

## Recupero del Porto Antico di Genova



The re-development of the Old Port of Genoa has its origin in the international celebration to commemorate the five hundred anniversary of Christopher Columbus's discovery of America. The project was based on a very simple philosophy: to realize works of permanent value to the city, making intervention that would be useful long after the end of the Celebrations, rediscovering the connection, cut off during the centuries, between the city and its port. This principle was realized both with restructuring and restoration of historical buildings and the construction of new buildings. Among the former we find the Magazzini del Cotone, built in the 19-century, the four Magazzini Doganali, built in the 17-century and the Millo; between the latter there are the Aquarium, the Harbour Master offices, the Bigo and Piazzale delle Feste. In 2001 the Biosphere was built to show a remarkable collection of ferns in a suitable habitat, in 2013 the Cetaceans Pavilion was opened, an extension of the Aquarium designed for the wellbeing of the animals.

## Dati Progetto

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Design	1985 - 1988
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Construction	1988 - 2001
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Site area	116.500 m <sup>2</sup>
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Total Floor Area	totale 90.000 m <sup>2</sup>
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Existing buildings:

Magazzini del Cotone: gross floor area: 42.770 m<sup>2</sup>  
length 391 m, ground floor +3 floors+1 technical  
floor, height 21m

Conference center: 1458 seats

Millo: gross floor area 8570 m<sup>2</sup>, 4 floors

Magazzini doganali: gross floor area 6.740 m<sup>2</sup>,  
circa max 3 floors

Porta Siberia: net floor area 570 m<sup>2</sup>, height 15,9 m  
max

New structures:

Aquarium: gross floor area 13.000 m<sup>2</sup>, height 24,2  
m max, 3 floors

Bigo and Piazza delle Feste: gross floor area 2.840 m<sup>2</sup>

Service spine: covered area 5.160 m<sup>2</sup>, 3 floors

Mandraccio building: gross floor area 2840 m<sup>2</sup>

Cinema: gross floor area 6934 m<sup>2</sup>, height 17,9 m max, 2 floors+1 technical floor, screen 1 284 seats, screens 2 e 3 124 seats, screen 4 106 seats, screen 5 115 seats, screen 6 253 seats, screen 7 436 seats

Biosfera: net floor area 215 m<sup>2</sup>, height 15,2 m

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## Credits

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Client	City of Genoa + Porto Antico SpA
Architects	Renzo Piano Building Workshop, architects
Consultants	Phase 1:Ove Arup & Partners (structural engineering for the Bigo); L.Mascia/D.Mascia, P.Costa, L.Lembo, V.Nascimbene, B.Ballerini, G.Malcangi, Sidercard, M.Testone, G.F.Visconti (other structures); Manens Intertecnica (building services); STED (cost consultant); D.Commins (acoustics); Scene (stage equipment); P.Castiglioni (lighting); M.Semino (supervisor of historic areas and buildings); Cambridge Seven Associates (aquarium consultant); Cetena (naval engineer); Origoni & Steiner (graphics); L. Moni (site supervision)  Phase 2: Ove Arup & Partners (services

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engineering and environmental studies for the Bolla); Rocca-Bacci & Associati, E.Lora (other building services); Polar Glassin System (structural engineering for the Bolla); B.Ballerini (other structures); STED, Austin Italia, Tekne (cost consultants); M.Gronda (naval engineer); P.Nalin (roads and associated infrastructure); Studio Galli (sewerage networks); P.Castiglioni (lighting); G.Marini, C.Manfredo (fire prevention); P.Varratta (graphic design); Techint (consulting executive architect)

Curator for the Italian Pavilion exhibition: G.Macchi

Wind sculptures: S.Shingu

General contractor and Project Manager:  
Italimpianti

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## Immagini



Subject	The Congress Center in the renovated Magazzini del Cotone
Date	1992/05
Image code	Col_106
Author	Michel Denancé
Copyright	Michel Denancé



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Subject The Bigo and Piazzale delle Feste - aerial view.

