CYBERTECTURE

Words by **James Law**

Shaping our world with sustainability
Founder of James Law Cybertecture and a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum, **James Law** is a visionary in sustainable design and firmly believes Cybertecture is the only way forward for mankind.

> James Law calls his work 'Cybertecture'. His vision? To "innovate the fabric of mankind" through innovation and visionary designs.

Human progress is inevitable. Our combined intellect and impetus to build up our world has been steady since the dawn of man. Today, the planet is covered with humanity's urban fabric of infrastructure, cities and cultivated land. The seas are farmed and the land sculpted to the convenience of our masses. Mankind is the most incredible designer of our own destiny.

However, we are faced with increasingly daunting challenges. An unstable environment, an ever-decreasing stock of fossil fuel, a changing climate, and a lack of water all pose tremendous challenges as we continue to engineer our world. Then there are the challenges we ourselves have created; the social complications of wealth divide, inequality in education, discrimination, and the pressures of an increasing global population on a finite planet require us to find new solutions and paradigms to take us forward.

I believe that the brilliant inborn creativity of man, our ingenious ability to use the materials around us, our common bond for kinship and our general wish for happiness will yield such solutions.

I chose a career in design and technology because I believe that these two fields of endeavour might yield great results for how we can make a better fabric for mankind.

I call this merging of design and technology: "Cybertecture".

Cybertecture is the instinctive application of human insight through our technology into our environment. Whether it be a building that is smart enough to share its energy

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Designing in symbiosis with nature and the needs of the new generation by using the latest technology and innovative ideas is surely fertile ground for the world changing solutions we seek.

with others in the vicinity, or a mirror that is able to monitor your health, the pursuit of Cybertecture is driven by an optimistic belief that through brilliant new designs we can alleviate the suffering of all.

