

Jamileh Jahangiri

# Dulux Study Tour Report

2-12 June 2024

Tokyo . Berlin . Madrid

# Dulux Study Tour

Dulux study tour is an incredible opportunity. I couldn't be more grateful for being part of it. The tour provided a unique platform for expanding my architectural knowledge through seeing amazing built work, having a chance to visit numerous offices and gain valuable insights in to the diverse ways different practices operate.

To get the idea of what we experienced, here is the list of all that we were involved in, have seen and have visited!

## People

- Jamileh Jahangiri, Studio Orsi
- Flynn Carr, Susan Dugdale & Associates
- Emma Chrisp, Hayball
- Mike Sneyd, EKD Architects
- Simona Falvo, Trower Falvo Architects
- Abbey Czudek, RAIA
- Rob Henry, RAIA
- Linda Cheng, Architecture Media
- Christina Earls, Dulux
- Peter Wood, Dulux

## Cities

- Tokyo 2-4th of June 2024
- Berlin 6-8th of June 2024
- Madrid 9-11 of June 2024
- Valladolid 12 of June 2024

## Visiting Projects

- Shibuya Station,
- Miyashita Park,
- Tadao Ando toilet
- Yoyogi Gymnasium
- Meiji Jingu and Meiji Jingu Museum
- Harakado Tokyu Plaza
- Miu Miu
- Prada Aoyama
- La Collezione
- Nezu Museum
- New Art Center Tokyo
- 21\_21 Design site
- Azubudai Hills
- Pigment Tokyo
- Archi-Depot
- Chesnut Tree Library
- Octopus and Panda Square
- TeamLab Planets
- Share Yaraicho
- SunnyHills
- Love House
- Gazebo
- Michelberger Hotel
- Alexanderplatz
- Berlin City models
- St Agnes Church
- Former Flower Market
- IBeB (ifau und Heide & von Beckerath)
- International Building Exhibition
- The Kreuzberg Tower
- Metropolenhaus,
- Frizz23
- Jewish Museum Berlin
- Friedrichstrasse 21
- Park am Gleisdreieck,
- Neue Nationalgalerie
- Philharmonic
- Wohnregal
- LOBE Block /Terrassen Haus
- James-Simon-Galery
- The Neues Museum
- The Altes Museum
- Am Kupfergraben 10
- Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport
- Plaza España
- Templo de Debod
- The Edificio Carrión
- Museum Caixa Forum
- Extension of the Museo Reina Sofía
- Casa Girasol
- Bankinter Madrid
- Viviendas para Militares
- Casa de las Flores
- Hipódromo de la Zarzuela
- hapel San Antonio de la Florida
- City-Park Madrid Rio
- Y Bridge
- Arganzuela Footbridge
- Cultural Centre El Matadero
- Carabanchel Social Housing
- 82 viviendas carabanchel
- Collegio eggio School
- Residencia Para Mayores en Aldeamayor
- Casa Consistorial en Valverde de Campos
- Casa de Comidas En Castromonte
- Piscinas municipales de Castromonte
- Rehabilitation of the Church of San Agustin
- Valladolid Art School

## Visiting Practices

- SANAA
- Studio TAB
- Kengo Kuma and Associates
- Riken Yamamoto
- Barkow and Leibinger
- J Mayer H and Partner
- FAR frohn & rojas
- David Chipperfield Architects
- Ensamble Studio and Fabrica
- Foster + Partners

