

"I'd love to design a brothel or a gas station"  
says Brazilian architect Isay Weinfeld



Interview: with a new monograph and an exhibition in New York, Brazilian architect Isay Weinfeld talks to Dezeen about his 40-year career, his love of Radiohead, and the buildings he has yet to design (+ slideshow + interview).

"I don't like to look back, to be honest," he told Dezeen, speaking from Espasso Gallery in New York, where the A | Z by Isay Weinfeld exhibition opened last week. "But one of the things that I am very proud of is the wide variety of work."

"I am curious about things, I like to design things I haven't done before," he said. "I would love to design a brothel or a gas station."

Isay Weinfeld is one of Brazil's leading contemporary architects. Born in São Paulo in 1952, he studied at the School of Architecture at the city's Mackenzie University and launched his multidisciplinary practice in 1973.

Working predominantly in his home country, he has designed numerous private residences as well as apartment buildings, hotels, shops, banks and restaurants.

The New York exhibition also marks the launch of a new monograph by Raul A. Barreneche about Weinfeld's commercial projects. However Weinfeld was keen not to present photos or models of his work at the show, explaining: "I am not looking for new clients!"

Instead, the gallery features films of his buildings, plus a cradle and a coffin. "This idea expresses my wish to design from the beginning of life to the end," he says.

The exhibition, A | Z by Isay Weinfeld, is at Espasso, 38 N Moore Street, New York until 1 December. The monograph is published by BEI Editora and is also available through Espasso.