In designing the cities of tomorrow, we propose to design 'Technospheres' that will operate at half the energy and resource requirements of a conventional city, yet provide beautiful, modern living spaces. These mega structures live and breathe like our planet. They contain man-made rainforests that augment nature and vegetation until it is well and truly back onto the urban fabric, they have their own rivers to clean and recycle water, they have naturally ventilated valleys for gathering people in happy cultural environments, and they are ultimately contained in a structure that costs less to build and uses less material and energy to run than conventional cities.
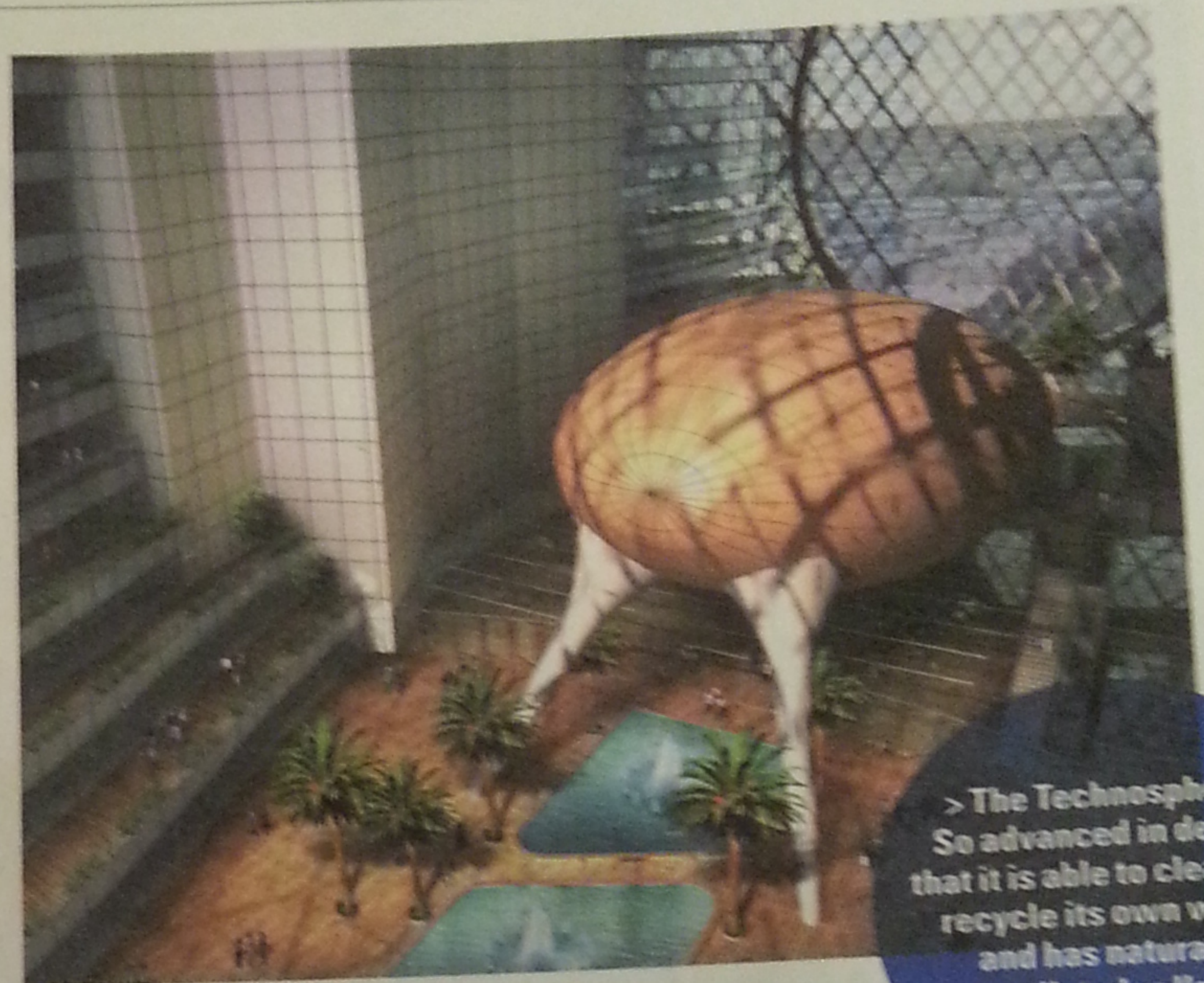
> "AN UNSTABLE ENVIRONMENT, AN EVER-DECREASING STOCK OF FOSSIL FUEL, A CHANGING CLIMATE, AND A LACK OF WATER ALL POSE TREMENDOUS CHALLENGES AS WE CONTINUE TO ENGINEER OUR WORLD."

In fact, this is not a concept - it is real, and we are building the first Technosphere in the Middle East. And perhaps there will be many more Technospheres around the world in years to come.

But our individual sustainability is just as important as the built environment, if not more so. While most interpretations of the term 'sustainability' may refer to the sustainable cycles of energy, resource and infrastructure, I believe an even more important form of sustainability is "Human Sustainability" - our sanity, our health, our balance, our community and our spirit.

> The Technosphere. So advanced in design that it is able to clean and recycle its own water and has naturally ventilated valleys.

> James Law's designs for the Technosphere, The Pad and Cybertecture Egg are eerily futuristic - but are already being built around the world today!

Human Sustainability brings many opportunities for technology and design to bring new innovations to the masses. The Cybertecture Mirror was created to be the world's first publicly-installed mirror with the ability to monitor the user's health and give medical advice, as well as link the user through his reflection to apps that encourage sustainable activities such as exercise, caring for others and being informed about the world.

Whether Cybertecture exists at the scale of the Technosphere or as small as the Cybertecture Mirror, it represents humankind's ingenuity to innovate the fabric of mankind. I believe this fabric can and will be constantly improved, even when under attack or at risk of catastrophe. I believe, because history has shown the tenacity of mankind to innovate and design itself to survive, and I know for a fact that our future can be bright, clean and fair for all on this planet. May Cybertecture take us there.

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