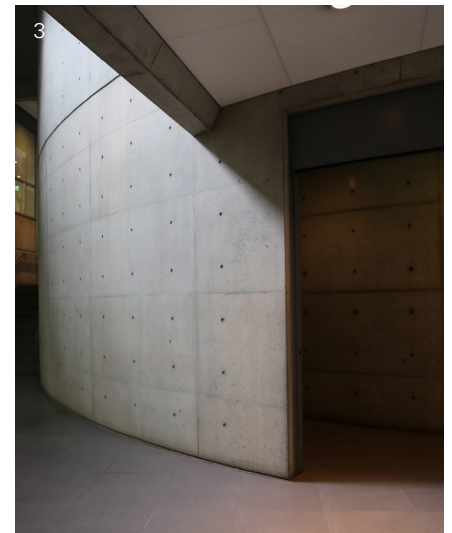


Ensamble Studio Office Madrid  
Cover: St. Agnes Church Berlin

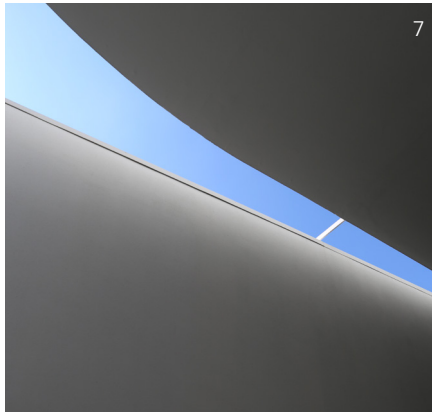
# Tokyo

## Be Humble, Make Models!

In Tokyo, the significance of model making is unparalleled. Everywhere we went, the meticulous creation of both small and large models was evident, serving not just as visual aids but as essential tools for iterative design and problem-solving. This hands-on approach not only ensures that every detail is considered and refined before construction begins, it creates a culture of understanding spatial planning and design and the result of design decision. Also, the culture emphasis on humility, profoundly influences architectural practice there. Architects are encouraged to stay grounded, constantly learning and remaining connected to their communities. This ethos was epitomised by master Riken Yamamoto, who stressed that an understanding of users is necessary when engaged as an architect and that's only possible through staying local. This would result in high level of community engagement where architects here deeply understand their communities and design with their needs in mind, ensuring that their projects are contextually relevant and socially beneficial. Japan's approach to affordable building was also a unique strategy. Being revolved around mastering both design and construction, architects can create cost-effective solutions without compromising on quality. The practice of subdividing spaces into functional, efficient units was prevalent, demonstrating a keen understanding of space. Prefabrication techniques were also a common theme, highlighting a commitment to reducing waste and increasing efficiency.



1. Chesnut Tree Library  
2. New Art Center Tokyo  
3. La Collezione



- 4. Yoyogi Gymnasium
- 5. Love House
- 6. Sunny Hills
- 7. Love House
- 8. Meiji Jingu Museum

# Berlin

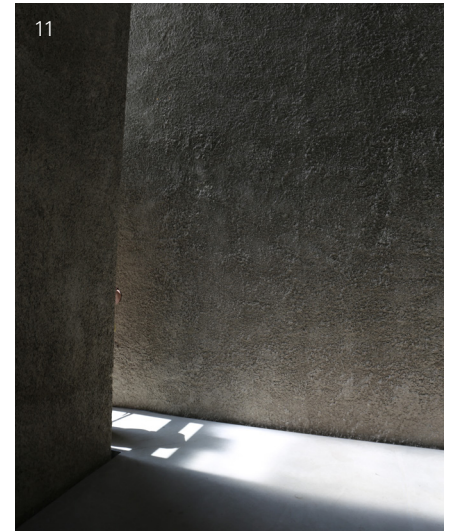
## Mastering Design and Manufacturing!

Apart from the remarkable story of the division and rebound, Berlin showcased a relentless pursuit of design excellence and innovation. The city's architectural community operates under the mantra of designing until there's no time left, pushing creative boundaries and refining ideas to the utmost limit. This dedication to perfection is paired with a profound understanding of manufacturing processes, ensuring that designs are not only innovative but also practical and buildable. Driven by the city planning typology of mix use, multifunctional spaces that seamlessly integrate work and living environments are a testament to this holistic approach. Berlin's architects pay meticulous attention to the properties and potential of different materials, recognising that materiality is crucial to the success of their designs. Prefabrication is widely adopted here, facilitating efficient construction and enabling architects to experiment with novel forms and structures, while leading many sustainability agenda in all aspects.