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Date (1997)

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Image code Col\_153

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Author Italo Banchemo

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Copyright Italo Banchemo

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Subject	View from the sea -- the Bigo and Piazzale delle Feste, The Millo and Palazzo San Giorgio on the background - aerial view.
Date	(1997)
Image code	Col_223
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin



Subject	The tensile structure on the Piazzale delle Feste
Date	(1997)
Image code	Col_048
Author	Stefano Goldberg
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects





Subject	Detail of the tensile structure
Date	1992/05
Image code	Col__005
Author	Michel Denancé
Copyright	Michel Denancé



Subject	Detail of the Bigo: element from which the ties to the tent spare are hung
Date	(1992)
Image code	Col_006
Author	Shunji Ishida
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects



Subject	Installation under the tensile for performance of Moby Dick with Vittorio Gassman
Date	(1992)
Image code	Col_105
Author	Emanuela Minetti
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects





Subject	Magazzini del Cotone - interiors
Date	(1991)
Image code	Col__121
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin





Subject	Magazzini del Cotone - interiors
Date	(1991)
Image code	Col_129
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin



Subject	The Panoramic lift, the sculptures by Susumu Shigu moved by the wind and the Millo.
Date	(1997)
Image code	Col_142
Author	Shunji Ishida
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects



Subject	Interior of the restored Quartieri Antichi - Vaulted ground floor
Date	1992
Image code	Col__012
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin





Subject	Aquarium. Sharks tank
Date	1992
Image code	Col_143
Author	Emanuela Minetti
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects



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Subject	The Biosphere and the Via del Mare
Date	(2001)
Image code	G8_187
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin

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Subject	The Biosphere - detail
Date	(2001)
Image code	G8__001
Author	Stefano Goldberg
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects



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Subject	The Biosphere - detail
Date	2013/07
Image code	Gae__041
Author	Stefano Goldberg
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects

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Subject	New cetaceans pavilion - construction site
Date	2013
Image code	Gae__074
Author	Studio fotografico Merlo fotografia aerea
Copyright	Costa Edutainment SpA

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Subject	Aerial view of the Aquarium with the new cetaceans pavilion
Date	2015
Image code	Gae__108
Author	Stefano Goldberg / PUBLIFOTO Genova
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects

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Subject	Internal view of the Aquarium with the new cetaceans pavilion
Date	2015
Image code	Gae__075
Author	Studio fotografico Merlo fotografia aerea
Copyright	Costa Edutainment SpA



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Subject	Magazzini del cotone. Also the old cranes were restored
Date	1992
Image code	Col_104
Author	Emanuela Minetti
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects

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Subject	View of Piazza Caricamento and the elevated highway
Date	(1985)
Image code	Col_225
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin



Subject	The Magazzini del Cotone before the intervention
Date	(1985)
Image code	Col_170
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin





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Subject	The Millo and the Magazzini Doganali before the intervention
Date	(1985)
Image code	Col__186
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin

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Subject	Beginning of the construction site at Magazzini del Cotone
Date	(1988)
Image code	Col_165
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin



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Subject	Corner of Magazzini del Cotone (Cotton docks) as they were when freight was still handled
Date	(1985)
Image code	Col__062
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin

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Subject	Magazzini del Cotone - construction site
Date	(1990)
Image code	Col_191
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin



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Subject	Vaulted ground floor of the Magazzini Doganali (XVII century)
Date	(1990)
Image code	Col_172
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin

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Subject	General view of the area with the Aquarium and the Nave Italia in the foreground and the city in the background - end of the construction site
Date	1992
Image code	Col_137
Author	Emanuela Minetti
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects

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Subject	Aereal view of the old port before the intervention
Date	(1982)
Image code	Col_061
Author	Publifoto
Copyright	Publifoto



Subject	Detail of the north façade of the renovated Magazzini del Cotone
Date	1992
Image code	Col_131
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin





Subject	Detail of the west façade of the renovated Magazzini del Cotone, the Lanterna (Genoa lighthouse) in the background
Date	1992
Image code	Col_072
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin



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Subject	The Aquarium on Ponte Spinola
Date	1992/05
Image code	Col__100
Author	Michel Denancé
Copyright	Michel Denancé

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Subject	Night view of the Aquarium
Date	(1992/05)
Image code	Col_139
Author	Emanuela Minetti
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects





