
FIRM PROFILE

Moshe Safdie first established his architectural practice in 1964 in Montreal to design and supervise the construction of Habitat '67. Today the principal office is in Boston, Massachusetts with branch offices in Jerusalem, Toronto, and Singapore. The international practice provides a full range of urban planning and architectural services, as well as interior design. Currently, the practice is engaged in activities ranging from the design of public institutions - including museums, performing arts centers, libraries, and university campuses - to the design of airports, housing, mixed-use complexes, and new communities.

All of the projects that Moshe Safdie and Associates are engaged in are designed personally by Moshe Safdie, who is supported by a team of senior members of the firm who have extensive experience and skills in the design of complex buildings, employing superior technical and management skills in the execution of our projects. The team effectively utilizes the extensive resources of the firm - employing computer/software with physical models and talented human skills to achieve significant work of architecture. We work in an engaging style developing the design through an iterative process, testing program and design ideas to facilitate and understand the appropriate design through collaborating with the client and consultants.

We strive to create buildings that are unified expressions of their technology and construction materials as well as their settings and purpose. We believe that the qualities of rich and textured detail we associate with architecture of the past can develop today from careful, innovative methods of construction; and that the greatest ornament in architecture depends upon an appreciation of its making - whether by hand or the machine. To foster development of new ideas in a research capacity - the firm sponsors a fellowship program which seeks to explore new ideas outside the context of a specific project.

We have had the opportunity to work for a wide variety of clients on diverse projects. We have worked with municipal clients, including the clients for the Ottawa City Hall, Salt Lake City Public Library, Vancouver Library Square, and the Free Library of Philadelphia. Other government entities include the clients for the Springfield and Mobile Courthouses, the Alcohol Tobacco & Firearms Headquarters Building, the United States Institute of Peace Headquarters in Washington DC, and the Eleanor Roosevelt College at the University of California, San Diego. For the Cambridge Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts, our client was a private developer, Boston Properties. Clients that are not-for-profit and civic organizations, include the Boston Museum, the Peabody Essex Museum, the Skirball Cultural Center, the National Gallery of Canada, the Exploration Place Science Center and Children's Museum and the Telfair Museum of Art.

Projects currently under construction include the United States Institute of Peace Headquarters in Washington, D.C, New City of Modi'in, Israel; the Khalsa/National Museum of the Sikhs, Anandpur Sahib, Punjab, India; the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Kansas City, Missouri; the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas; the National Campus for Archeology of Israel in Jerusalem; and Marina Bay Sands, an integrated resort in Singapore.

The firm has won numerous awards for its designs, including the Governor General's Medal for Architecture of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (1992) and the Prix d'Excellence en Architecture by the Ordre des Architectes du Québec (1988) for the Québec Museum of Civilization; the Rechter Prize of the Association of Architects and City Planners of Israel (1982) for the Hosh Complex; the Urban Design Concept Award by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (1980) for Coldspring New Town; and the Massey Medal of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (1967) for Habitat '67.