



## Hugh Petter 'Bach helps loosen up my mind'

### What got you started?

Initially my parents' interest in the arts; my own love of drawing and making things and, later on, the Rome Scholarship in Architecture.

### Who was your most inspiring tutor?

Peter Hodson at Portsmouth Polytechnic. He made history come alive, and nurtured my interest in evolving traditions.

### Which architect have you learnt the most from?

Sir Edwin Lutyens. His boundless energy, playful imagination and attention to detail are awe-inspiring.

### What "great" architecture leaves you cold?

Deconstructivism puts architectural sculpture above people, culture and place.

### What is your best project?

What I am working on at any moment! I have recently

completed remodelling the entrance of The Oval.

### Which house would you most like to live in?

Gresgarth Hall, Lancashire: a charming house, with beautiful gardens, in a lovely position.

### What is your favourite city?

Rome.

### You can work in any city at any point in history — where and when would you choose?

London in the early 20th century. The creative energy of that time is unsurpassed.

### What one piece of legislation would you introduce?

A better version of the NPPF that sweeps away unnecessary red tape and encourages planning for the long term.

### What is your favourite architectural book?

James Gibbs's Rules for Drawing the Several Parts of Architecture.



### What are you listening to?

Bach's Brandenburg Concertos. Whatever I am wrestling with, the playful patterns in this music are all-consuming, lift the spirit and help loosen up the mind once more.

### Complete the sentence: At heart I am a frustrated...

Teacher. I love working in a group with students, craftsmen



The Oval's new portico by Adam Architecture; James Gibbs; and the Brandenburg Concertos.

and my own children to explore ideas and develop skills.

### Is it getting easier?

There are lots of good architectural and master-planning projects around, but the planning system is still a nightmare.

Hugh Petter is a director at Adam Architecture.