

Mercredi 24 novembre 1999 à 18h



The Tate Gallery of Modern Art, London

Lecture from

Harry Guger

Herzog & de Meuron, architects, Basel

The project for the new Tate Gallery of Modern Art in Bankside is determined by three themes: the location, the building and the exhibition spaces. The large museum is to be integrated into the adjoining quarter. Largely a public complex, it will be constructed directly opposite St. Paul's Cathedral and connected with the existing pathways along the Thames and a new pedestrian bridge across the river. The land to the south of the buildings will also be integrated: it will become a lovely public square surrounded by pavilions and stores.

Herzog & de Meuron's proposal for the conversions honors the architectural qualities of the existing electric works - a historic landmark on the Thames built by the architect Sir Giles Scott - but it will also add something powerfully contemporary to the building. The turbine hall will become one of the most impressive covered squares in all of London, comparable to a gallery but with an atmosphere resembling that of a factory. New glazed elements on the exterior of the brick building point to the essential activities that are to take place within the future museum: observing, perceiving, communicating.