



Architecture in a Rapidly Changing World

Ralph Johnson

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- Celebrates the legacy of contemporary architect Ralph Johnson, Firmwide Design Director at Perkins&Will, and provides comprehensive insight into his creative journey and architectural works
- An interview with Ned Cramer explores Johnson's design philosophy, and essays by Cramer and Thomas Fisher delve deeper into the architect's work
- Features several hundred pages of detailed study, full-colour photographs, sketches, illustrations, and plans
- Presented in a beautiful slipcover, this two-volume set will take pride of place on bookshelves. It sits comfortably in the heady realm of Images 21st Century Masters series, which celebrates international juggernauts in the fields of architecture and design

Contemporary architect Ralph Johnson is one of the most prolific and awarded American architects practicing today. As Firmwide Design Director at global architecture firm Perkins&Will, which he joined in 1976, Johnson's work has shaped communities and spanned continents—from Africa's tallest tower to Shanghai's landmark natural history museum. In 2015, Johnson was inducted into the National Academy of Design, and in 2022, AIA Chicago honoured him with a Lifetime Achievement Award, recognising his lasting impact on architecture and the built environment.

Architecture in a Rapidly Changing World is a comprehensive two-volume monograph celebrating Johnson's long-spanning career and his impressive portfolio of work, both built and unbuilt, since 1971. Taken together, the volumes explore how individual expression emerges within the context of a larger architectural practice. Volume 1: Creative Journey encapsulates his career from architecture school to the present. Volume 2: Recent Work explores his latest projects in more depth. While Johnson's approach has evolved over six decades of practice, his adherence to the core values of humanism, environmentalism, and modernism has never wavered.

Ralph Johnson's portfolio of award-winning work around the world has earned him a rightful place in the pantheon of modern architecture legends. For more than four decades, his buildings have transformed both place and community, inspiring a generation of architects to pursue beauty and high performance through meticulous study of site and form. Born and raised in Chicago, Johnson received his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and his Master of Architecture from Harvard University. In 1976, he joined Perkins&Will — now 2,700 people strong — where he is Firmwide Design Director. It is notable that Johnson developed his unique design voice at such a large global practice; his exposure from the earliest days of his career to diverse regions of the world — and to the broad variety of commissions that only a large firm can win — refined his contextual sensibility, a hallmark of his design approach. Johnson was elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects in 1995, and to the National Academy of Design in 2015. In 2022, AIA Chicago recognised Johnson with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contributions to the profession.