Subject	The Aquarium is raised on cylindrical columns above pier, on the left the Via del Mare
Date	(1997)
Image code	Col_053
Author	Stefano Goldberg
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects



Subject	Detail of the facade of the Aquarium
Date	2014/10
Image code	Col_323
Author	Stefano Goldberg / PUBLIFOTO Genova
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects



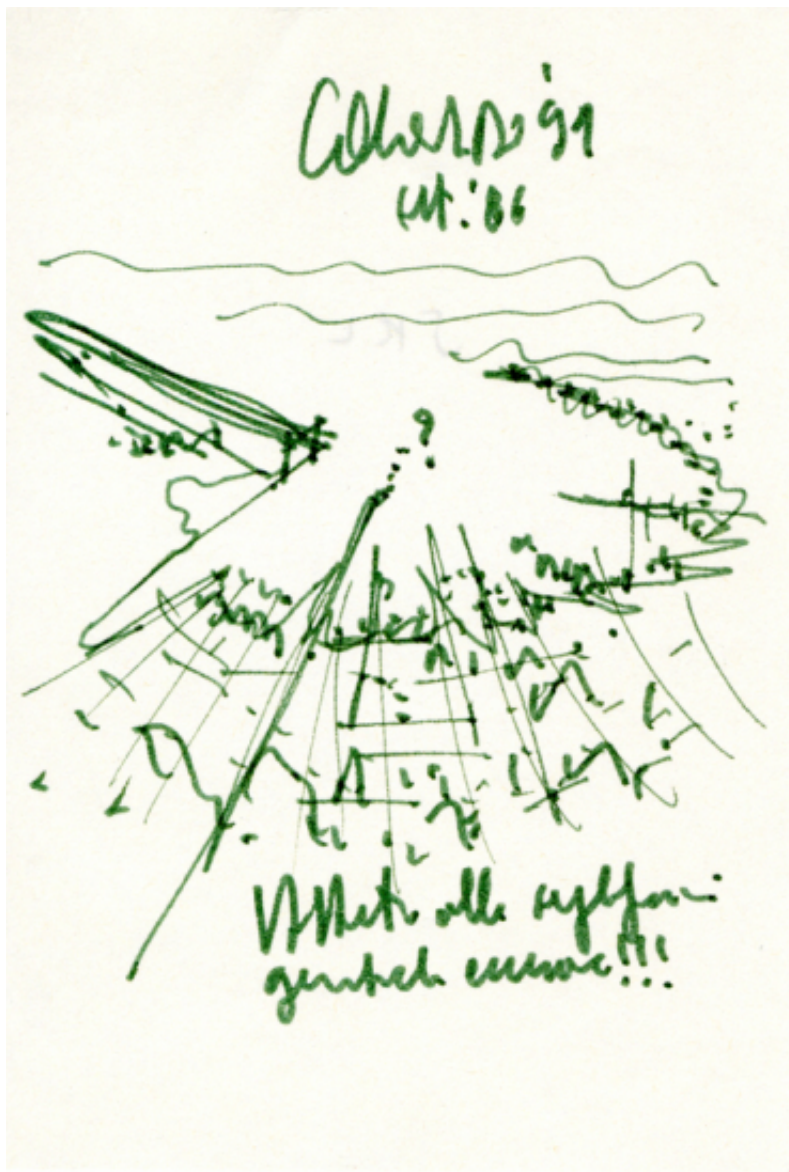
Subject	Rear of the Millo, with lift cabin of the Bigo peering over it, as glimpsed from between two of the bonded warehouses
Date	(1992)
Image code	Col__059
Author	Shunji Ishida
Copyright	RPBW - Renzo Piano Building Workshop Architects





Subject	Quartieri Antichi. Pedestrian street between the Quartieri Antichi and the Millo.
Date	(1997)
Image code	Col_117
Author	Gianni Berengo Gardin
Copyright	Gianni Berengo Gardin

## Disegni



Subject	Site plan. The connections with the historical center
Scale	-
Size	10 x 15 cm
Date	1986/09
Drawing number	-