A highlight of the visit was exploring projects by Mies van der Rohe, which underscored the importance of learning from architectural masters. These iconic buildings are not just historical landmarks but also valuable educational tools that continue to inspire contemporary practice. Berlin taught me the value of pushing creative limits while maintaining a strong grasp on the practical aspects of construction, blending innovation with feasibility.



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09. The Kreuzberg Tower  
10. Neue Nationalgalerie  
11. St Agnes Church



12. Wohnregal  
13. The Neues Museum  
14. James-Simon-Gallery  
15. LOBE Block / Terrassen Haus  
16. The Altes Museum

# Madrid

## Forging a Unique Identity Through Local Traditions and Materials!

Madrid made a striking impression on me, as unlike many older European cities, much of the city built in the late 19th century. Yet, architectural landscape of it, is profoundly shaped by its historical legacy. This extensive period of development contributes to Madrid's unique character and sense of identity. Madrid has confidently embraced its heritage, creating a distinctive and authentic urban environment. Madrid's architecture reflects a deep connection to its local context. The city's architects prioritise using local materials and incorporating traditions, which contributes to a uniquely Madrid and Spanish architectural identity. This approach allows Madrid to develop an architecture that is both modern and rooted in its historical and cultural context.

A visit to Ensamble Studio in Madrid provided an insightful look into how this practice approaches architecture with a profound respect for materials. Ensamble Studio's methodology involves going directly to the source of materials to understand their properties and the processes involved in their creation. Their commitment to understanding the essence of materials highlights the importance of a thorough and thoughtful approach to design, leading to architecture that is both functional and aesthetically compelling. Ensamble Studio's practice exemplifies how a deep connection with materiality can lead to exceptional and refined architectural outcomes.



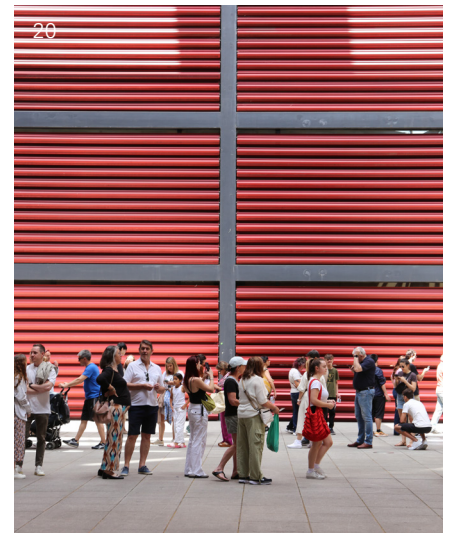
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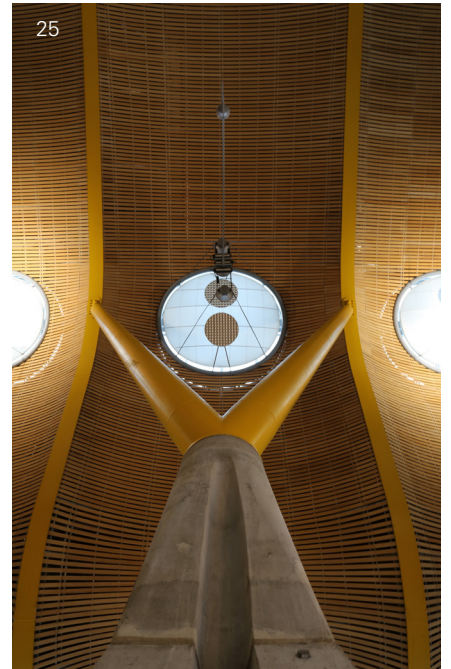
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- 17. Museum Caixa Forum
- 18. Carabanchel Social Housing
- 19. Ensamble Studio and Fabrica
- 20. Extension of the Museo Reina Sofia





