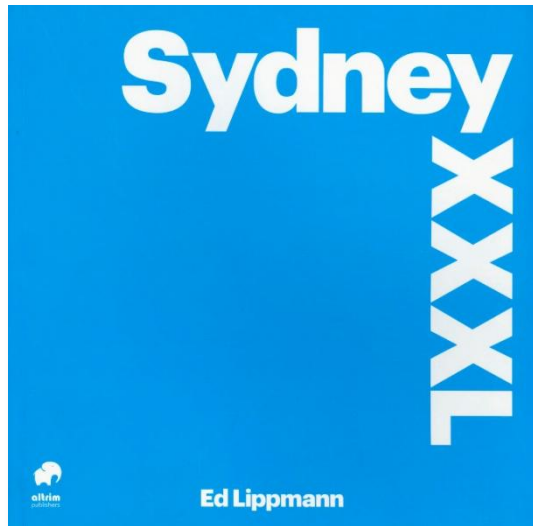




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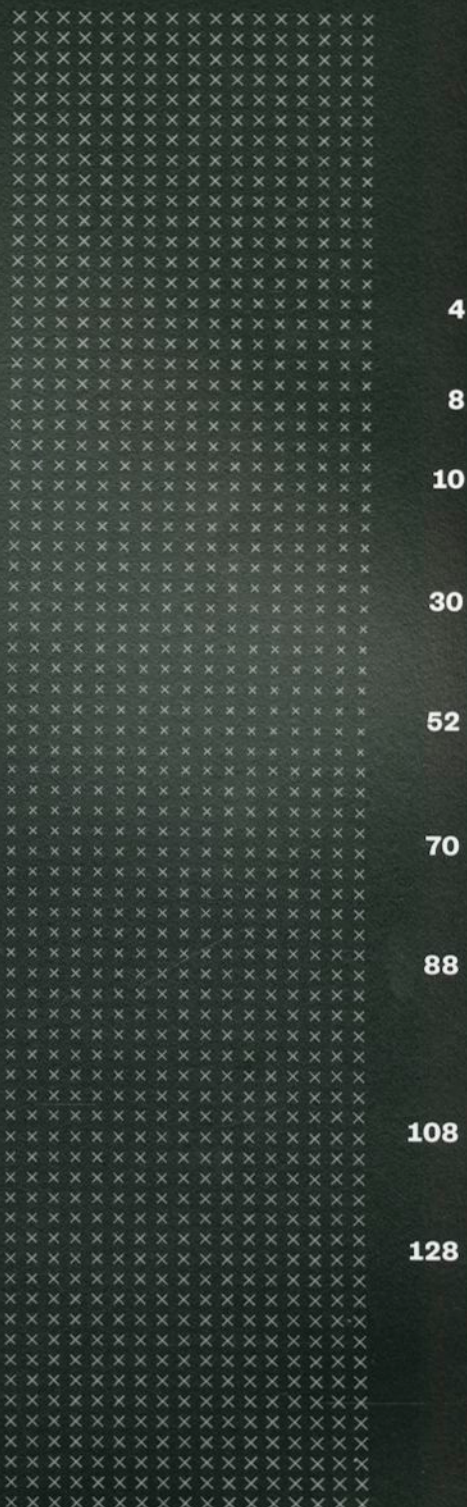
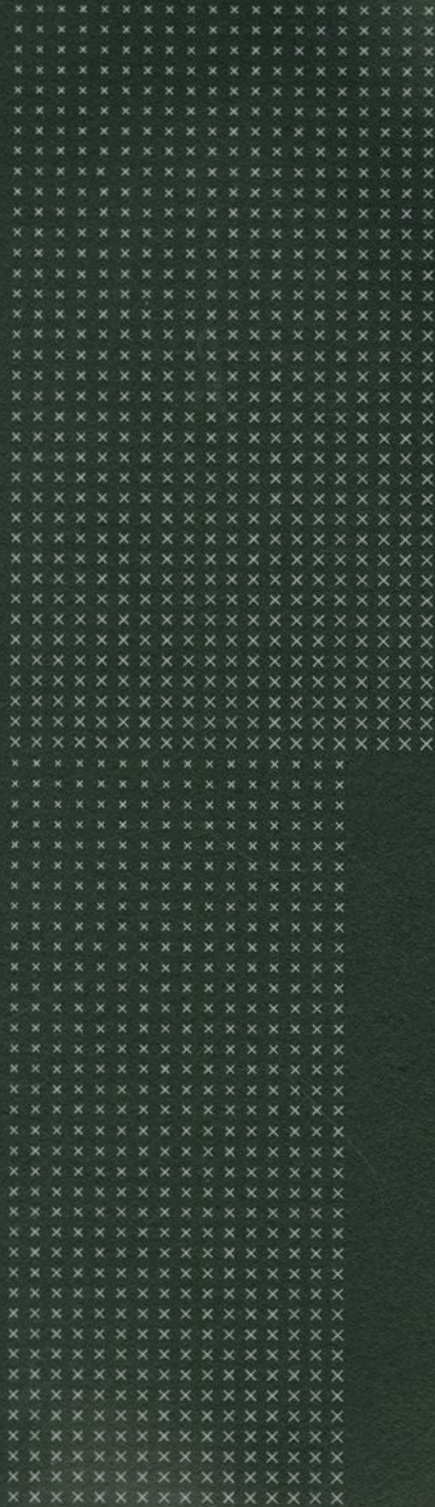
Sydney XXXL

Since establishing his architecture studio in 1985, Ed Lippmann has experienced and participated in Sydney's emergence as an international metropolis. He has offered solutions to many of the city's planning challenges and design opportunities.