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Drawing code	Col-rp_001
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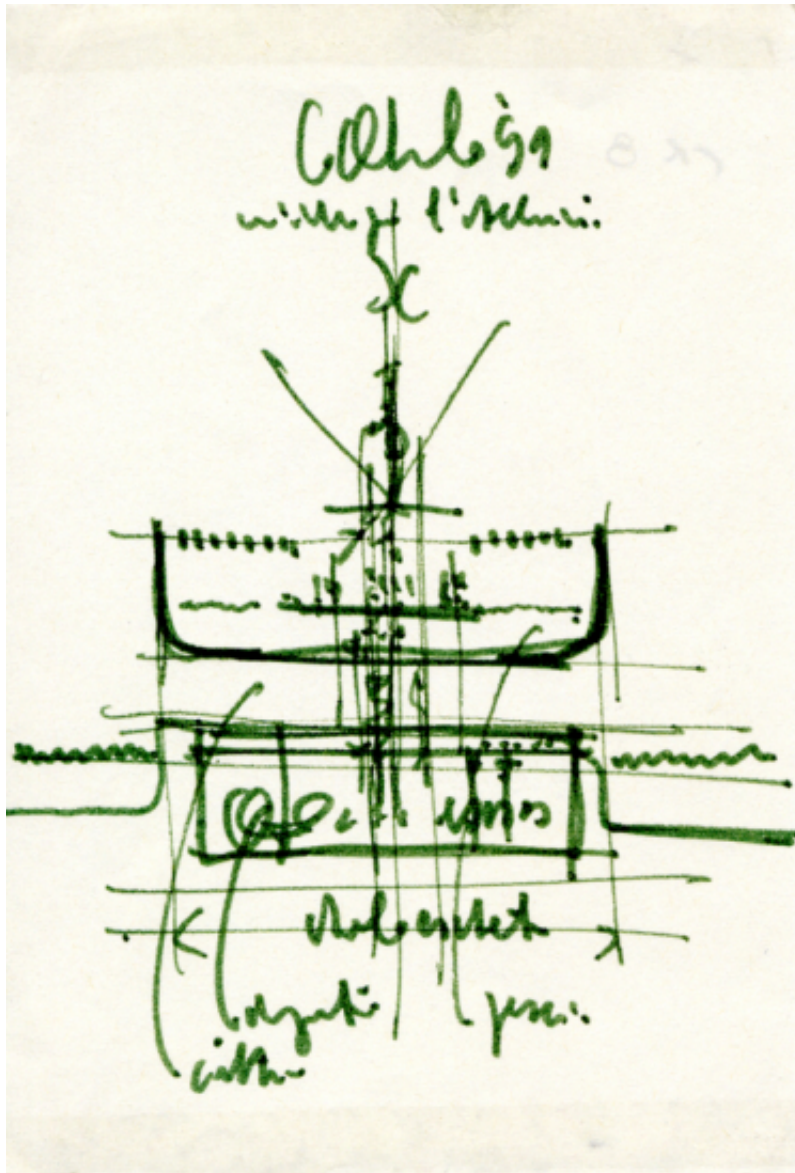
Author	Renzo Piano
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Copyright	Renzo Piano
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Subject	Section of the Aquarium
Scale	-
Size	10 x 15 cm
Date	1986/09
Drawing number	-
Drawing code	Col-rp_003

