

service provision and so on is a difficult and necessary task. It is the basis of much design. In the last resort, however, it is a journeyman's task. Plans can be generated by computer in many instances given a set of rules. Poetry and delight are the task of the master and arise from self-imposed necessities. It is also the solution of the problems which we have set ourselves which produces the greatest agonies and delights of design.

## Witnesses

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The same issue of the *Architectural Review* – December 1997 – which illustrates the Bilbao Guggenheim also devotes space to the art gallery for the Ernst Beyeler collection designed by the Renzo Piano Building Workshop on the edge of Basle in Switzerland. The architecturally controlling element is the roof plane. This is a 1500 mm (5 ft) deep layer which consists of perforated metal, operable louvres and structural glass. Above it are white glass louvres diffusing light. Renzo Piano had previously given great importance to the roof in the museum for the

Right  
**Renzo Piano Building  
Workshop**, Beyeler  
Foundation Museum,  
Basel, Switzerland 1993–97

