



to turn it into a TV studio. With the concept of Berlin Cirque du Soleil Theater the firm faced the challenge of designing and engineering a building over the city's old subway system. "We changed from concrete to a steel structure," he said. "For us steel is something you can play with, you can prefabricate it" and use it in more restricted urban spaces than concrete. . "Steel for us is the only way we can do this type of thing in terms of cost control and scheduling."

He said his firm has cultivated creativity even in the contractors and fabricators working on the projects by giving them T-shirts, CDs and other symbols of the ultimate goal of the project. "If you get the people to like their project, they will work better," he said. "You have to find a way to create the energy."

Other projects he described included the Calgary Stampede Racetrack's "Mobile Stage", and the "Torch on the Square" designed for downtown Toronto to compare to the Times Square of New York City.