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TOP TALENTS  
& INSPIRING  
IDEAS**

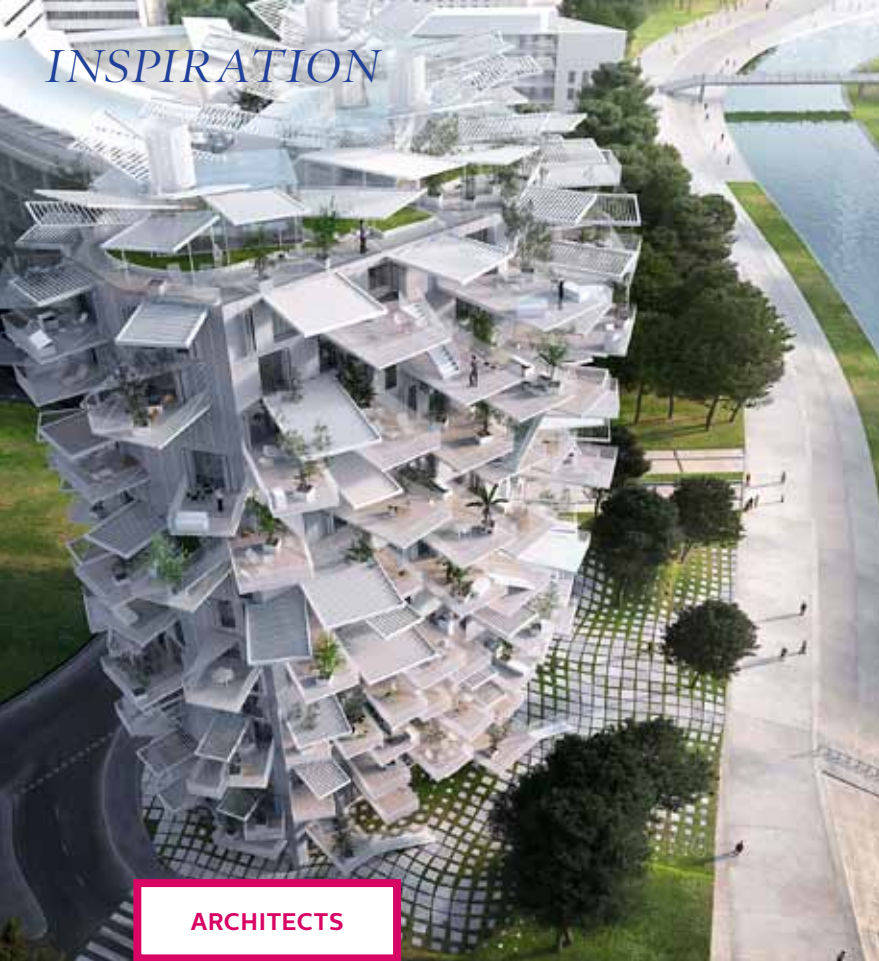
**RALPH LAUREN:  
HIS STYLE  
ESSENTIALS**

**ELLEN  
DEGENERES:  
HER 12  
MUST-HAVES**

**DESIGN'S NEW  
FRONTIERS  
THE INNOVATORS RESHAPING  
OUR WORLD**



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ARCHITECTS



**CLOCKWISE FROM BELOW RIGHT:** Sou Fujimoto. A design for an apartment tower in Montpellier, France. Fujimoto's House NA in Tokyo.



*With selfies and Instagram posts, today's most forward-thinking architects share their visions*



Vincent Van Duysen.

Van Duysen's Antwerp, Belgium, home.



Japan's **SOU FUJIMOTO** draws on nature—organic structures like forests, nests, and caves—to upend conventional assumptions about what a space for living can actually look like. His light-filled houses make us question the necessity of even such basic elements as walls and staircases in favor of a groundbreaking new architecture of openness and flexibility. As a result, Fujimoto's star is rising in the West: On the heels of his acclaimed 2013 Cloud Pavilion at London's Serpentine Gallery, he is creating one of his biggest structures yet, a "white tree" tower in Montpellier, France.

With his spare but luxurious designs, Antwerp, Belgium, architect **VINCENT VAN DUYSEN** shows that a minimalist approach need not sacrifice comfort and livability. Inspired by the late Belgian decorator Jean de Meulder, who taught him what he calls "l'art de vivre," he was one of the first to use natural wood and Belgian linen to warm up his interiors. For Van Duysen, the smallest detail counts, which is why, in addition to homes and skyscrapers, he designs everything from hardware to furniture to chandeliers.