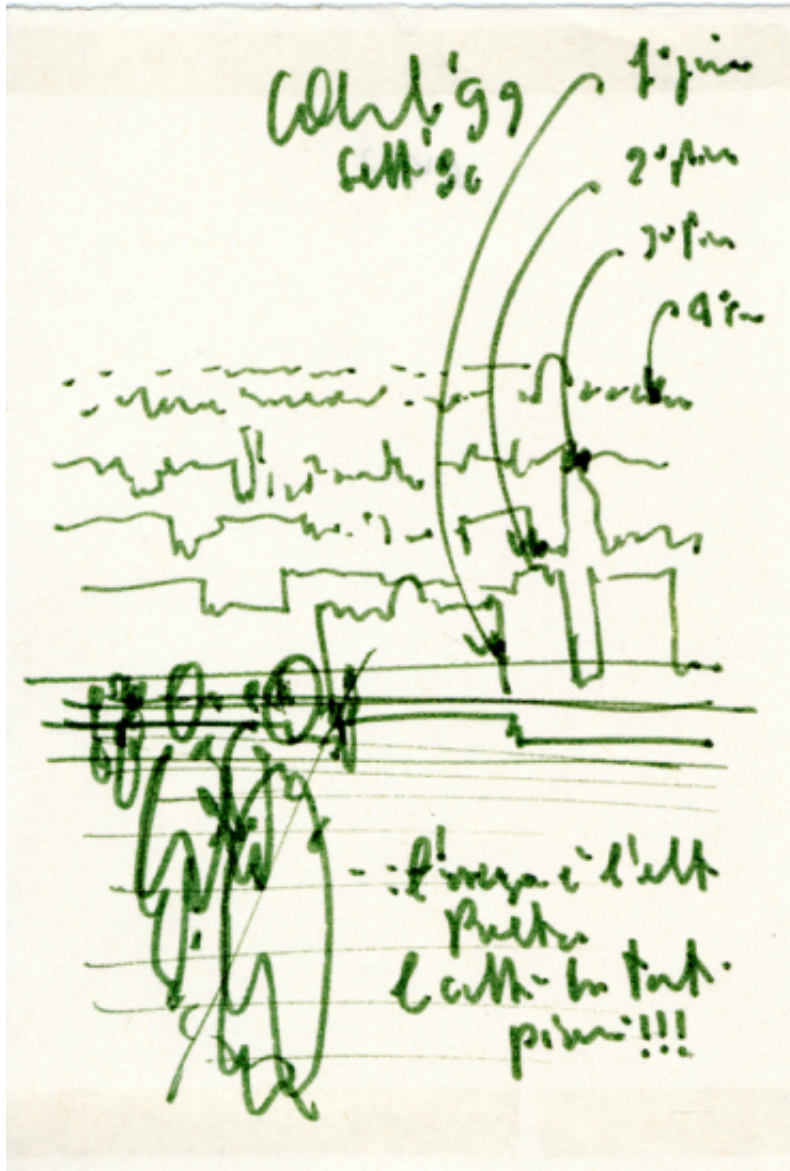
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Author Renzo Piano

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Copyright Renzo Piano

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Subject	View of the city from the aquarium
Scale	-
Size	10 x 15 cm
Date	1986/09
Drawing number	-
Drawing code	Col-rp_004



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Author Renzo Piano

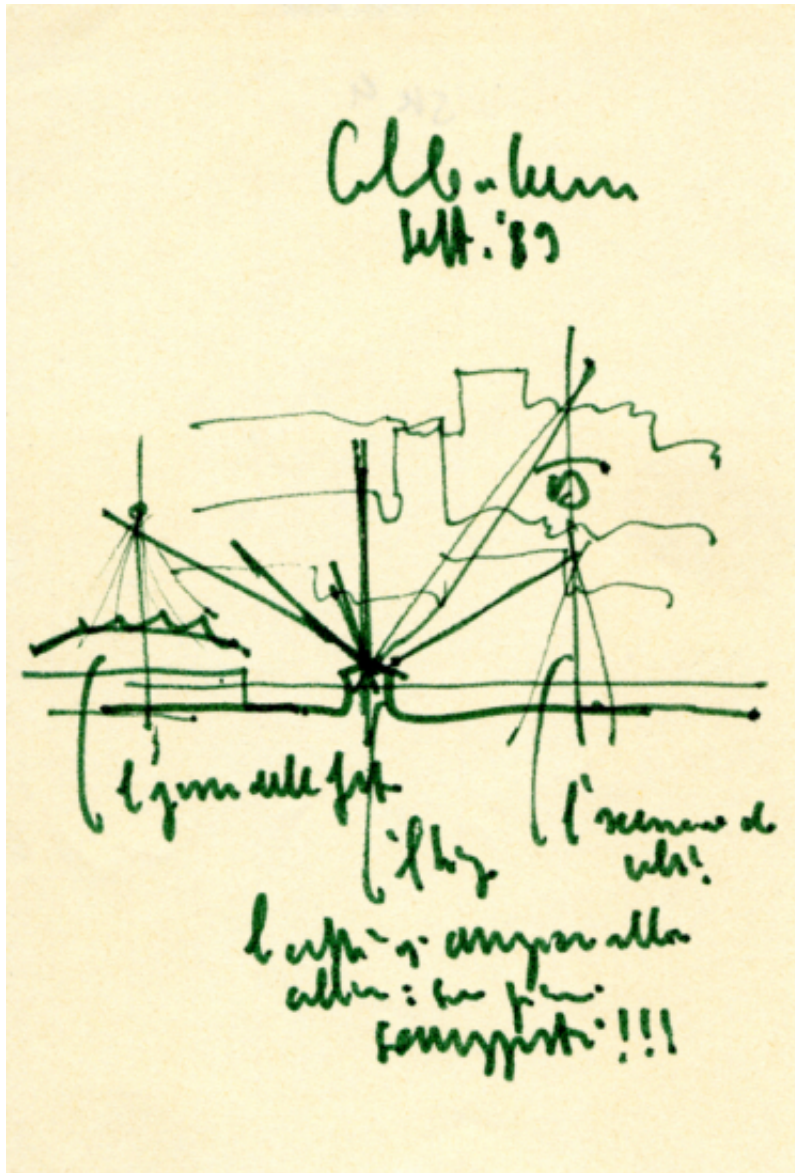
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Copyright Renzo Piano

