. Jay A. Pritzker, who founded the prize with his wife, Cindy, died on January 23, 1999. His eldest son, Thomas J. Pritzker, has become president of The Hyatt Foundation.

He explains, “As native Chicagoans, it's not surprising that our family was keenly aware of architecture, living in the birthplace of the skyscraper, a city filled with buildings designed by architectural legends such as Louis Sullivan, Frank Lloyd Wright, Mies van der Rohe, and many others.” He continues, “In 1967, we acquired an unfinished building which was to become the Hyatt Regency Atlanta. Its soaring atrium was wildly successful and became the signature piece of our hotels around the world. It was immediately apparent that this design had a pronounced affect on the mood of our guests and attitude of our employees. While the architecture of Chicago made us cognizant of the art of architecture, our work with designing and building hotels made us aware of the impact architecture could have on human behavior. So in 1978, when we were approached with the idea of honoring living architects, we were responsive. Mom and Dad (Cindy and the late Jay A. Pritzker) believed that a meaningful prize would encourage and stimulate not only a greater public awareness of buildings, but also would inspire greater creativity within the architectural profession.” He went on to add that he is extremely proud to carry on that effort on behalf of his mother and the rest of the family.

Many of the procedures and rewards of the Pritzker Prize are modeled after the Nobels. Laureates of the Pritzker Architecture Prize receive a \$100,000 grant, a formal citation certificate, and since 1987, a bronze medallion. Prior to that year, a limited edition Henry Moore sculpture was presented to each Laureate.

Nominations are accepted from all nations; from government officials, writers, critics, academicians, fellow architects, architectural societies, or industrialists, virtually anyone who might have an interest in advancing great architecture. The prize is awarded irrespective of nationality, race, creed, or ideology.

The nominating procedure is continuous from year to year, closing in January each year. Nominations received after the closing are automatically considered in the following calendar year. There are well over 500 nominees from more than 47 countries to date. The final selection is made by an international jury with all deliberation and voting in secret.

### **The Evolution of the Jury**

The first jury assembled in 1979 consisted of J. Carter Brown, then director of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.; J. Irwin Miller, then chairman of the



executive and finance committee of Cummins Engine Company; Cesar Pelli, architect and at the time, dean of the Yale University School of Architecture; Arata Isozaki, architect from Japan; and the late Kenneth Clark (Lord Clark of Saltwood), noted English author and art historian.

The present jury comprises the already mentioned J. Carter Brown, director *emeritus* of the National Gallery of Art, and chairman of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, who continues to serve as chairman; Giovanni Agnelli, chairman of Fiat, of Torino, Italy; Ada Louise Huxtable, American author and architectural critic; Jorge Silvetti, chairman, Department of Architecture, Harvard University Graduate School of Design; and Lord Rothschild, former chairman of the National Heritage Memorial Fund, and former chairman of the board of trustees of the National Gallery in London. Others who have served as jurors over the years include the late Thomas J. Watson, Jr., former chairman of IBM; architects Philip Johnson, Kevin Roche, Frank Gehry, all from the United States, and Ricardo Legorreta of Mexico, Fumihiko Maki of Japan, Charles Correa of India, and Toshio Nakamura, an architecture writer and editor from Japan.

Bill Lacy, architect and president of the State University of New York at Purchase, as well as advisor to the J. Paul Getty Trust and many other foundations, is executive director of the prize. Previous secretaries to the jury were the late Brendan Gill, who was architecture critic of *The New Yorker* magazine; and the late Carleton Smith. From the prize's founding until his death in 1986, Arthur Drexler, who was the director of the department of architecture and design at The Museum of Modern Art in New York City, was a consultant to the jury.

### **Television Symposium Marked Tenth Anniversary of the Prize**

“Architecture has long been considered the mother of all the arts,” is how the distinguished journalist Edwin Newman, serving as moderator, opened the television symposium *Architecture and the City: Friends or Foes?* “Building and decorating shelter was one of the first expressions of man’s creativity, but we take for granted most of the places in which we work or live,” he continued. “Architecture has become both the least and the most conspicuous of art forms.”

With a panel that included three architects, a critic, a city planner, a developer, a mayor, a lawyer, a museum director, an industrialist, an educator, an administrator, the symposium explored problems facing everyone — not just those who live in big cities, but anyone involved in community life. Some of the questions discussed: what should be built, how much, where, when, what will it look like, what controls should be allowed, and who should impose them?

