

# Cool Spaces!

The Best of New Architecture  
in North America

with Stephen Chung, Architect



An exploration of the  
most provocative  
public space design  
and architecture  
from the 21st  
century.



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# COOL SPACES!

## Show 1 LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

**Rose Center for Earth and Space**  
designed by  
James Stewart Polshek  
New York, NY

**California Academy of Sciences**  
San Francisco, CA  
designed by  
Renzo Piano  
Genoa, Italy

## Show 2 ON CAMPUS

**Sharp Centre for Design**  
Toronto, Canada  
designed by  
Will Alsop  
London, England

**Wang Campus Center**  
Wellesley, MA  
designed by  
Mac Scogin and Merrill Elam  
Atlanta, GA



## Show 3 PERFORMANCE & ENTERTAINMENT

**Experience Music Project**  
Seattle, WA  
designed by  
Frank O. Gehry  
Los Angeles, CA

**Street of the Arts  
Lincoln Center**  
New York, NY  
designed by  
Diller + Scofidio + Renfro  
New York, NY

**Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts**  
Philadelphia, PA  
designed by  
Rafael Vinoly  
New York, NY

## Show 4 SACRED SPACES

**Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels**  
Los Angeles, CA  
designed by  
Jose Rafael Moneo  
Madrid, Spain & Cambridge, MA

**The Cathedral of Christ the Light**  
Oakland, CA  
designed by  
Skidmore, Owings & Merrill  
San Francisco, CA

## Show 5 SPACES FOR ART

**Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)**  
Toronto, Canada  
designed by  
Daniel Libeskind  
New York, NY

**Contemporary Arts Center (CAC)**  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
designed by  
Zaha Hadid  
London, England

## Show 6 LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

**Connecticut Science Center**  
Hartford, CT  
designed by  
Cesar Pelli  
New Haven, CT

**Canadian War Museum**  
Ottawa, Canada  
designed by  
Raymond Moriyama & Ted Teshima  
Toronto, Canada  
Griffith Rankin Cook  
Ottawa, Canada



## Show 7 SPACES FOR ART

**Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA)**  
Boston, MA  
designed by  
Diller + Scofidio + Renfro  
New York, NY

**de Young Museum**  
San Francisco, CA  
designed by  
Herzog & de Meuron  
Basel, Switzerland

**Frederic C. Hamilton Building  
Denver Art Museum**  
Denver, CO  
designed by  
Daniel Libeskind  
New York, NY



## COOL SPACES!

*Cool Spaces!* is a dynamic 13-part series that brings alive some of the most provocative and bold architecture of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Hosted by architect Stephen Chung, each half hour show focuses on two or three public spaces across the US and Canada, conceived by daring architects who push the boundaries of contemporary architectural design, materials and process. Produced for Public Television, *Cool Spaces!* offers viewers an experience of these public spaces as never before.

Whether viewers see a scratchy drawing on a napkin corner; a sloppy sculpture of paper, clay and cardboard; or a magnificent watercolor, *Cool Spaces!* takes viewers behind the scenes – not merely in the physical sense, but right into the architect's mind and creative process before one wall was built. But, *Cool Spaces!* doesn't stop there. Each unfolding architectural story proceeds like the best mystery told through a tapestry of voices – parents and children, artists, students and professors, musicians, tourists, sports fans – all the people who use and give meaning to these structures daily.

*Cool Spaces!* is unlike any other reality show or documentary series about architecture. All of these amazing spaces – for art, for learning, for entertainment, for sports, for worship, and more - are open to the public. Each show encourages viewers to visit them and experience the wonder for themselves. Imagine being in town and wanting to see one of the *Cool Spaces!*. No problem. The *Cool Spaces!* Finder, a GPS app for smart phones will be one of the many online components making this show available to the public 24/7. Viewers can suggest and upload video of their own *Cool Spaces!* on the viewer blog, and follow the travels of the host, Stephen Chung, on Twitter as he shares his insights in real time on new *Cool Spaces!* in the news. *Cool Spaces!* also offers an educational component to generate more buzz about the series in colleges and universities and provide innovative resources for teachers at all levels of education.

