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SCREENING Renzo Piano An Architect for Santander

DATE Tuesday, October 1st 2019

TIME from 4.00 PM to 7.00 PM Screening of the film followed by a Reception

PLACE NORR Architects & Engineers Limited 55 Murray Street, Suite 600, Ottawa (Tel: 613 241 5300)

RSVP Please RSVP to Sarah Mahaney by September 27th (or sooner) to sarah.mahaney@norr.com

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Renzo Piano An Architect for Santander

A film produced by Morena Films directed by Saura Medrano and Marta Gila is the story of the Botin Centre in Santander. The film was screened in Toronto at the Italian Contemporary Film Festival in June 2019 to a sold out audience. I had the privilege of introducing the film and answering questions after the film.

The film is a documentary style film that starts at the beginning of Emilio Botin's desire to build a great building in Santander and engaging Renzo Piano, taking us through design, approvals, construction, delays, changes of leaderships, cost issues, technical issues all of the issues that building projects face. It is told in an impartial way from the client's, the city's, the contractor's and finally the architect Renzo Piano's voice.

This is a real life documentary. It is not scripted to be partial to any one side. It is what every great project goes through. There are a number of problems and issues inherent in every project and there has to be a desire to move forward in the BEST INTEREST OF THE PROJECT. It comes through in the film. While you may pick sides depending on position, it is made for the entire Building Team, not just the Architect. The film does leave you with the thought of why we as Architects, Builders and Owners do what we do and why.

Currently NORR with Renzo Piano Building Workshop (RPBW) and together with EllisDon are designing and Building the New Toronto Courthouse. This project was procured by Infrastructure Ontario through a P3 delivery method. It is appropriate to take a brief moment to ask ourselves this question at a reception after the screening of this film.

Silvio Baldassarra Chairman NORR Architects & Engineers Limited