21. Collegio Reggio School  
22. Casa Girasol  
23. Hipódromo de la Zarzuela  
24. Foster + Partners Model in Office  
25. Adolfo Suárez Madrid-Barajas Airport

# Valladolid

## Embracing Community with Thoughtful Design!

Leaving behind the bustling streets of Madrid, our journey to Valladolid took us through the serene agricultural plains of northwest Madrid. Our exploration of Valladolid included visits to four notable projects by Óscar Miguel Ares of Contextos de Arquitectura y Urbanismo, who masterfully integrates community needs with architectural design. The building's local limestone, recycled from demolished structures, contributes to a circular economy, reflecting a thoughtful approach to materiality and sustainability.

In some other projects, he integrates prefabricated beams with local sandstone, creating a space where light, shadow, and texture interact harmoniously. Óscar's work stands as a testament to the power of architecture to enhance community life through thoughtful and context-aware design.

This approach also replicated in the work of Estudio Primitivo Gonzalez with deep understanding of their city as well as understanding how architectural design can elevate community experiences while making the most of available resources.

Overall, the design of regional architecture of this part of Spain, seemed to emphasis on functionality , celebration of local material and simplicity, ensuring that the buildings serve multiple purposes and enrich the lives of those who use them.



26. Casa Consistorial en Valverde de Campos  
27. Rehabilitation of the Church of SanAgustin  
28. Valladolid Art School  
29. Piscinas municipales de Castromonte

## Golden Nuggets

Over the course of this 12-day journey, we traversed cities and projects with diverse approaches, scales, and philosophies, each offering a unique perspective on architecture and urban design. This 12 days have been a whirlwind of exploration and learning, provided unique insights that have significantly influenced my thinking about my own practice and aspirations. The varied typologies and design strategies encountered have provided invaluable insights and inspiration, helping me gain clarity on what I want my practice to be.

As I reflect on these experiences, I find myself contemplating the role of research, continuous learning, and the importance of questioning conventional approaches. My goal is to infuse my work with humility, ensuring that it serves people and contributes meaningfully to the community. This tour has reinforced my desire to focus on research-driven design, learning, and a commitment to projects that genuinely benefit the users.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Dulux for sponsoring this study tour, which has far exceeded my expectations. My thanks also go to the four other Dulux recipients for their friendship, advice, and the stimulating challenges to my perceptions. This tour has been more than a study of architecture; it has been a comprehensive exploration of design's role in our lives.

The 2024 Dulux Study Tour was a whirlwind of inspiration, reflection, and emotion—a truly transformative experience that will continue to influence my career. I am grateful to Dulux Australia for investing in us and facilitating this unique journey. My thanks also go to the Institute of Architects for the opportunity and Architecture Media for their support in documenting and sharing this remarkable adventure.

### Golden Nuggets

And finally I couldn't resist to create a list of several key insights that I plan to integrate into my practice moving forward:

- **Materiality:** Attention to materials' properties and potential.
- **Local Context:** Leverage local strengths and address local challenges.
- **Art and AI:** Use them together rather than seeing AI as a threat.
- **Sustainability:** Emphasise recycling and creating environments for nature.
- **Precision:** Aim to get it right the first time.
- **Research & Understanding:** Fundamental to successful architecture.
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Understand and integrate into the local culture.
- **Radical Thinking:** Be bold and question everything.
- **Learning from Masters:** Appreciate and study the greats like Mies van der Rohe.
- **Comprehensive Role of Architects:** Balance design with a deep understanding of fabrication processes.
- **Model Making:** Integral for visualising and iterating designs.
- **Humility:** Stay humble and community-focused.
- **Affordable Building:** Design and build with deep understanding and direct involvement.
- **Subdividing Spaces:** Efficient use of space.
- **Prefabrication:** Cost-effective and efficient construction method..
- **Manufacturing Knowledge:** Essential for innovative design.

# Thank You

## **Contact**

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