*Cool Spaces!* with Stephen Chung does for bold 21<sup>st</sup> century architecture what Julia Child did for French Cooking. Viewers will never walk into a building the same again.



*Maria Pasher, lives across the street:*

*I totally love having this as part of my neighborhood. It's so cool looking. They even shot some of "Spider Man" and "Men In Black" here – Bruce Springsteen surprised us with a concert on the museum's terrace – and I get to visit another galaxy whenever I want. And I don't mean the Lower East Side either.*



## Rose Center for Earth and Space New York, NY

designed by  
**James Stewart Polshek**  
New York, NY

As part of the American Museum of Natural History, this building is an expression of pure geometries: a perfect 87-foot diameter sphere sitting inside of a glass cube comprised of 736 individual panes of glass. Polshek describes the design concept as a "cosmic cathedral," hoping to inspire awe and wonder in visitors as they discover the magic of the galaxies and the power of scientific inquiry. With the Big Bang Theater and the Space Theater, this design takes visitors to infinity and beyond like never before. Standing close the building feels like you are standing right next to a planet!





## Wang Campus Center Wellesley, MA

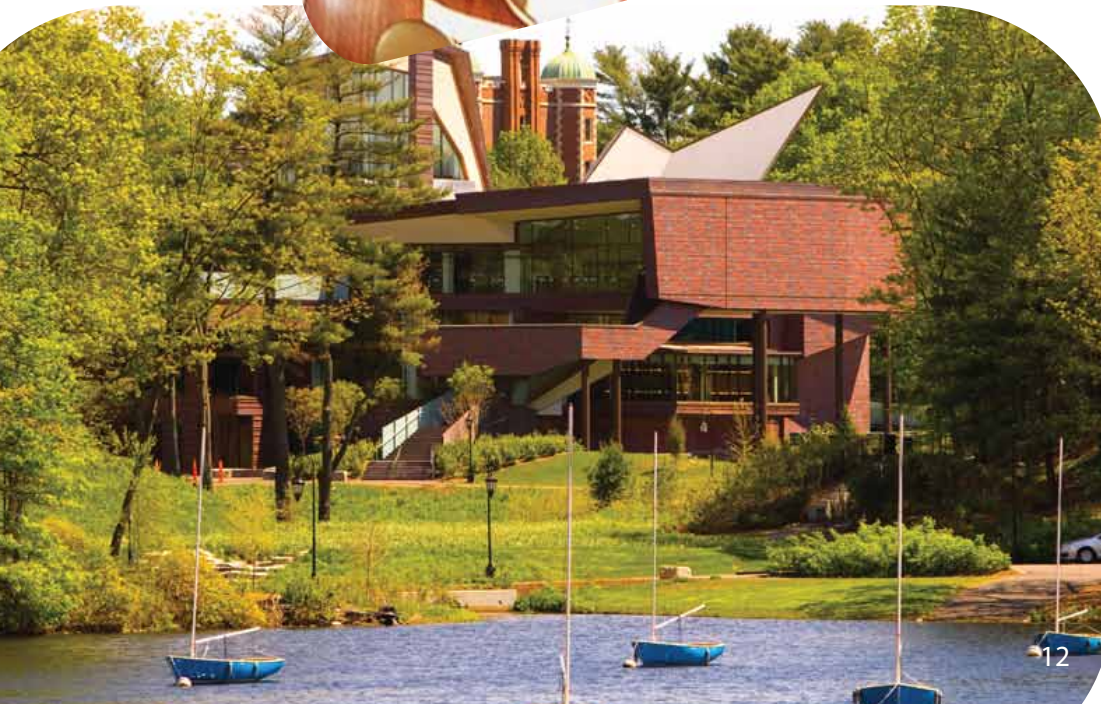
designed by  
**Mac Scogin and  
Merrill Elam**  
Atlanta, GA

*Allison Ranch, senior at  
Wellesley:*

*You know, if this bench  
hadn't been sticking out in  
the hall this much, I may  
never have met my fiancé.  
And at an all girl's school,  
that's quite an achieve-  
ment!*



