



dec 31, 2008

humboldtforum stadtschloss berlin by franco stella architect

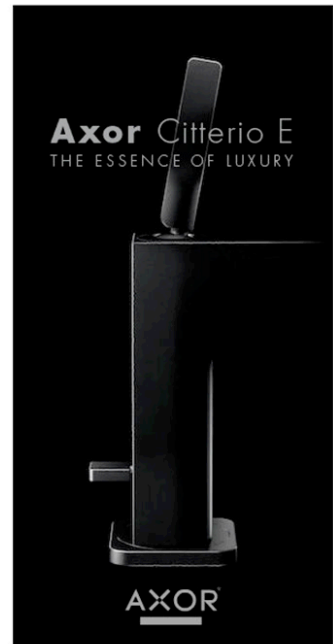
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berlin's plan is to erect a fake baroque palace, a copy of the hohenzollern stadtschloss that once stood on the site where the avenue 'unter den linden', and on the other end the brandenburg gate is. the italian architect, franco stella, a student of aldo rossi, won the building's competition in december 2008. the briefing was to design and faithfully reproducing three of the four original facades and much of the interior courtyard, leaving only the fourth to the designer's imagination (it will be a modern one). work on the 'humboldtforum', as the new palace will be called, is announced to begin in 2010, but it seems that the outcome is uncertain, because its projected cost is 0 million and germany may simply not have the money. also, there may not be enough qualified stonecutters in the whole of europe to do the job.

rendering of the humboldtforum- stadtschloss berlin by franco stella architect



architect vittorio lampugnani unvelling the model photo © dpa



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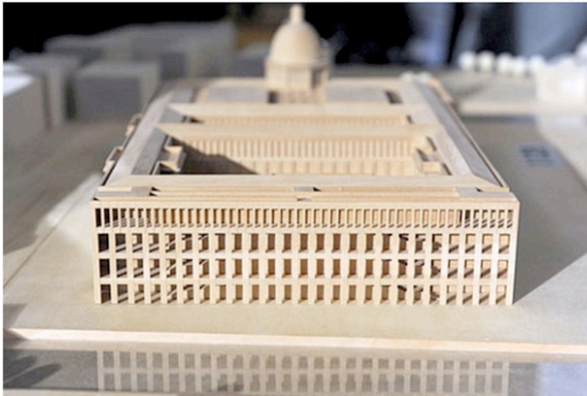


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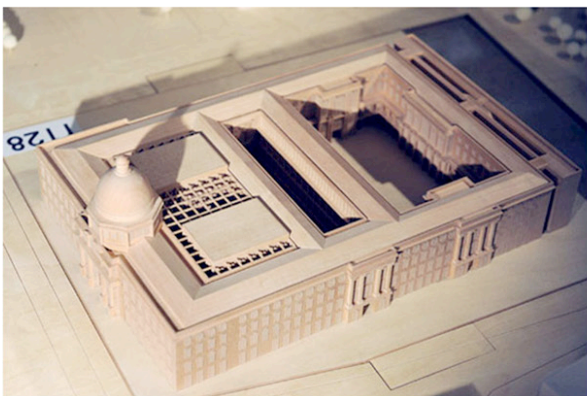
berlin town hall forum (2 articles)



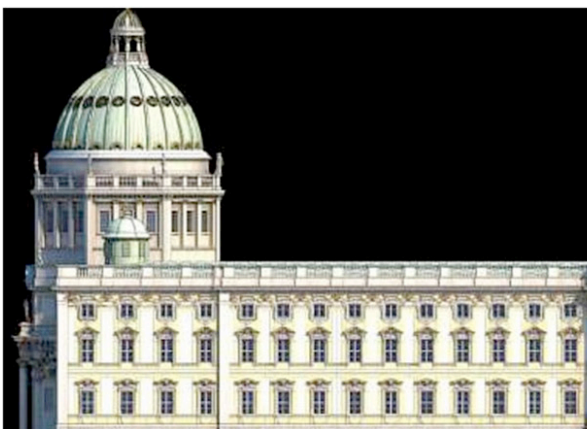
model of humboldtforum - stadtschloss berlin by franco stella architect



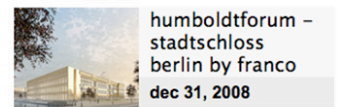
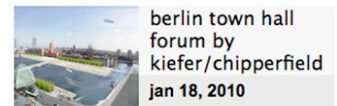
model of humboldtforum



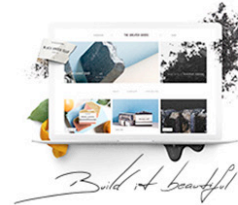
model of humboldtforum



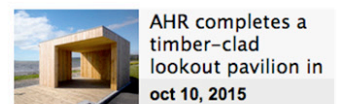
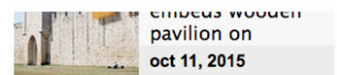
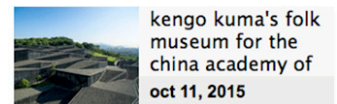
computer rendering



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courtyard of the humboldtforum



courtyard of the humboldtforum



franco stella at the building site
photo © ddp



the 'berliner stadtschloss' in a 19th century painting

the berliner stadtschloss (berlin city palace), was a royal palace in the centre of berlin. the palace bore features of the baroque style, and its shape, finalized by the mid 18th century, is attributed to andreas schlüter. the palace incorporated earlier parts seen in 1688 by nicodemus tessin. it was the principal winter residence of the kings of prussia from 1701-1918 and a museum following the fall of the german empire in 1918. damaged during world war ii, the palace was demolished in 1950 by the gdr authorities in spite of west german protests. following the reunification of germany, it was decided to rebuild the stadtschloss, but actually it's hard to find a thinking berliner these days who likes the schloss idea.