

Stephen Yas AIA, RIBA, NCARB

Managing Director - USA/ Global Design Leader



Stephen Yas' internationally recognized designs harness context, culture and the citizen's emotional response to physical space to cultivate a legibility of space that inspire individual and community collective experiences.

Stephen presented at the **AIA National Convention in Denver 2001 "The Quality of Life and The Willow Springs Village Center", Illinois, USA.** Where he designed an ensemble of buildings to create inspiring architectural spaces that activate shared community values and engage the citizens in an inclusive society.

CULTURE

Stephen's creations are a story of place. An engagement of people and culture. The **UBTECH Robotics Headquarters, Shenzhen, China** is the embodiment of the China story which is the seminal inspiration for the office tower of the future. A neighborhood in the sky. The 3000 year old story of the 8 immortals (Laotian). Each of which had their own identity and expertise in Chinese culture as philosopher, artist, writer, martial artist, etc. The office building is innovative spatially for health and wellness for the UBTECH staff. There are 8 exterior skygardens within the perimeter mega frame steel structure. Each skygardens is themed for one of the immortals. The 212 meter tower rests on 4 corner columns. The lobby is on the third floor. This creates an 11 meter high community robotics plaza and experience center on the ground as an entry gate to the Artificial Intelligence Technology District.

Vernon Hills, Illinois started as a farming community. Stephen designed the **Vernon Hills Village Hall** to be a symbol of both the communities past and future. The office portion is created as a modern interpretation of a barn structure with a base

of rusticated Lannon stone and the upper walls of wood siding. The Council chamber relates to the desire of the elected officials who are reaching for the future and are a beacon of light for the community.

Before there is a concept, there must be a spirit. Stephen's designs endeavor to find that spirit by creating inspiring, unique and uplifting environments that relate to the values of the individual and the community therein.

ARCHITECTURAL PSYCHOLOGY

Stephen's creations embody the principles of people's emotional response to physical space, sequential movement and part of the process, part of the product.

In the design of the **King Abdul Aziz University, Makkah, KSA** and the **Paris, Illinois EDPLEX** Stephen's passion for guiding the students in an inspiring journey to/from and within the classroom and residences creates an innovative educational experience. The height to width proportions of spaces, framed vistas and the sequential movement system were paramount to the legibility and spirit spatially which created social change at the foundation of the educational process.

Stephen's design methodology for the **Devonshire Elementary School, Des Plaines, Illinois, USA** One of the first high technology and computer instructed elementary

schools in the country. He interviewed students and teachers to engage them in forward thinking educational philosophy, values and instructional process while in the data/research phase of design created an inspirational, innovative and community based design. This design was successful in exploring of the creative learning process for our nation's youth and development of their social behavior patterns.

In the **2100 Greenwood** residential loft project adjacent to Evanston Township High School, Illinois, USA. Stephen taught an architecture class to aspiring minority students using the project as a case study to teach the design process. Classes were taught in project building. A design competition was held with the students. Stephen later assisted the students in preparing a portfolio of their classroom work. The portfolio was used to apply to architectural schools. Stephen inspired the students with his passion to reach for goal beyond their expectations. These were students who could not afford to attend college. The results were that the senior students got full scholarships to **Illinois Institute of Technology** and the **University of Illinois** to study in their Schools of Architecture.

Stephen is a change agent. His work and design process inspires and uplifts the consciousness of the individual and the community to pursue a greater good for a positive social impact and equitable change in the world.

CONTEXT

Stephen's design principles are applied to place making in a site specific location. A building or ensemble of buildings. Where the building facades are stage set walls to enclose a gathering, celebration or intimate contemplative space. As in the design for the **King Abdul Aziz University, Makkah, KSA** or the **New West Hangzhou Central Business District (European Financial Center)** in China.

Stephen's designs engage the community in a participatory process. In his design of the **Vernon Hills Village Hall, Illinois USA** where 200 citizens together with the local cable TV station televised a community "listening session" which he led in the data/research collection phase of the project. In this way an all inclusive dialogue was created with the village people without preconceived notions prior to concept phase. The result their village hall was of the people. In principle, Stephen creates buildings which grow out of the earth and place, not falling from the sky into an unsuspecting context.

