

# **OSKAR VON MILLER FORUM**

Press Release

## **The Beauty of Utility**

**A lecture by Gordon Gill, Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture, Chicago  
16 April 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Oskar von Miller Forum**

Gordon Gill, a founding partner of award-winning Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture, will explore the designs and platforms that unite aesthetic beauty with performance-based solutions at all scales of the built environment. The lecture will define the relationship and importance between aesthetically pleasing design and performance-based design. In his exploration of the relationship between the two, he will elucidate complex problem solution approaches in architecture and suggest tools and techniques for creating buildings that combine functionality with aesthetic design.

Recent projects that Gordon Gill will discuss include the design of Astana Expo 2017 and its sustainable legacy community for Astana, Kazakhstan, Chengdu Great City (China), Federation of Korean Industries Tower, Beijing Waldorf-Astoria (China), the world's tallest tower Kingdom Tower in Jeddah (Saudi Arabia), and the world's first large-scale positive energy building, Masdar Headquarters (Abu Dhabi).

Gordon's work includes the design of the world's first net zero-energy skyscraper, the Pearl River Tower (designed at SOM Chicago).

These landmark projects pursue energy independence by harnessing the power of natural forces on site and striking a balance with their environmental contexts. Gordon's designs also include performing arts centers, museums, strategic carbon planning, and urban master plans across the globe.

### **About Gordon Gill**

Gordon Gill, FAIA (Fellow of the American Institute of Architects) is one of the world's preeminent exponents of performance-based architecture. His work, which ranges from the world's largest buildings to sustainable communities, is based on his philosophy that there is a purposeful relationship between formal design and performance; and that there is a language of performance, which is the basis of his practice: Form Follows Performance.

His work has been published and exhibited widely in the U.S. and internationally and his designs have repeatedly been recognized by the American Institute of Architects.

Prior to founding Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture in 2006, Gordon was an Associate Partner at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill and a Director of Design for VOA Associates. Most recently, he co-founded PositivEnergy Practice, a consulting firm that designs and implements energy and carbon reduction strategies for clients around the world.