

TED Talk Bjarke Ingels:

Floating cities, the Lego House and other architectural forms of the future

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04:52

..... From New York to Copenhagen. On the waterfront of Copenhagen, we are right now finishing this _____. It's going to be the cleanest waste-to-energy power plant in the world, there are no toxins coming out of the chimney. An amazing _____ of engineering that is _____. So we thought, how can we express this? And in Copenhagen we have snow, as you can see, but we have absolutely no mountains. We have to go six hours by bus to get to Sweden, to _____. So we thought, let's put an alpine ski slope on the roof of the power plant. So this is the first _____ we did a few months ago. And what I like about this is that it also shows you the sort of world-changing power of formgiving. I have a five-month-old son, and he's going to grow up in a world not knowing that there was ever a time when you couldn't ski on the roof of the power plant. So imagine for him and his generation, that's their _____. Imagine how far they can _____, what kind of wild ideas they can _____ for their future.

06:05

So right in front of it, we're building our smallest project. It's basically nine containers that we have stacked in a _____ in Poland, then we've _____ it across the Baltic sea and docked it in the port of Copenhagen, where it is now the home of 12 students. Each student has a view to the water, they can jump out the window into the clean port of Copenhagen, and they can get back in. All of the heat comes from the thermal mass of the sea, all the power comes from the sun. This is the first 12 units in Copenhagen, another 60 _____, another 200 are going to Gothenburg, and we're speaking with the Paris Olympics to put a small floating village on the Seine. So very much this kind of, almost like _____, _____ architecture.

completely invisible

schlepped

put forward

impermanent

get alpine skiing

waste-to-energy power plant

baseline

shipyard

leap

on their way

nomadic

test run

marvel

6:52

And the waterfronts of our cities are _____.
Economic change, industrial change and climate change. This is Manhattan before Hurricane Sandy, and this is Manhattan after Sandy. We got invited by the city of New York to look if we could make the necessary _____ for Manhattan without building a _____ that would _____ the life of the city from the water around it. And we got inspired by the High Line. You probably know the High Line -- it's this amazing new park in New York. It's basically _____ train tracks that now have become one of the most popular _____ in the city.

07:30

So we thought, could we design the necessary flood protection for Manhattan so we don't have to wait until we _____ before it gets nice? So we sat down with the citizens living along the waterfront of New York, and we worked with them to try to design the necessary flood protection _____ it only makes their waterfront more _____ and more enjoyable. Underneath the FDR, we are putting, like, _____ with pocket walls that can slide out and protect from the water. We are creating little stepped terraces that are going to make the underside more enjoyable, but also protect from flooding. Further north in the East River Park, we are creating rolling hills that protect the park from _____, but in turn also become the necessary flood protection that can stop the waves during an incoming storm _____. So in a way, this project that we have called the Dryline, it's essentially the High Line –

The High Line that's going to keep Manhattan dry.

08:40

It's scheduled to _____ on the first East River portion at the end of this year. But it has essentially been codesigned with the citizens of Lower Manhattan to take all of the necessary infrastructure for _____ and give it positive social and environmental side effects.

decommissioned

experiencing a lot of change

flood protection

in such a way that

seawall

accessible

the noise of the highway

promenades

segregate

break ground

surge

shut it down

pavilions

resilience

08:58

So, New York is not alone in _____. In fact, by 2050, 90 percent of the _____ in the world are going to be dealing with rising seas. In Hamburg, they've created a whole neighborhood where the bottom floors are designed to _____ the inevitable flood. In Sweden, they've designed a city where all of the parks are wet gardens, designed to deal with storm water and _____. So we thought, could we perhaps –

waste water

major cities

incorporate

man-made archipelago

9:34

Actually, today, three million people are already _____ living on the sea. So we thought, could we actually imagine a floating city designed to _____ all of the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations into a whole new human-made ecosystem. And of course, we have to design it so it can produce its own power, _____ the thermal mass of the oceans, _____, of the currents, of the waves, the power of the wind, the heat and the energy of the sun. Also, we are going to collect all of the rain water that drops on this _____ and deal with it organically and mechanically and _____ it and clean it. We have to grow all of our food locally, it has to be fish- and plant-based, because you won't have the space or the resources for a _____. And finally, we are going to deal with all the waste locally, with compost, recycling, and turning the waste into energy.

dairy diet

facing this situation

permanently

withstand

the force of the tides

harvesting

coastal additions

modular

store

a handful of scientists

resist

available natural resources

the street grid

10:41

So imagine where a traditional urban master plan, you typically draw _____ where the cars can drive and the building plots where you can put some buildings. This master plan, we sat down with _____ and basically started with all of the renewable, _____, and then we started channeling the flow of resources through this kind of human-made ecosystem or this kind of urban metabolism. So it's going to be _____, it's going to be buoyant, it's going to be designed to _____ a tropical storm. You can prefabricate it at scale, and tow it to dock with others, to form a small community. We're designing these kind of _____, so that even if it's modular and rational, each island can be unique with its own coastal landscape.