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Subject	Site plan
Scale	-
Size	iso A3
Date	1986
Drawing number	-
Drawing code	Col-rp_005
Author	Renzo Piano
Copyright	Renzo Piano



Subject	Sketch study of the Bogo
Scale	-
Size	10 x 15 cm
Date	1989
Drawing number	-
Drawing code	Col-rp_027



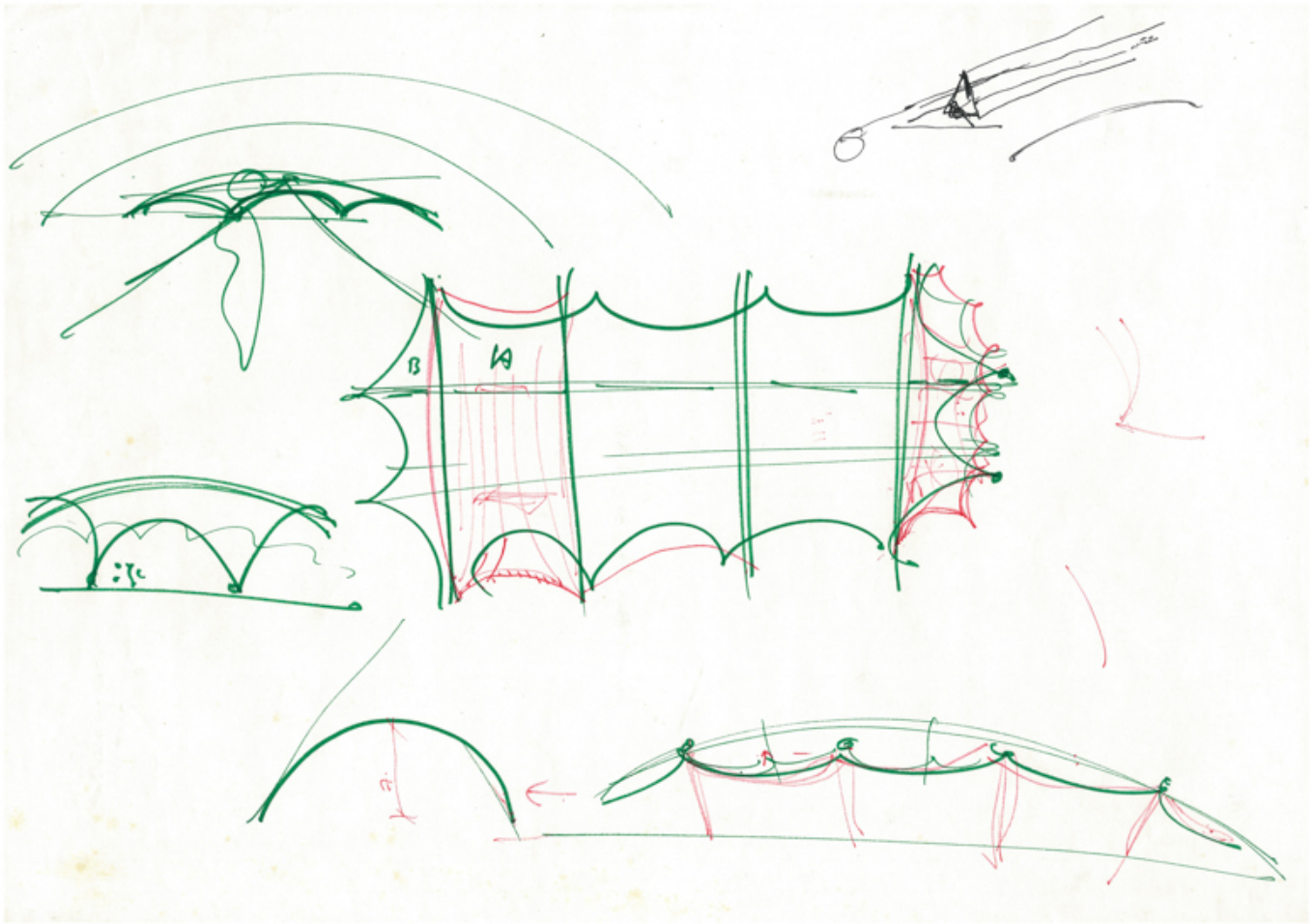
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Author	Renzo Piano
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Copyright	Renzo Piano
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Subject	Sketch study of the Piazzale delle Feste
Scale	-
Size	iso A3
Date	1989/12
Drawing number	-
Drawing code	Col-rp_088
Author	Renzo Piano
Copyright	Renzo Piano