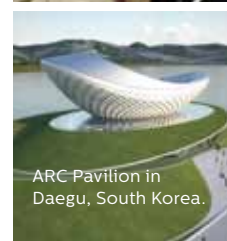
**HANI RASHID** and **LISE ANNE COUTURE**, the avant-gardist husband-and-wife team behind New York City-based Asymptote Architecture, have a tendency to let their imaginations fly. Their Manhattan condo 166 Perry Street is fronted by a waterfall of angled glass, while

their space-age Velo Towers in Seoul, South Korea—a pair of stacked cylinders connected by a sky bridge—seems to inhabit an entirely different galaxy altogether. More than just technological feats, this duo's imaginative architecture points the way toward the future of design.

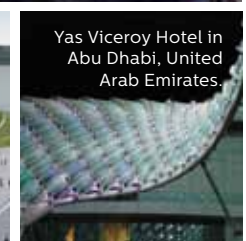
Western architects are flocking to China, but Beijing-born **MA YANSONG** is that nation's first breakout architectural star. Ma, who studied at Yale under Zaha Hadid, draws on natural forms and Chinese Taoist principles to create organic,



Lise Anne Couture and Hani Rashid.



ARC Pavilion in Daegu, South Korea.



Yas Viceroy Hotel in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

APARTMENT: RSI-STUDIO; HOUSE NA: IWAN BAAH; ANTWERP RESIDENCE: JAN VERLINDE. SEE RESOURCES

Bjarke Ingels (left) and partner Thomas Christoffersen.



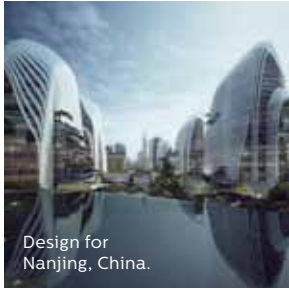
Chaoyang Park Plaza in Beijing.



Ma Yansong.



An aerial view of Harbin Cultural Center in China.



Design for Nanjing, China.

as a ski slope. His approach fuses architecture, urbanism, and nature, and, as Ingels himself explains in his book, *Yes Is More*, his goal is to engineer environments—even in crowded cities—that do nothing short of making people happy. In the works: the Big U, an eight-mile hurricane barrier for midtown Manhattan’s coastline.

Beloved by his fellow architects (he has won seven AIA National Honor Awards), **THOMAS PHIFER** takes a humanist approach to modernism, infusing every one of his projects with a sense of craftsmanship and an environmentally conscious aesthetic. Whether it is a home or a museum or a courthouse, Phifer’s innovative structures engage the landscape with their sense of proportion and play of light. As if that weren’t enough, his elegant new LED street lamps are lighting up the streets of New York.

shimmering designs that serve as an antidote to soulless urban structures. Exhibit A: his twin Absolute Towers in Mississauga, Canada, which the locals have dubbed the “Marilyn Monroe buildings” in an affectionate nod to their bodacious curves.

Not yet 40, Denmark’s **BJARKE INGELS** does not lack forchutzpah (nor a sense of humor): His cutting-edge buildings include a Copenhagen waste-treatment plant with a roof that doubles

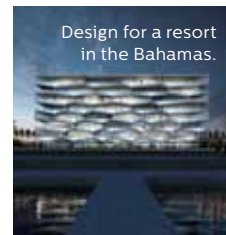
Snøhetta, based in Oslo, Norway, and New York City and named after one of Norway’s highest mountain peaks, practices what the critic Ada Louise Huxtable has called “the architecture of engagement, a building conceived as a social and environmental act instead of a static, formal object.” Snøhetta’s principals, **CRAIG DYKERS** and **KJETIL TRÆDAL THORSEN**, integrate architecture, landscape, and interior design in projects that are deeply rooted in their surroundings—from Egypt’s library of Alexandria to the recently opened National September 11 Memorial Museum Pavilion in New York City.



VM apartment buildings in Copenhagen.



Audemars Piguet exhibition space in Basel, Switzerland.



Design for a resort in the Bahamas.



Gammel Sports Hall in Hellerup, Denmark.



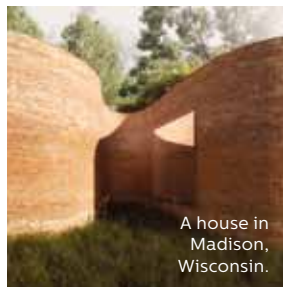
Design for a pedestrian bridge in Austin, Texas.



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Craig Dykers and Kjetil Traedal Thorsen of Snøhetta. Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Egypt. Norwegian National Opera and Ballet in Oslo.



Thomas Phifer.



A house in Madison, Wisconsin.



VM APARTMENT: JOHAN FOWELIN; SPORTS HALL: JENS LINDHE; BIBLIOTHECA: JAMES WILLIS; OPERA HOUSE: JIRI HAVRAN. SEE RESOURCES