



A Home to the World

The United Nations and New York City

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Pentagram

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- Tells the story of the special relationship between the UN and New York City through the interrelated lenses of architecture, real estate, and urban planning
- Features rare archival photographs and architectural drawings, as well as newly commissioned photographs
- Includes written contributions from UN-affiliated individuals of note, including current and former UN secretaries-general, ambassadors to the UN, mayors, governors, historians, architecture critics, and other luminaries

Coinciding with the 75th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations charter, this visually driven book tells the story of the special relationship between the UN and New York City through the interrelated lenses of architecture, real estate, and urban planning. It is fully illustrated with rare archival photographs and architectural drawings, as well as newly commissioned photographs. The book also includes written contributions from UN-affiliated individuals of note, including current and former UN secretaries-general, ambassadors to the UN, mayors, governors, historians, architecture critics, and other luminaries.

The book begins by chronicling how New York came to be the permanent home of the UN, including the individuals, institutions, and other forces that helped the city secure the headquarters of the UN – among them the Rockefeller family, William Zeckendorf, and Robert Moses. The book then presents the architectural and urban design journey to create the iconic UN campus by a global team of architectural giants such as Wallace K. Harrison, Le Corbusier, and Oscar Niemeyer, with archival photos and architectural drawings and renderings. It also charts how the real estate needs of the UN evolved over time, leading to the creation of the United Nations Development Corporation (UNDC) and its commissioning of three architecturally significant buildings at UN Plaza that have helped keep the UN in New York City. Also included are sections on the \$2 billion renovation and restoration of the UN campus and proposals past and present for additional architectural commissions. Additional sections document how New York City and the UN have helped shape each other over the years; and how both continue to change and evolve.

Unique for its architectural and urbanistic focus, **A Home to the World: The United Nations and New York City** celebrates this important global organisation's many accomplishments past, present, and future.

Raul Barreneche is a New York-based brand strategist and writer. A longtime journalist, Barreneche is former executive editor of *Architecture* and has written extensively for major publications including *Architectural Digest*, *Departures*, *ELLE Décor*, and the *New York Times*, and has authored 11 books on design for Rizzoli, Phaidon, and other imprints. He remains a contributing editor to *Interior Design*. Barreneche holds a professional architecture degree from Carnegie Mellon University. **Pentagram** is the world's largest independently owned design consultancy. For five decades, it has embraced the philosophy of design as a collaborative discipline, with a structure unique among design firms. The company is run by 25 partners, all practicing designers who are leaders in their individual fields. Working from offices in New York, London, Austin and Berlin, each partner manages his or her own team and projects. This approach enables them to retain the creative intensity that characterises the smallest - and best - design firms. They are the only major design studio where the owners of the business are the creators of the work and serve as the primary contact for every client.