For complete details on the symposium which was produced in the tenth anniversary year of the prize, please go the "pritzkerprize.com" web site, where you can also view the video tape of the symposium.

### **Two Exhibitions and a New Book on the Pritzker Prize**

The Art Institute of Chicago has organized an exhibition titled, *The Pritzker Architecture Prize 1979-1999*, which celebrates the first twenty years of the prize and the works of the laureates, providing an opportunity to analyze the significance of the prize and its evolution. It provides, through drawings, original sketches, photographs, plans and models, an opportunity to view some of the most important architects that have

shaped the architecture of this century. Additional information is available from the Art Institute's web site: [www.artic.edu](http://www.artic.edu).

The exhibit opened on May 28, 1999 and continued through September 26 at the Art Institute of Chicago. It was shown at the Heinz Architecture Center of the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the fall of this past year.

On June 10, 2000, the exhibit will open at the Royal Ontario Museum, the Institute of Contemporary Culture, in Toronto, Canada, where it will remain on view until October 1.

A book with texts by Pritzker jury chairman J. Carter Brown, prize executive director Bill Lacy, British journalist Colin Amery, and William J. R. Curtis, accompanies the exhibition. Co-published by Abrams of New York and The Art Institute of Chicago, the 206 page book is edited by co-curator Martha Thorne. It presents an analytical history of the prize along with examples of buildings by the laureates illustrated in full color. For further details, please visit the web site [abramsbooks.com](http://abramsbooks.com).

Another exhibition, *The Art of Architecture*, a circulating exhibition of the work of Laureates of the Pritzker Architecture Prize (photo below), which premiered at the Harold Washington Library Center in Chicago in 1992, was originally conceived to tour for ten years. In the U.S. it has been shown at the Gallery of Fine Art, Edison Community College in Ft. Myers, Florida; the Fine Arts Gallery at Texas A&M University; the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.; The J. B. Speed Museum in Louisville, Kentucky; the Canton Art Institute, Ohio; the Indianapolis Museum of Art Columbus Gallery, Indiana; the Washington State University Museum of Art in Pullman, Washington; and the University of Nebraska. Florida. In 1998, it was shown for two months at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. A mini-version of the exhibition was displayed at the White House ceremony in Washington, D.C. in June of 1998. The Utah venue was the first in the United States since the exhibition traveled to Europe for exhibition at the Deutsches Architektur Zentrum in 1995 and the Karntens Haus der Architektur in Klagenfurt, Austria in 1996. More recently, the exhibit was shown in South America in Saõ Paulo, Brazil during the Architecture Biennale in November of 1997. Plans are in progress for the exhibit to be shown in several more European and South American locations.

###



03

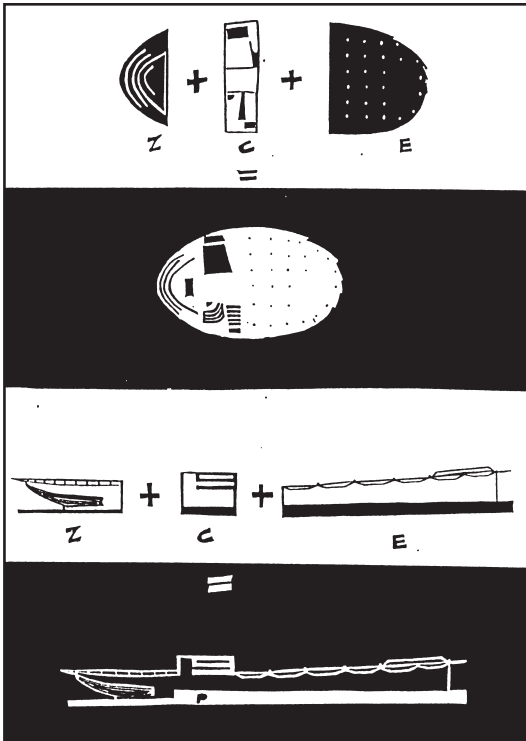
**Additional black & white photos of models, plans and drawings of Rem Koolhaas projects:** (most of these illustrations are available on the CD, some of which are in color)