He has been involved with significant urban masterplans including Barangaroo on Sydney Harbour and 8 Chifley Square, a landmark office tower in the heart of Sydney's financial district (in collaboration with Rogers, Stirk, Harbour & Partners). He has delivered acclaimed public projects for local governments including the King George V Recreation Centre and the Andrew "Boy" Charlton Pool for the City of Sydney. He has also designed projects for private clients and institutions including Lendlease, MLC School and the Emanuel community. Lippmann has received awards from the Australian Institute of Architects, the Property Council of Australia, Urban Task Force, Architecture AU and the Council of Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat.

Sydney XXXL is Lippmann's vision and thesis for ensuring a positive future for urban life in Sydney by fostering responsible long-term planning and higher quality architecture.

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Foreword by Richard Rogers

Throughout history, cities have been the cradles of civilisation bringing people together for commerce, for the exchange of ideas and technology, for citizenship.

In the twenty-first century, our world faces unprecedented challenges: an increase in global GDP, poverty and inequality, a widening gap between the rich and the poor, rapid population growth, the degradation of the natural environment, global climate change, political instability and terrorism. Our response to these challenges will determine the fate of our fragile planet and our ability to provide a life worth living for its citizens. Our cities, which now house more than 50 per cent of the world's population, are central to our sustainable future.

In the past half century, it has been my good fortune to be involved in urban master plans, projects and buildings across the world. I have seen how cities have revived their fortunes, with civic leaders helping them to turn their back on socially and environmentally unsustainable suburban sprawl, and restoring city centres as places for all people. But we still have much to do to achieve a fair society where everyone can meet their needs – for food, for shelter, for healthcare, for education, for a better quality of life.

I am delighted to introduce this book by Ed Lippmann. It is a timely and engaging review of Sydney's history and its position as a world city, setting out a positive plan for action.

Few cities in the world are blessed with such outstanding natural beauty as Sydney. It boasts a stunning harbour surrounded by an amazing natural environment – the Blue Mountain escarpment to the west, the fertile Hawkesbury/Nepean river system to the north, superb sandy beaches along the Pacific Ocean and abundant national parks. The city itself lays claim to a sophisticated financial and services downtown, south-west Pacific location and convenient alignment with the time zone for South-East Asia. As a major recreational and higher education services hub on the Pacific

Rim, it looks as much towards the growth dynamos of South-East Asia as it does towards the anglophone countries of the Northern Hemisphere.

Sydney today faces the same urban challenges confronting many growing cities across the globe – social inequality, housing affordability and livability, transport overload and congestion, and environmental damage, to name just a few. Sydney, however, has its own very special circumstances, namely its geology, geography, topography, vegetation and climate.

My London office has enjoyed a close, collaborative relationship with the Lippmann practice in Surry Hills, Sydney, for more than a decade. I hope we have made a positive contribution to the city's development, through projects such as Barangaroo and 8 Chifley Square, both of which Ed discusses in this book.

In countries around the world, I've been advocating an urban renaissance based on compact, dense development to create lively and connected communities. This, I believe, is essential to the continuation of urban civilisation in our time. We need better planning and architecture, but also a clear vision and sense of leadership. This is everyone's duty. As planners, architects and citizens, we should be bound by the Ephebic Oath, made by young men in classical Athens: "I swear not to leave my city diminished when I die, but greater, better and more beautiful."

I heartily commend Ed Lippmann's book. It comes at a critical time in the life of his city and will contribute to the crucial debate now underway on the future form of Sydney – and on our urban future globally.





Façade of 8 Chifley Square, Sydney, designed by Rogers Stirk Harbour and Partners in collaboration with Lippmann Partnership. Image: Brett Boardman.

Introduction

Sydney XXXL examines the history of urban development in Sydney, commencing as a distant colonial outpost but quickly morphing into a twenty-first century global city.

Sydney's transformation in less than 250 years has not only been rapid but also radical, with its once sparsely populated, serene, natural environment now replaced by infrastructure and buildings for millions of residents.

A desirable city for migrants because of its prosperity and beauty, Sydney continues to grow at the rate of some 100,000 residents a year and in 2018 its population exceeded five million citizens. But is Sydney ready for this continued growth, and, if not, what needs to be done?

Currently in the midst of the biggest building boom in its history, Sydney's continued urban survival and success hinges on effective urban planning, visionary architecture and sound governance. At the same time, as humanity faces critical existential challenges, cities like Sydney must share responsibility for environmental degradation and social inequality on a global scale.

Resilient cities are cities that adapt and grow in response to these physical, social and economic challenges. Sydney's ability to be a resilient city depends on the collective determination of its citizens, institutions, businesses and governments to thrive in the face of growth, change and stress.

Sydney is fortunate to have an enviable location, climate and comparatively high living standard – but it can't rely on luck or its natural inheritance any longer. Historically, its growth has been characterised by opportunistic development, incoherent planning and lack of a clear, long-term vision. If Sydney is to become a better, more livable and sustainable city, the time for change is now.

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My thanks to Richard Rogers for the introduction to Sydney XXXL. Through his architecture and published works, he's been a great influence and mentor. It was also a valuable experience to collaborate with his office on projects in Sydney, some of which are discussed in the book.

Mark Scruby and Tobin Lush have done an outstanding job interpreting and re-interpreting the words and images and giving Sydney XXXL its final shape and form. Thanks also to Esther Samra for her proofreading and editorial comments. Last, but by no means least, Sonia Blasco deserves special acknowledgement and recognition for curating Sydney XXXL, providing motivation, vision, hard work and the conviction that this was too important not to complete.

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