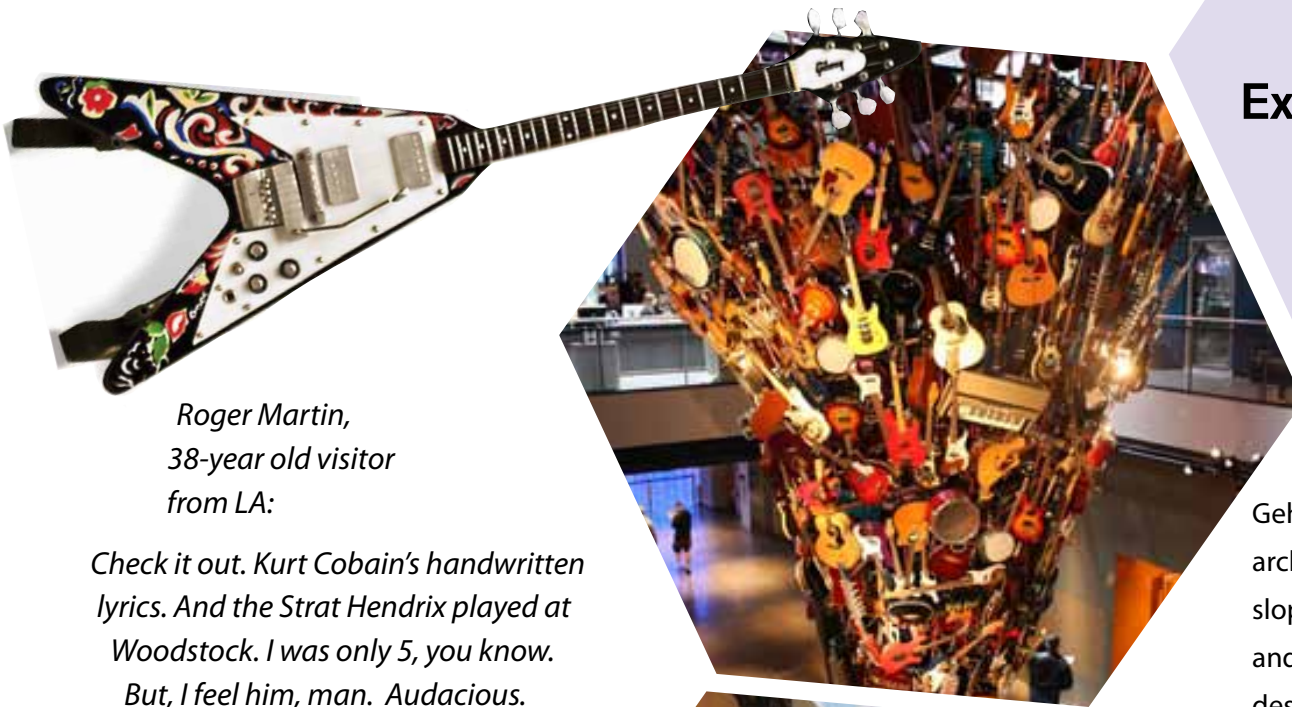
This husband-wife team created a dynamic assemblage that swirls around a dramatic light well, a bold step for the more traditional Wellesley College. The forms of the new roof seem to talk to the pitched roofs of the older buildings. Inside, little enclosures and connections, both horizontally and vertically, promote student, faculty, staff and guest interactions like a veritable beehive! Eating, drinking, meeting, studying and relaxing – campus life at its best!





## Experience Music Project Seattle, WA

designed by  
**Frank O. Gehry**  
Los Angeles, CA



*Roger Martin,  
38-year old visitor  
from LA:*

*Check it out. Kurt Cobain's handwritten  
lyrics. And the Strat Hendrix played at  
Woodstock. I was only 5, you know.  
But, I feel him, man. Audacious.  
And check out this building. What?  
Is it from the Early Bulbous period  
or something? It's cool.  
It's really cool.*



Gehry, known for creating the most sculptural architecture on the planet, begins with huge sloppy models made of paper, wood, cardboard and a computer program usually used to design ships and airplanes. One result? The EMP, where exhibits and public programs are envisioned as a three-dimensional floating puzzle formed by six elements, with each piece being critical to the shape and the nature of the whole. The Sky Church (a concept inspired by Jimi Hendrix), the Sound Lab, The Artist's Journey, The Electric Library and the Ed. House embody the rhythms, the energy, and the movement of music itself. The fragmented and undulating forms of the structure are even inspired in part by the image of a shattered Fender Stratocaster. Visitors describe it as a 'swoopy' experience, and have been heard to use such intellectual phrases as 'Wow!' and 'OMG! What is that!?!' The imagination of the architect has inspired people to let go and enjoy! What better?