Christian Riditers

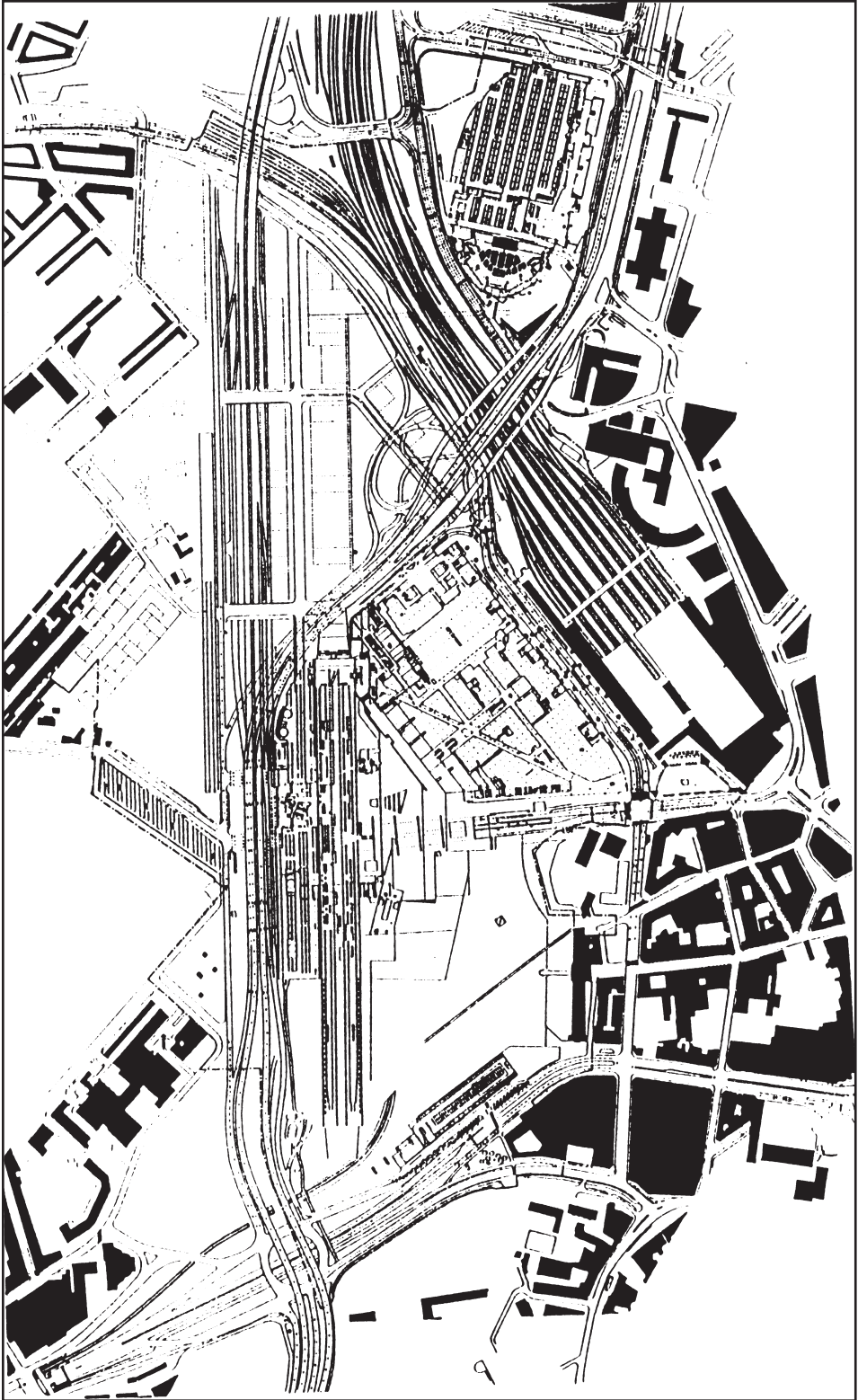
04

(above) Auditorium interior, Grand Palais in Lille, France

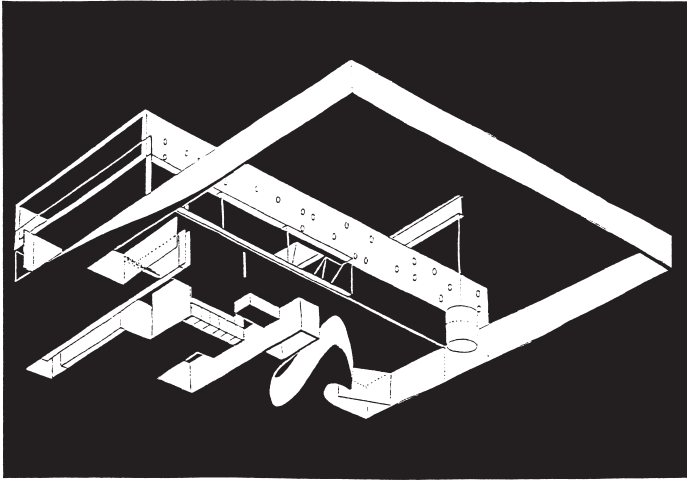


(left) Plan for Congrexpo (Grand Palais) in Lille, France with usage for various parts of the building indicated: Z=Zenith with 5500 seats; C=Conference Center with 3 halls seating 1500, 350 and 500; E=Exhibition Center of 20,000 sq.m.; P=car park with 1230 places.





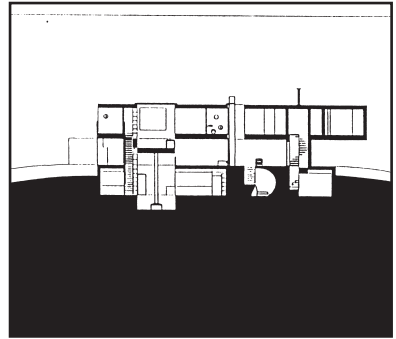
Overall site plan for Lille, France



