JUNE 2010

PERSPECTIVE

HK\$35 US\$16.50



to Electrolux Asia-Pacific design director Pernilla Johansson, marvel at the new Shanghai International Cruise Terminal and chill out at Kamalaya in Koh Samui

We explore Light+Building Frankfurt 2010, talk



correct and magnificent, of forms assembled in the light" Le Corbusier

Shanghai's new international cruise terminal offers spectacular views of the Bund to the south and the skyscrapers of Pudong on the opposite side of the Huangpu River

TEXT: SUZANNE MIAO PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF SPARCH

n early 2004, Sparch was appointed to master plan the site for Shanghai's new International Cruise Terminal (SICT). This 800m-long riverfront site is located north of the historical Bund centre of the city, able to accommodate up to three 80,000-tonne cruise ships at any one time, with an expected passenger flow of more than 1.5 million people per year.

The Shanghai authorities, seeking to address the urgent requirement for 'breathing spaces', set down a target to free up 30 per cent of the municipality as open space for its citizens to enjoy, ahead of the Shanghai World Expo in 2010, the theme of which is 'Better City, Better Life'.

The SICT site forms part of this vision to create a green corridor along the Huangpu River, eventually extending as far south as the Expo site itself, between the Lu Pu and Nan Pu bridges.

The design of the SICT architecture considered the Herculean scale of the cruise ships that will dock alongside. The total construction area is 260,000 sq-m, but the brief required that 50 per cent of this be placed underground, including the cruise terminal passenger facilities (planned by Frank Repas Architects), thus freeing up most of the site as a green park terracing down to the water's edge.

Sparch's challenge was how to deal with the 'under world' as well as the architecture rising out of it. The solution was to create ambiguity as to where the ground plane is, by opening up a honeycomb of sunken courtyards. The buildings appear to disappear into these sculpted holes, providing abundant opportunities to explore connections between the ground and 'lower ground' levels.

"The lower level does not feel like a basement, since every part has a direct line of sight to a green sunken garden, flooding the interiors with natural daylight," explains Sparch design director John Curran.

Below Different levels to accommodate restaurants and bars can clearly be seen during the construction phase of the 'chandelier' Right The standing crystal waves wrap over the buildings as a second skin that protects the commercial office space





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The concept also explored the idea of ripples in the landscape being amplified into standing crystal waves that wrap over the buildings. This augmented over time into a second skin that protects the commercial office spaces from their due south orientation, and is populated with semi-outdoor balcony spaces overlooking the Huangpu River.

The riverfront faces the city, and illuminates at night into a herringbone array of curved masts that tie the pavilion buildings together. A gap appears in the middle – a glazed table top supports amorphous pods on cables. One, two and four-storey pods contain cafes, bars and restaurants, hovering over a public performance space below.

According to Curran, among the key objectives agreed on with the client was to put in place a striking icon on the bank of the river that would symbolise Shanghai's innovation, creativity and energy.

"We call this icon the 'Shanghai Chandelier'," he says. "It's located above a future vehicle tunnel that will pass underneath the site and the Huangpu River, to connect to Pudong on the other side. In this location, it would not have been possible to construct a conventional building, and required an innovative design and engineering solution."

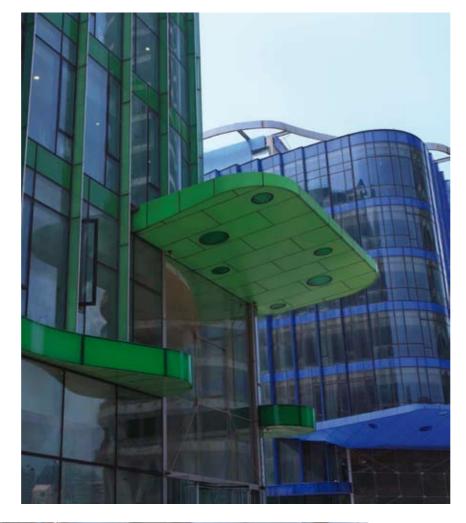
Thus, from this site constraint came the opportunity to create a floating architecture. "In Europe, we have made projects where sculptural objects appear to float on legs," explains Curran. "But in Shanghai, we had the opportunity to push the boundaries further, and suspend the architecture on a web of cables. This structure bridges over the tunnel and suspends a number of cafes, restaurants and bars beneath it. This is the first suspended cable construction of its type in the world.

"Since the structure does not come down to the ground in the middle, it creates a sheltered space for public performances, festivals and other events - like a dramatic stage."

The client supported Sparch's proposal to create high quality public spaces that offer new experiences. Thus, visitors can rise up through a climbing frame of activities, passing through a series of 'egg' forms, to experience the views of Shanghai in a totally new way.

Sparch worked closely with engineers Arup Hong Kong and RFR Paris to figure out how to suspend the 'eggs' - the largest of which weighs 750 metric tonnes - on a web of cables. The design needed to be totally safe, to resist storm force winds and seismic forces, while retaining its delicate, light sculptural aesthetics.

"These eggs we compare to the Fabergé eggs, made by the famous Russian Fabergé family in the late 19th and early 20th century," Curran says. "We see the Shanghai Chandelier as our Expo pavilion that escaped to the Bund."







Above from left Artist's impression of the 'Shanghai Chandelier' — inspired by Fabergé eggs, the suspended pods contain dining facilities while providing an open performance and leisure space beneath • With 50 per cent of the structure having to be placed below ground level, buildings appear to rise out of a honeycomb of sunken courtyards Left Colours highlight the semi-outdoor balconies and create visual interest

Environmental innovation 綠色港口

All six office pavilions contain ventilated atria, topped with louvred skylights. Air circulates through the facades across the office spaces towards the central atrium, where it exhausts at the top. Pixelated window openings across the office façades provide local comfort cooling.

Large doors open onto balconies along the south side, within a double-skin façade, overlooking the Huang Pu River. This façade prevents UV heat from entering the buildings in the summer, and acts as an insulating blanket during the winter.

Arup Engineers designed a river water cooling system – a first in Shanghai for a commercial application - which draws water from the Huang Pu River and combines it, via heat exchangers, with the HVAC system. This system will greatly reduce the energy consumption of the buildings during the summer months.

The canopies hovering above the office pavilion roofs will be carpeted in a photovoltaic membrane, sized to offset the energy requirement of lighting the landscape and public spaces in the evenings.

項目的六座辦公大樓均設有通風天井及玻璃屋頂。新鮮空氣穿過大樓外牆進入 室內空間,經過中央天井從屋頂離開。外牆窗戶密密麻麻的,交流通風製造涼 快的效果

座落南邊的大樓採用雙層外牆設計,廣闊的露台大門遠眺黃浦江景觀。特 別設計的外牆使室內冬暖夏涼,夏天時能抵抗紫外光入侵,冬天時則發揮保暖 儲熱的效果

奥雅納(香港)工程公司設計了河水冷凍系統,是上海首次將這技術應用 於商業項目,從黃浦江抽取河水,配合換熱器及HVAC系統。在夏天,這系統 能大大減少建築物的能源耗量

此外,覆蓋辦公大樓樓頂的天幕裝有太陽能光板,可發電供應晚上街道及 公共空間照明之用

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