Bob Hall, Oakland resident:

*Listen. Since graduating from Catholic school about 20 years ago, I haven't made it my business to go to church. But something told me to check this out. I walked in and my jaw dropped. This is quite possibly the most amazing architecture in the entire Bay Area except for the Golden Gate Bridge. I was blown away by the fish-shaped sanctuary, the amazing vaulted ceiling that reaches right up to you-know-where, and the "digital Jesus." No kidding. This is a place to behold. Brings me to me knees. Did I mention the cushy pews? Great pews.*

## The Cathedral of Christ the Light Oakland, CA

designed by  
**Skidmore, Owings  
& Merrill**  
San Francisco, CA

The design of this structure stays true to its name – the interior of the cathedral is designed so that natural light pours in from above, flooding the interior and providing a peaceful sanctuary in a most kinetic, ever-changing, multi-cultural urban area. "Through its poetic introduction, indirect daylight ennobles modest materials – primarily wood, glass and concrete...to create an extraordinary level of luminosity." The cathedral not only honors its 2,000-year old sacred traditions, it embraces current green sensibilities as well – from an ancient Roman technique of thermal inertia to maintain the interior climate, to highly innovative use of renewable materials. We experience the sacred while all the time sustaining and nurturing the present and the future. It's built to withstand another 1,000-year earthquake. It would be a good place to be should one happen.



*Sarah Kingston, visitor from the UK:  
Loved the dinosaurs, the Egyptian mummy  
cases, the totem poles. We don't have those you  
know. And the Dead Sea Scrolls were just  
amazing.*

*Jodi, her 7 year old:  
And I loved the bees and  
the bat cave!*

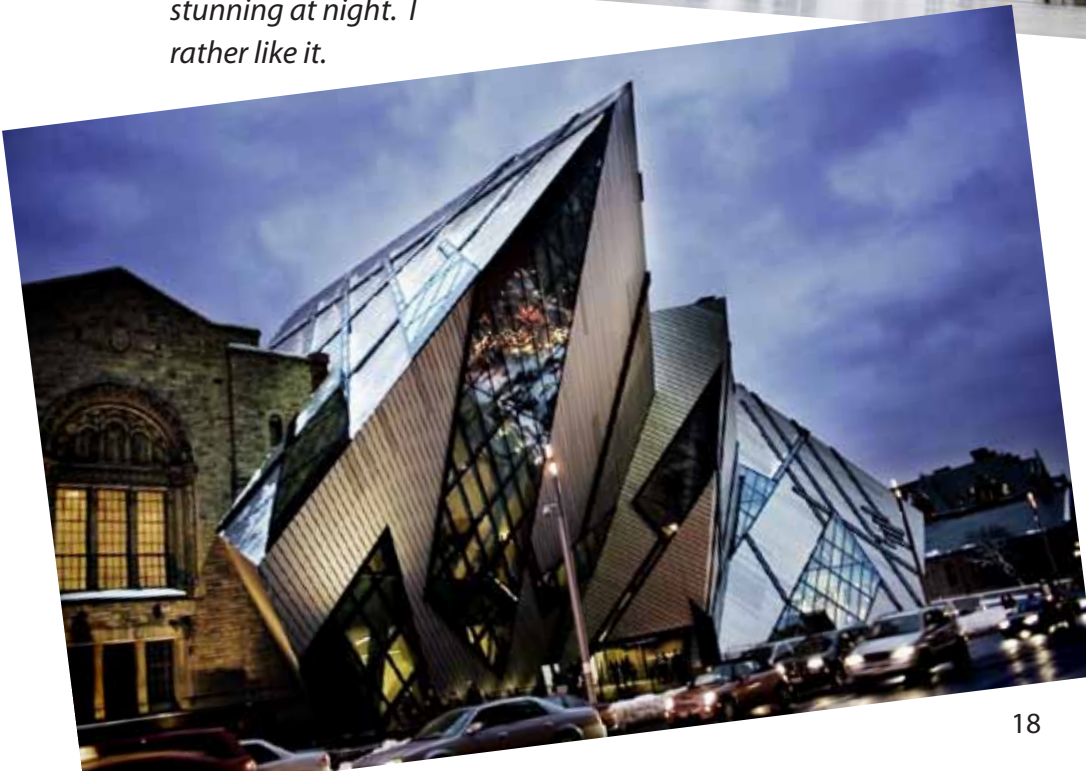
*Sarah:  
Yes, where else can you  
see bees at work, right? I  
also think this building is  
quite something. We  
have nothing like this  
back home either. It is a  
bit odd – this crystal  
motif. But it looks  
stunning at night. I  
rather like it.*



