



Shigeru Ban: The Paper Log House **About the Team**

Shigeru Ban Architects (SBA) is a global architecture and design firm renowned for its innovative work with timber, paper, and bamboo structures. Founded and led by Pritzker Laureate Shigeru Ban in 1985, SBA has three offices in Tokyo, New York, and Paris, and a team of 80, with more than 160 projects constructed across six continents. In 2022, with Rizzoli Publications, SBA released *Shigeru Ban: Timber in Architecture* showcasing over 45 timber projects built in the 21st century. In the United States, SBA has overseen the design and construction of Metal Shutter House in Chelsea, New York City (2011); Aspen Art Museum in the Rocky Mountains (2014); the adaptive reuse of a historic commercial building into Cast Iron House in Tribeca, New York City (2021); and a store façade for Tiffany & Co Palo Alto (2023). Currently, SBA's New York office is leading projects in Florida, Utah, Kentucky, and British Columbia. Globally, SBA has a wide range of projects under construction including Ukraine's first mass timber hospital in Lviv; Blue Ocean Dome, the main pavilion for the Expo 2025 Osaka in Japan; and nine hybrid mass timber residential buildings as part of the Nieuw Zuid Master plan in Belgium, among others. Among SBA's projects in design stages is the recently announced Infinite Maldives, a five-acre 44-villa "resort residence" located within the Malé Atoll and designed to embrace the Maldivian vernacular.

Shigeru Ban is the founder of Shigeru Ban Architects (SBA), one of the world's leading architecture firms and a pioneer in advancing the field of wood and mass timber design and construction. He studied architecture at Cooper Union in New York City before returning to Tokyo to establish SBA in 1985. In 1995, his practice expanded beyond client-driven commissions with the establishment of VAN – Voluntary Architects' Network, an NGO through which he provides humanitarian relief projects in response to a wide array of disasters from hurricanes and earthquakes to war. Shigeru is dedicated to teaching the next generation of architects. For 30 years he taught at universities in Japan and the United States. In 2014, Shigeru Ban received the Pritzker Prize, the world's highest honor in architecture. He has also received L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, The National Order of the Legion of Honor in France; the Princess of Asturias Award for Concord; the Thomas Jefferson Foundation Medal in Architecture; the Peter Cooper Public Service Award; and the Mother Teresa Award for Social Justice.

VAN-Voluntary Architects' Network is motivated by the belief that knowledge and skills of an architect should not be limited to designing only for the privileged. Shigeru Ban's global humanitarian work began in 1994, when he applied his understanding of paper tubes as an ideal recyclable, lightweight, and inexpensive structural material to refugee housing in Rwanda for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Through VAN, Ban applies his extensive expertise in recyclable materials, often deploying paper tube structures to provide low-cost buildings for victims of disaster. In each project, careful attention is paid to the lifecycle of both materials and resultant building. Since its founding, the organization has provided temporary housing, community centers, concert halls, and elementary schools, as well as triage and care centers. Recent and current humanitarian works have been in Hawaii, Japan, Kentucky, Morocco, Syria, Turkey, and Ukraine, among others.

The Glass House, built between 1949 and 1995 by architect Philip Johnson, is a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation located in New Canaan, CT. The pastoral 49-acre landscape comprises fourteen structures, including the Glass House (1949), and features a permanent collection of art and design, along with temporary exhibitions and public programs. The campus serves as a catalyst for the preservation and interpretation of modern architecture, art, and design and a canvas for inspiration and experimentation. The tour season runs from April through December. Private tours are available throughout the year.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a privately funded nonprofit organization that works to save America's historic places to enrich our future, reimagining historic sites for the 21st century. The guiding principle of this initiative is that historic sites must be dynamic, relevant, and evolving to foster an understanding of history and culture that is critical, sensory, and layered.