Subject	Sketch study - pedestrian connections
Scale	-
Size	84 x 59 cm
Date	1986/05
Drawing number	-
Drawing code	Col-rp_118



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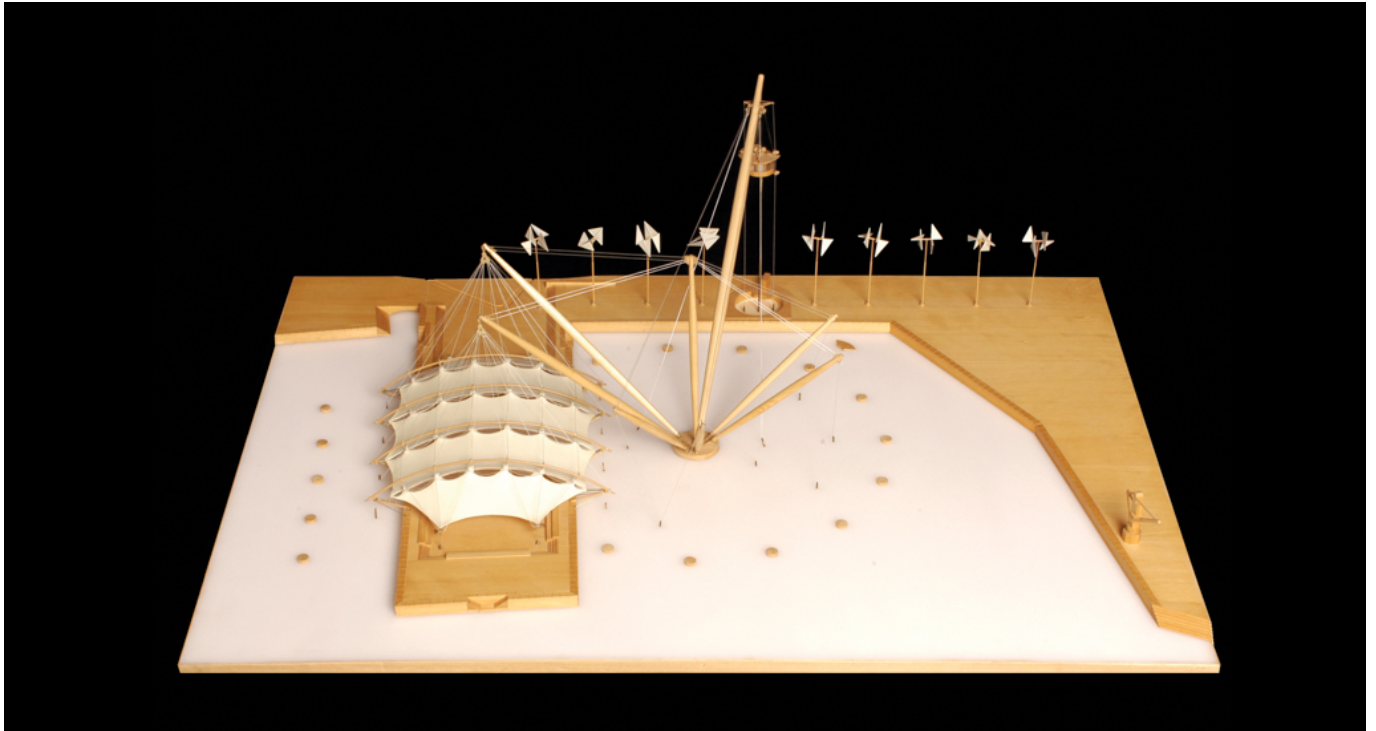
Author	Renzo Piano
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Copyright	Renzo Piano
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## Modelli