**Royal Ontario Museum (ROM)**  
Toronto, Canada  
designed by  
**Daniel Libeskind**  
New York, NY

This building's utterly unique, five intersecting volumes shaped like crystals, "transforms the character of ROM into an inspired atmosphere dedicated to the resurgence of the Museum as the dynamic center of Toronto." The intersection of two of these crystals creates a void known as Spirit House – a place for visitors to reflect on the exhibits they've seen before moving on to the next. The fourth crystal is known as the Stair of

Wonders and features exhibitions at the landings; the fifth crystal cantilevers over the existing west wing and provides panoramic views of downtown. Always, Libeskind's main consideration is how visitors will best experience and use the space. Intersecting spaces of the crystals offer views into galleries and other museum spaces. Windows that comprise about twenty percent of the building's façade provide views out of the building as well as into the galleries, thereby furthering the link between the Museum and passers-by. This structure is a world-class expression of the dynamic relationship between tradition and innovation, and turns Toronto into a world-class destination.





Anne Langford, Hartford resident and her sons, Kevin, age 11 and his brother, Jacob, age 8:

Kevin: I really liked the robots. That was cool. And feeling sound. I liked that too.

Jacob: I flew over Mars and then flew over the whole galaxy. I want to be an astronaut when I grow up.

Anne: I just loved looking out over the water. The River is just so gorgeous. And this place really shows it off. I think the River's happy too.



## Connecticut Science Center

Hartford, CT

designed by

**Cesar Pelli**

New Haven, CT

The question Pelli asks to judge the success of his work is a variation of one our parents would ask us: have you left a place better than when you found it? Pelli asks: Does this building make the place better by being there? In the case of the Hartford Science Center, the answer is a resounding YES! Hartford was a veritable ghost town on weekends and everyone bore the brunt of that. This Science Center has helped to activate and reinvigorate the city. Its design energizes kids and engages adults – even making them feel like big kids. And from the inside, the Science Center constantly and visually refers back to Hartford. In all the exhibit spaces, you can walk up to floor-to-ceiling windows and look over the Connecticut River, the Convention Center or Constitution Plaza. In fact, on the sixth floor, a small cube of space actually allows you to float above the city and the river! In addition to this innovative and humanistic design, the Center has been given a gold LEED rating for its use of numerous, cutting-edge, sustainable strategies. About 95% of the steel used in the building comes from recycled cars. At night, the Science Center glows with excitement. It helps visitors remember why there's a city here to begin with – and certainly makes Hartford a better place to be.

*Martha Beckson, Denver Resident:*

*I'm an art nut. So, I've been to the Guggenheim, the Met, like that. But Denver tops the list for me. I love that I can see paintings and also videos, and other modern stuff. I can bring my kid sometimes and she can do crafty things. And then this building is really cool. It's like a maze inside, which some people might not like, but I love it. I get to feel that "lost in a museum" feeling – and any turn can be a surprise.*



## Frederic C. Hamilton Building Denver Art Museum

Denver, CO

designed by

**Daniel Libeskind**

New York, NY

In the words of the architect, this museum is designed "as part of a composition of public spaces, monuments and gateways in this developing part of the city, contributing to the synergy amongst neighbors large and intimate. "With huge geometric shards of glass, Colorado granite and titanium that reflect the nearby Rocky Mountain peaks and rock crystals, this expansion certainly feels right at home.

