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ARCHITECTURES Collection
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ARCHITECTURE - DESIGN

ARCHITECTURES

The most remarkable achievements in modern architecture, from the works that heralded the birth of the modern style at the end of the 19th century to the latest designs by today’s top architects.

A ongoing series of films devoted to the most remarkable achievements in modern architecture, from the works that heralded the birth of the modern style at the end of the 19th century to the latest designs by today’s top architects. Each film examines the structure of the building, the architectural techniques as well as its cultural and historical influences. By examining a key building in detail the series brings light to its rôle in the evolution of architecture.

5 DVDs released by ARTE Video

AWARDS:
2002 : Festival International Du Film Sur L’Art Fifa - Prix Du Meilleur Film Educatif Du Ministère des Affaires Municipales et de la Métropole for The Johnson Building.

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ROLEX LEARNING CENTER BY KAZUYO SEJIMA ET RYUE NISHIZAWA (THE)
ROYAL SALTWORKS OF ARC-ET-SENAI

55 x 30 ’, 2007-2014
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In 1050, one of the first grand pilgrim churches of the Western world is built in Conques in the heart of the wild Aveyron region. When first built, it was known as "Roman" architecture. Compared to what was being built at the time, this architecture is rational, daring and luminous.
**ALHAMBRA - GRANADA (THE)**

The Alhambra is a palace, or rather a group of two palaces, built for two consecutive XIVth century caliphs, Yusuf 1st (1333-1353) and Mohammed V (1353-1391) and hemmed into an older fortress (X century), crowning a 700 metre-long rocky peak.

Granada was the last Muslim territory in Spain. Its long lifespan provided a refuge for Arabs not wishing to remain on Catholic territory. It became a shelter enabling Muslim art in Spain to reach its zenith. The Alhambra is a palace, or rather a group of two palaces, built for two consecutive XIVth century caliphs, Yusuf 1st (1333-1353) and Mohammed V (1353-1391).

The two palaces are hemmed into an older fortress (X century), crowning a 700 metre-long rocky peak. The fortress walls are red-coloured (Al-Hamra means red).

The two palaces are adjacent. They form a whole, organised around two patios. The general plan is asymmetrical - the two patios are set at right angles. The building is connected by a series of winding passages. It is hard to imagine a dislike for evenness or symmetry among XIV century architects!

Here, refinement is everywhere - the porcelain mosaics on the floor, the plasterwork sculpted on the walls, the woodwork, sculpted and painted on the ceilings, everything is set out in geometric, floral or epigraphic patterns. Overall this produces a complex yet harmonious decor.

Understanding this division of space, so radically different from the Florentine palaces or the Chateaux of the Renaissance, means understanding an architecture that develops from the inside, and not from the facade, an architecture that uses geometry to hide the plan and not to display it.

An architecture, which does not shy away from either asymmetry or clashing volumes, that uses empty spaces to turn the plan of the buildings around an invisible axis.

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**AMIENS MUSEUM (THE)**

The Picardy Museum in Amiens is a prototype. It was the first museum in France to be built as such. But its construction was no mean feat.

The Museum was initially intended to be a "Little Louvre", a palace. It was only little by little, during the construction work that lasted a record 40 years, and after major questionings that the Museum triumphed over the Monument, and the architectural building adapted to its real function. A succession of seven architects brought the project to fruition, making it an anonymous work of art.
AUDITORIUM BUILDING IN CHICAGO (THE)

In 1871 a huge fire ravaged Chicago. It was a unique opportunity for a generation of young American architects to break away from European forms and think up the new shapes of a typically American style of architecture.

The Chicago Auditorium Building (1887-1889) is considered as the main work of Adler & Sullivan. It is a mixed program which houses a monumental auditorium (4300 places) with excellent acoustics, offices and a hotel in the back. This technical feat was allowed thanks to a very thin metal structure freeing at the maximum the interior space.

Frontages present an original rustic stones base, contrasting with smooth stones of current stages. With <> dominant lines, the small tower appears almost anecdotic !

1946 the auditorium being too vast, the building was repurchased by the Roosevelt University.

CASA MILÀ - ANTONIO GAUDI (THE)

The Casa Milà, in Barcelona, commonly known as "La Pèdrera", is a block of flats built between 1906 and 1909 by Antonio Gaudí, and one of his most unusual works.

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CHARLETTY

The Charlety Stadium’s airy outline stands out in an otherwise densely urban area.

Bruno and Henri Gaudin have broken with the classic design of a closed stadium, and created a bridge between Paris and its suburb.

CITADEL DE LILLE (THE)

Vauban’s “Queen of the citadels” was the model for military constructions all over France.