Bordeaux House,  
France:  
(left) an axonometric  
view  
(below right) a  
longitudinal section  
(below left) interior  
(bottom) interior of  
the “nearly  
invisible” glass room



05



06



Hans Werleman



Hans Werleman

07

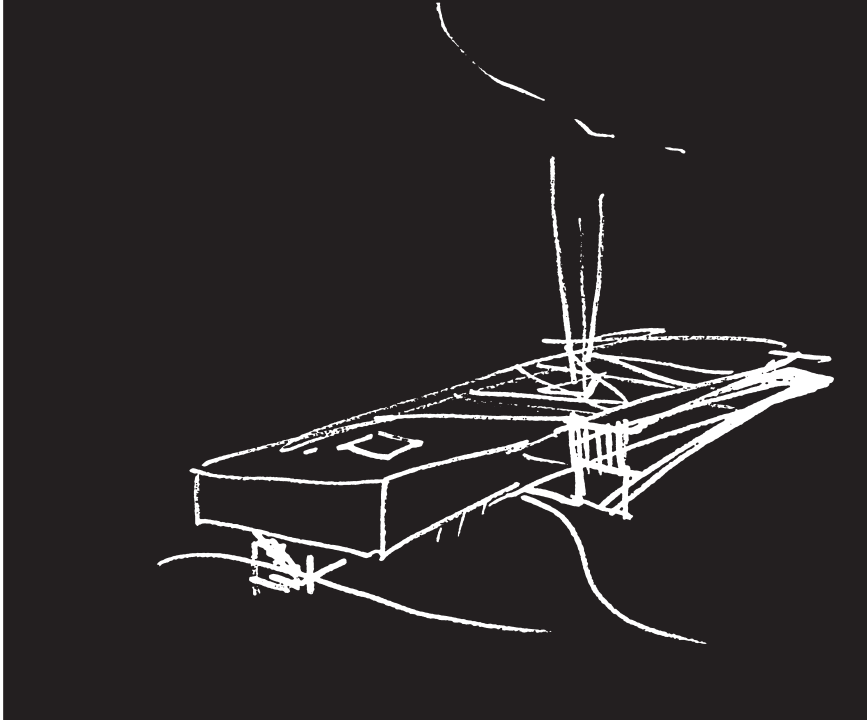
(above) Patio Villa, Rotterdam, Netherlands

©ESTO (Peter Aaron)

08



Villa dall'Ava  
Paris, France  
(left)



Dutch House, Netherlands (above) concept sketch; (below) two views



Hans Werleman

©



©Kida

⑩