Everything seems to reach for the mountains. A Sky Bridge that looks like a glass walkway right over the street links the new building with the old. In addition to gallery space, special exhibition venues, a theater and restaurant, this design offers a rooftop sculpture garden with spectacular mountain views. A soaring lobby space with a glass ceiling is the heart of the building. This museum is designed with a sense of place that is respectful, in fact celebratory, of the real mountains and granite it echoes. And everyone who visits can't miss that Rocky Mountain high.







## The Idea Factory

The Idea Factory is one of Northern California's leading producers of non-fiction television. For over 10 years they have produced nearly 100 hours of network programming and have over 60 years of combined television experience. Their award-winning team of experienced storytellers is dedicated to ideas and attitude. High production value... imagination... innovation... The Idea Factory produces programs that work, and to which viewers respond.

The Idea Factory has a full-time staff of producers, directors, writers, editors, and administrators. Since 1998 partners Bill Swan and Peter Holmes have created programming across a variety of genres, from science, health, and sports, to design and reality. Some of the Idea Factory's clients include HGTV, Food Network.com, DIY, Fine Living, Discovery Health, and GAC.



## Bill Swan Partner, Executive Producer

Bill Swan is a two-time Emmy award winning director who began his career in 1983 at KQED in San Francisco. Over the course of 10 years he edited, produced and directed a wide variety of award-winning studio programs and documentaries. During this time he also freelanced as technical director for hundreds of network sports broadcasts, including the Seoul Olympic Games in 1988.

In 1994, he joined KCRA in Sacramento, California. While there, he directed and edited special projects and award-winning image campaigns. It was here that he met his future business partner, Peter Holmes.

In 1996, he began directing "The Big Spin", a weekly game show produced for the California Lottery, along with live programming for the Sacramento Kings of the NBA.

In 1998, he and his business partner created The Idea Factory. Since then, they have gone on to produce hundreds of programs for HGTV, Discovery, FLN, and DIY. In addition, they were one of the first production companies to produce broadband content for major network websites. Bill has overseen the delivery of over 200 programs and broadband projects as part of The Idea Factory.

# Find Cool Spaces! Online

## Online Only Features

- Archived shows for additional viewings.
- Additional video interviews with the architects and the huge team it takes to bring these amazing designs into reality:
  - the entire design team
  - structural engineers
  - mechanical engineers
  - geotechnical engineers
  - electrical engineers
  - acoustic designers
  - theater consultants
  - lighting designers
  - landscape architects
  - interior designers
  - general contractors
  - and the clients!
- Additional architectural collateral for each building design so viewers can experience even more in-depth understanding of the design process with concept sketches, process drawings, finished renderings, plans/cross-sections, physical models, elevations, computer models, photo-realistic computer animations and more.
- Interactive windows challenge the viewers to choose their own design solutions to architectural challenges that occurred along the way in these projects.

### The Cool Spaces! Blog

- Personal stories and pictures from people who have visited *Cool Spaces!* and have stories to tell and opinions to share.
- *Cool Spaces!* Video blog where visitors post their own videos of their favorite places.

### Viewers Vote

- Viewers submit new *Cool Spaces!* they think should be featured in future episodes.
- Viewers vote for their Top 5 *Cool Spaces!* for a special "Best Of" episode.

## Podcast Audio Tours

- Select locations feature downloadable Podcast audio tours of each site.
- Each sponsor's logo is displayed on the phone, computer, or iPod screen when engaged, with live links to the sponsor's web site.

## iPhone Applications

### Cool Spaces! Finder

A GPS-based app checks viewers' positions and suggests *Cool Spaces!* they could visit immediately. These *Cool Spaces!* would feature buildings from Season One, as well as buildings planned for future seasons from around the world.

### Local Cool Spaces!

Offers suggestions of local *Cool Spaces!* for visitors to experience, with recommendations on the coolest restaurants, coolest bars, coolest places to shop, coolest places to hear music and be seen.

### Walking Tours

Links to audio downloads of walking tours of *Cool Spaces!* buildings and the surrounding neighborhood.