The Citadel of Lille was built between 1668 and 1671 at the request of Louis 16th of France, from plans drawn up by the engineer and military architect Sébastien de Prestre de Vauban. He designed its fortifications taking into accounts developments in the art of war. Although it no longer fulfils its original function, it has become a source of inspiration for major contemporary architects on account of its simple and exacting design.
CITADEL OF LEISURE - THE POMPEIA SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE IN SAO PAULO (THE)

In the Palmeiras district of Sao Paulo, early 20th century former factory-workshops are aligned with strange blocks of cement that stand tall, facing the city and its towers.

The building is a social and cultural centre for employees. Its architect, Lina Bo Bardi, preferred to refer to it as a "citadel of leisure", a symbol, both of the reconversion of work premises and the affirmation of an Alternative, in front of the city. It is a major architectural example of "Architettura Povera".

COLOGNE CATHEDRAL

Started in 1247, Cologne Cathedral was completed in 1880 after a 300-year break in the work carried out on it.

Via rib vaults and flying buttresses, the film explores Gothic architectural vocabulary and its construction methods. It also reveals the more recent metallic architecture. It shows how this cathedral, which embodies the unity of Germany, is both a Gothic archetype and a building of the 19th century.
ARCHITECTURE - DESIGN

CONVENT OF LA TOURETTE (THE)

Built between 1954 and 1961 at Evreux, near Lyon, by Le Corbusier, the legendary Convent of La Tourette was designed as a dwelling and a place of prayer and study for 100 Dominican monks.

DESSAU BAUHAUS (THE)

Built in 1926, the Bauhaus at Dessau remains Walter Gropius’ most important building - and one of the most famous examples of twentieth-century architecture.

GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART (THE)

Built at the dawn of the 20th century, the Glasgow School of Art is the masterpiece of the only British artist considered as a precursor of modernity, Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

The most eminent practitioner of the "Glasgow Style", the equivalent of French Art Nouveau, Mackintosh devoted more than 10 years to fulfilling what is without doubt his most innovative architectural project, a masterwork that combines constructive rationality, Art nouveau subjectivism, obsessibe attention to detail and decorative fantasy. 10 years of work during which the architect never once set foot on the building site.

After many years in purgatory, the school has become a place of pilgrimage for generations of architects. Its influence is without parallel in early 20th century architecture.
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## FAMILY LODGING IN GUISE

Jean-Baptiste André Godin put Charles Fourier’s ideas for community living into practice, building palatial collective housing for the workers at his factory.

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## GALLERIA UMBERTO 1

The Galleria Umberto I (Emanuele Rocco) is one of the last and biggest glass-roofed arcades to be built in Europe - the swansong of a great architectural invention of the 19th century.

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## GARNIER OPERA (THE)

Charles Garnier's sumptuous Paris Opera is one of the jewels of 19th-century architecture. From the moment it was opened, the public was overwhelmed by the rich variety of materials used in its construction and decoration.

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GEORGES POMPIDOU CENTRE (THE)

Richard Rogers’ and Renzo Piano’s winning design for the Pompidou Centre looks like an outsize meccano structure, and contrasts sharply with the surrounding Parisian architecture.

The architectural project as set out in the competition rules had to meet criteria of interdisciplinarity, freedom of movement & flow and an open approach to exhibition areas. The competition was won by two young architects: Italian Renzo Piano and British designer Richard Rogers who proposed an architecture freed from constraints and in the vein of the 60s’ spirit. The supporting structure and movement & flow systems such as the escalators were relegated to the outside of the building, thereby freeing interior space for museum and activity areas. Secured to the external west façade of the building and constituting “dressing” for the structure, the technical ducting featured four colors: blue for air, green for fluids, yellow for electrical sheaths and red for movement & flow. The transparent nature of the west main façade makes for an outside-looking-in approach which enables people to see what is going on inside the Center from the piazza, a vast esplanade which the architects conceived as a continuity zone linking city and center.

GERMAN PAVILION IN BARCELONA (THE)

Here, between grandeur and gratuity, Mies van der Rohe states his own vision of the new architecture.

The German pavilion at the 1929 Barcelona World Fair holds the record for notoriety per square metre built.

A flat roof, 8 metal posts and a dozen partitions.

How and why did this minimal structure come to be the incarnation of 20th century modernity?

Apart from its iconic dimension, the Pavilion had no other function than to provide shelter for less than an hour during the reception of the King and Queen of Spain on the day of the inauguration of the Fair.
GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM OF BILBAO (THE)

In 1997, the Guggenheim Foundation inaugurates a new museum built by Franck O’ Gehry.

