

A dramatic 397-foot-long mural recently installed at the new American Airlines terminal at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) underscores the facility's status as one of the world's premier domestic and international gateways.

American Airlines commissioned New York artist and architect Matteo Pericoli to create the mural, entitled "Skyline of the World". It is located on the east wall of the main ticketing lobby.

The mural combines lesser-known architectural works with well-known landmarks from New York, as well as some 70 other cities around the world—landmarks that the natives of those cities and experienced global travelers will recognize and appreciate. It is believed to be the largest mural in an airport anywhere in the world.

"'Skyline of the World' combines many of the destinations [to which] American Airlines flies from JFK into a single, extraordinary image," American Airlines Vice President—Passenger Sales for Greater New York Chuck Imhof said. "It sends a powerful message that when New Yorkers think about international travel,

they should think of American Airlines and our new terminal at JFK Airport."

American Airlines Managing Director—JFK Mark DuPont said, "It is important to show customers that this is a unique

new terminal."

"Skyline of the World" begins on the right, near the terminal entrance, with some well- and lesser-known buildings of New York. Continuing to the left, the skyline proceeds, including

At the center of this procession, the Brooklyn Bridge appears from the wall behind it. The skyline then begins to narrow and become smaller, concluding at a point where passengers approach the concourses

Rome, Tokyo, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, are all shown.

The original artwork for "Skyline of the World" is 12 and a half feet wide. It was photo-enlarged 32 times, then printed on 90 vinyl panels, each 53 inches wide by the height of the wall, up to 52 feet. The panels form the seamless, 397-foot image.

Pericoli, the mural's designer, received his architectural training at the Polytechnic School in Milan, then moved to New York in 1995, where he worked most notably on the Jubilee Church (Rome, Italy) for Richard Meier & Partners Architects. He is an illustrator and author of adult and children's books, including *Manhattan Within*, *See the City*, *The True Story of Stellina* and the best-selling *Manhattan Unfurled*. Pericoli was born in Italy, teaches architecture at Saint Ann's School in Brooklyn and resides in New York City with his wife and daughter.

Upon completion, the new American Airlines terminal, a \$1.3 billion investment, will have 1,453,000 square feet of floor space and will provide 36 gates, 19 of which will support international flights. It will be able to handle 12.8 million trav-

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JFK Terminal Mural Brings World Closer



Skyline of the World mural and artist Matteo Pericoli.



Photos Roger Lanoue Jr.

facility, offering features that will serve the needs of millions of domestic and international travelers for years to come. "Skyline of the World" blends perfectly with the style and dramatic design of our impressive

buildings from cities throughout the world. "Skyline of the World" juxtaposes well-known international landmarks such as the Sydney Opera House with the Toronto City Hall and the Fuji TV Building in Tokyo.

where they can glimpse the real New York skyline through the terminal's large windows. Structures representing American Airlines destinations from JFK, including Chicago, San Francisco, London, Paris,

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