UBTECH Headquarters

SHENZHEN, CHINA

Area: 71,360 m²
Type: Architecture & Urban Design
Mixed-use, Retail, Office



YAS



Health + Wellness Village

Zabrid, Ukraine

Size: 77,800 sq meters (837,432 sq feet)
 Type: Urban Design Master Plan + Architecture
 Use: Wellness Village, Rehabilitation Clinic, Hotel, Residential, Olympic Stadium, Retail, Orphanage, Animal Shelter, Health and Wellness Pavilion



Rizhou Antai Tower

Rizhou, China

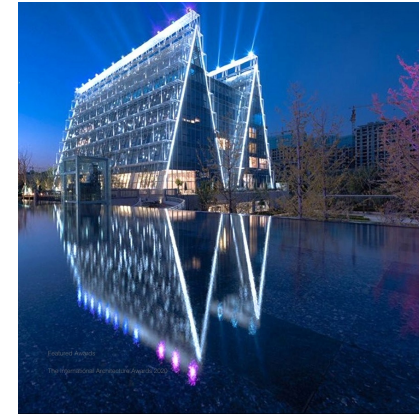
Size: 430 meters Height / 300,000 sq meters (32,291,731 sq feet)
 Type: Architecture
 Use: Mixed-use, Retail, Entertainment, Hotel, Residential, Office



TCL Semi-conductor Headquarters

Shenzhen, China

Size: 100 meters Height / 36,680 sq meters (394,820 sq feet)
 Type: Urban Design, Architecture
 Use: Mixed-use, Retail, Cultural Center, Office



Joy Wedding Hotel + Conference Center

Zhengzhou, China

Size: 32,000 sq meters (344,445 sq feet)
 Type: Urban Design Master Plan, Architecture
 Use: Hotel, Conference Center, Retail, Restaurants, Health club + Spa



New Century Senbo Morganshan Resort + Villas

Hangzhou, China

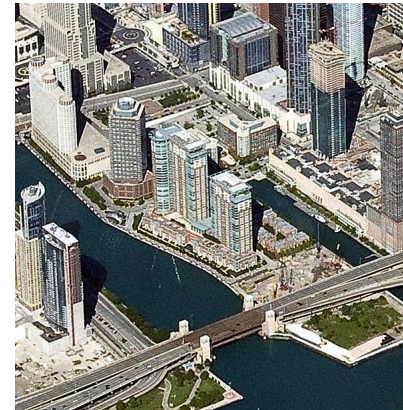
Size: 2000 MU (1300 acres)
 Type: Urban Design Master Plan, Architecture, Interior Design
 Use: 2 hotels (400 rooms), Indoor Aquatic Park, Conference Facility, 450 Villas, 5 Restaurants, Retail, 2500 Parking spaces, Staff Housing



Sanya Mixed-use Project

Sanya, Hainan Island, China

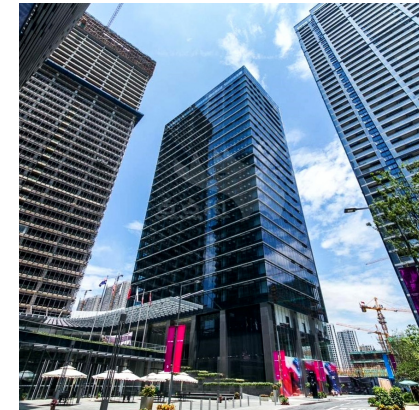
Size: 100,000 sq meters (1,076,391 sq feet)
 Type: Urban Design Master Plan, Architecture
 Use: Retail, Restaurants, Jewelry Museum, Hotel, Villas



Cityfront Center (River East)

Chicago, Illinois USA

Size: 2000 room Hotel, 6,000 residential Units, 12 Million sq feet of Office, (40 Acres)
 Type: Urban Design Master Plan, Architecture
 Use: Mixed-Use, Hotel, Residential, Office, Retail Arcade, 1.5 Mile Riverfront Promenade



European Financial Center (EFC)

Hangzhou, China

Size: 628,000 sq meters (6,759,735 sq feet), 2 @ 200 meter towers, 150 meter towers, 11 @ 100 meter Residential towers (2600 Condominiums)
 Type: Urban Design Master Plan, Architecture
 Use: Mixed-Use, Hotel, Office, Residential, Retail Mall/Arcade, Service Apartments, Sculpture Park