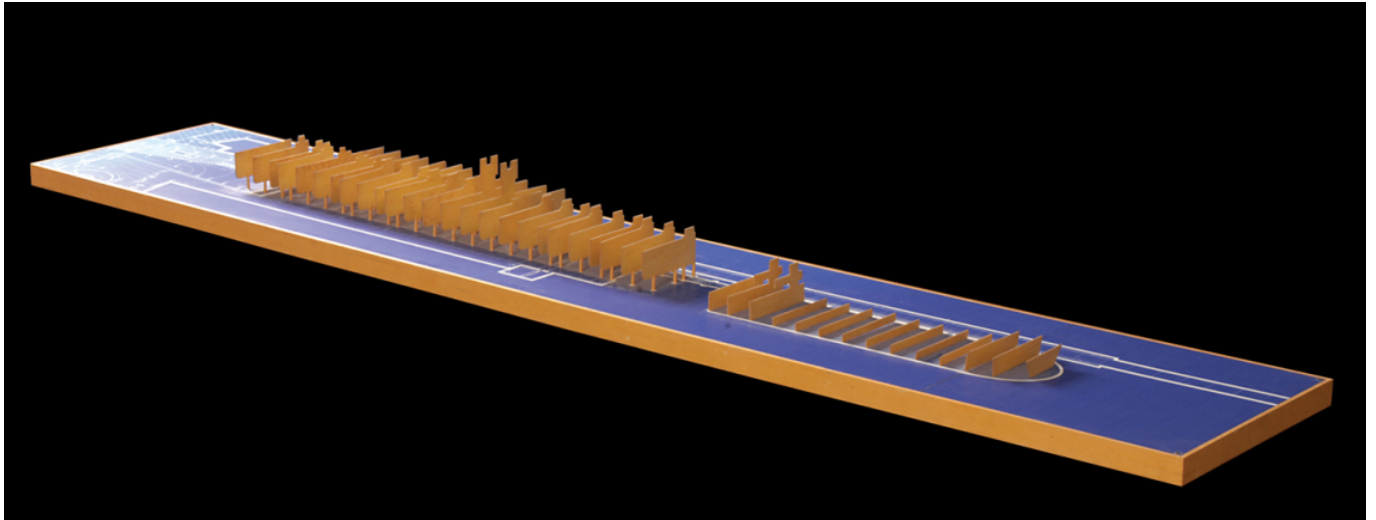


Title	General model - Bigo and Piazza delle Feste
Date	1992
Model Code	COL_MD_001
Scale	1:50
Model Author	Renzo Piano Building Workshop



Title	Masterplan - As Built
Date	1992
Model Code	COL_MD_002
Scale	1:2000
Model Author	Renzo Piano Building Workshop





Title	Aquarium and Nave Italia: geometry study
Date	1997
Model Code	COL_MD_004
Scale	1:200
Model Author	Renzo Piano Building Workshop



Title	Masterplan - Early 1988
Date	1988/03
Model Code	COL_MD_012
Scale	-
Model Author	Renzo Piano Building Workshop