In 1997, the Guggenheim Foundation inaugurates a new museum built by Franck O’ Gehry. Already known for creating strange and dismantled forms, Franck O’ Gehry designs in Bilbao a building proportional to his ambition: a chaotic and abstract monumental sculpture.

HOTEL DE ROHAN AND THE HOTEL DE SOUBISE (THE)

The history of the Hotel de Rohan and the Hotel de Soubise is one of unbridled ambition that fuelled the Princes of Soubise’s dreams of magnificence from 1705 to 1752.

The prince had a dual ambition: he wanted to transform the Hotel de Guise into the Hotel de Soubise for the Crown Prince, and have a second private house built for the fifth son, the Prince-Bishop of Strasbourg.

Two private houses face each other, separated by a beautiful garden in the historic heart of the town. During the various work campaigns, no expense was spared for the Princes of Soubise.

This paradoxical urban complex bears witness both to the Parisian "between court and garden" model and the architects' creativity in adapting it to an irregularly shaped plot. It is also an example of the political role of buildings for the French aristocracy of the 18th century.
HOTEL ROYAL SAS

The SAS Royal Hotel tower marked Denmark's entry into post-war modernity.

It is a major work that combines functionalism, simplicity and elegance, and in which everything, from the ashtrays to the building's volumes, were created and designed by Arne Jacobsen.

HOUSE OF SUGIMOTO (THE)

A house built in 1743 in Kyoto: unvisible codes hierarchise the use of the space. There are no walls, no windows, rooms are simply placed side by side. This space fluid and flexible is one of the inspiration of contemporary architecture

This beautiful traditional house in the centre of Kyoto was built in 1743 and was subsequently destroyed in the great fire of 1870. Fortunately, the book of the Ned-Chu-Gyoji, in which the specifications of the house had been noted down, was preserved, enabling the house to be reconstructed in identical fashion.

We are in Kyoto, in one of the rare preserved quarters - where the town is laid out in blocks, along the North/South and East/West axes, an idea borrowed in the VIIIth century from the Chinese capital Chang'An.

The house occupies 435m2 of the 1,200m2 plot, (less than 2/5 of the land, as tradition calls for).

The house belongs to the Sugimoto family, who made its fortune trading material for kimonos. The building therefore contains a shop (a long facade on the street), the family living-quarters and the employees' living-quarters. It was no simple matter to build, given the ban on adding a floor onto the building along the street.

Pillars support the roof structure. The walls are made from openwork, sliding, wooden panels, with paper frames that can slide along grooves in the floor. The furniture defines the space, and in the same day, each space can change its function. The dining room can become the bedroom - the futon is simply brought out from the cupboard and a wall pulled across.

A strict hierarchy presides over the space, determined by the nature of the ground and the cardinal points, the North-East being unlucky.

The Sugimoto house is a large town house, comprising over 15 rooms, with a complex organisation, linked to the family's activities. It has been perfectly preserved by the different family generations. Recognised as cultural heritage, it is a focal point for different cultural events throughout the year.
IGUALADA CEMETERY (THE)

What should we do with our dead? Incinerate them? Bury them? Make them disappear? Keep them nearby and visit them? A strong memorial across the architecture of the 20th century and landscape, between Le Corbusier and Richard Long.

We are 70km from Barcelona, behind Montserrat. Here as in the rest of Spain, the dead are not buried, they are piled into niches, superimposed tombs.

The new Igualada cemetery was to be the work of a couple of Catalan architects at the start of their careers, Enric Miralles and Carme Pinós. A surprising project because it merges into the countryside. The land has been dug out and fitted with strange alignments of oblique concrete walls, covered with earth and planted.

Is it a building? Or rather a thoroughfare? A place that is the richer for being unfinished?

IRON HOUSE (THE)

Designed by Otto Wagner.

At the turn of the century, Otto Wagner designed one of the 20th century’s first office buildings, breaking radically with traditional bank architecture.

JEAN PROUVE’S HOUSE

In 1953, Jean Prouvé rushes to build his own house using bits and pieces. Yet his house incarnates his most innovative ideas.

Jean Prouvé dreamt of creating houses as beautiful and rational as planes or cars. In 1953, just as he is facing the biggest crisis in his life, he rushes to build his own house using bits and pieces. Yet his house incarnates his most innovative ideas.
JEWISH MUSEUM BERLIN (THE)

Daniel Libeskind’s Jewish Museum in Berlin asks where architecture begins and ends, and whether it is possible to build in the places where everything has been destroyed without obliterating the traces of what no longer exists.

JOHNSON BUILDING (THE)

Frank Lloyd Wright was one of the greatest architects of the 20th century. The Johnson Wax Building, which houses offices and a research laboratory, is numbered amongst his masterpieces.

