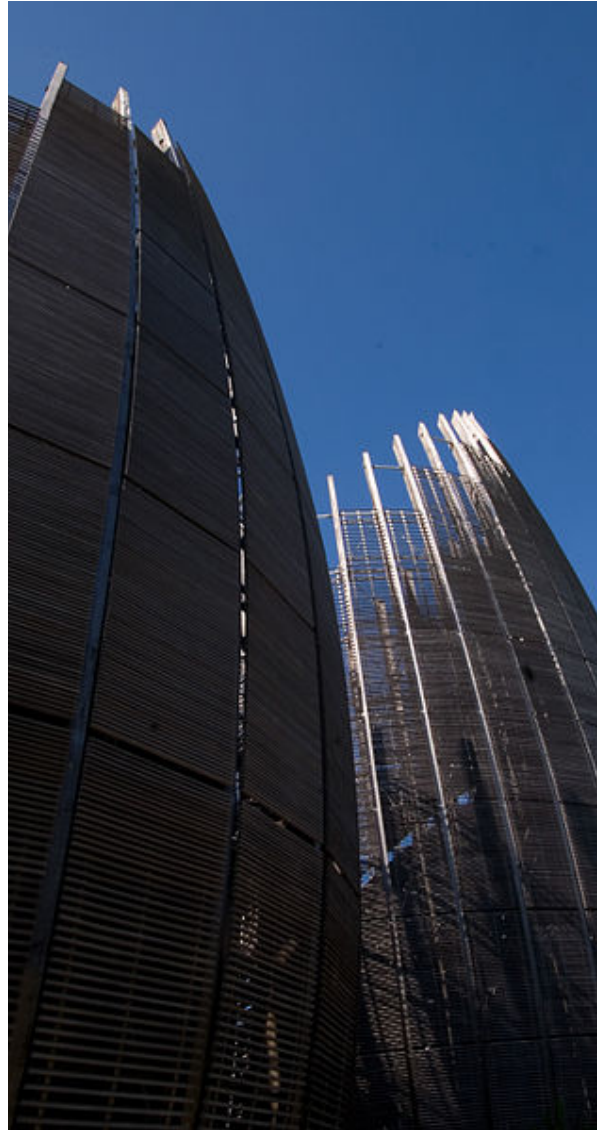


Jean Marie Tjibaou Cultural Center

case study
By Max Gordon

Location: Nouméa New Caledonia



Architect: Renzo Piano

Owner: Noumea City

Year of completion: 1998

Climate: Humid Subtropical Climate

Material of interest: Iroko wood

Application: Exterior façade & Structure

Properties of material: The iroko (*Clorophora excelsa*) timber used extensively was imported from Africa (native to tropical Africa, from Sierra Leone to Tanzania); it was decided to use iroko because it was durable, and mostly resistant to attack by insects, fungi and mould.

Material used: Laminated wood and natural wood, concrete, coral, aluminium castings, glass panels, tree bark and stainless steel.

Manufacturer/ fabricator:

The frames of all cases were pre-fabricated in France and assembled on-site.

Sources:

Architect website: <http://www.rpbw.com/>