AWARDS:
2002: Prize for the best educative documentary at the 20th FIFA- International Festival of Films on Art (Montreal, Canada).
LUXEMBOURG PHILHARMONIE (THE)

In 1995, the city of Luxembourg decided to have a large concert hall built on the Kirchberg plateau, the new district for banking and key European institutions.

The challenge for the architect was to associate three major public performance areas in the same complex, a large philharmonic hall, a chamber music auditorium and a space for discovery.

The architect, Christian de Portzamparz, admirably seconded by the experience of the acoustician Xu Yaying, has made this hall into a great musical instrument. Elliptic in shape, the Philharmonie with its filter of white columns and coloured cliffs, opens into the main auditorium that nestles like a jewel in its box. One of the architect's most beautiful buildings.

MAISON DE VERRE (LA)

From 1928 to 1932, the decorator Pierre Chareau builds an avant-garde house of steel and glass in Paris. It is a machine to be lived in, poetic and ludic, full of surprises and strokes of inspirations - a work as rhythmic as it is unclassifiable.

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MAISONS CASTLE (THE)

The Maisons-Laffitte chateau overlooks the Seine and has a French-style garden on a gentle slope.

It is made up of a central block, flanked by two wings. Its symmetrical appearance has become familiar: the Hotel de Ville in Paris and the town halls of each of the twenty Paris arrondissements were built on the same model. It has become so famous that its image has become commonplace. Yet the Château de Maisons was revolutionary in French chateau architecture. It was the masterpiece of a brilliant architect, François Mansart. The model affords a magnificent lesson in architecture.

MENIER CHOCOLATE FACTORY (THE)

From 1870 to 1914, the Menier plant at Noisiel was the biggest chocolate factory in the world. But it was also and foremost a pioneer in architectural innovation.

Its construction in iron and then concrete was intended to symbolise the power and modernity of the company. The three main buildings, the Saulnier mill, the world's first completely metallic structure, the Eiffel Hall and the Cathedral, each in its own way, tells the story of the golden age of industrial architecture.
MULTIMEDIA LIBRARY OF SENDAI

A glass cube 50 metres by 50. Toyo Ito does not propose a solid voluminous and unique piece in which the columns, the floors and the glass skin create a brilliant effect.

An aquarium filled with algae that undulate and drift with the current. A glass cube 50 metres by 50. Toyo Ito does not propose a solid voluminous and unique piece in which the columns, the floors and the glass skin create a brilliant effect. On the contrary, these three elements seem independent of each other. It reinforces the "immateriality" and the lightness of the building.

MUNICIPAL CENTRE OF SAYNÄTSALO (THE)

The Säynätsalo Centre, designed by Alvar Aalto, on an island in Lake Päijänne (Finland).

Alvar Aalto designed the Säynätsalo Centre, which houses the local government offices and public library of a town of 3000 people on an island in Lake Päijänne (Finland) in 1949. It was built over the ensuing two years.
NATIONAL DANCE CENTRE (THE)

A new place of culture, created in 2004, following the reconversion of a municipal venue and the abandonment of a political utopia.

In the early 1970s, architect Jacques Kalisz was asked to build an administrative complex, grouping together under one roof a set of administrative, social and legal services (a court, a social security centre, a police station, a tax centre, a union headquarters, an unemployment pole, a morgue, kennels etc.). The Pantin Administrative Centre was then one gigantic, solid, concrete vessel, beached on the banks of the Ourcq Canal, on the Parisian suburban belt, known as the "Ceinture Rouge".

20 years later, the centre had been deserted, following the failure of a social utopia. Destroying the premises was deemed to be too costly, so it was decided to renovate the place.

In 2004, the building took on a radical new function - offices and office workers gave way to dance companies and rehearsal studios. This reconversion, which was awarded the Equerre d'Argent architectural prize on completion, was the first major creation of two young architect partners, Antoinette Robain and Claire Guieysse.

NEMAUSUS I

Jean Nouvel's utopian block of council flats in Nîmes looks like an ocean liner - and turns social housing clichés on their heads.

Jean Nouvel's utopian block of council flats in Nîmes looks like an ocean liner - and turns social housing clichés on their heads.
PARIS FINE ARTS SCHOOL (THE)

In the heart of Paris, Duban's Ecole des Beaux-Arts offers its students a potted history of architecture. It is the temple of the "Beaux-Arts" style, which has subsequently been copied all over the world.

PARISH PRIEST AT LE RAINCY (THE)

After the First World War ended, the parish priest at Le Raincy decided to build a new church.

But the country was ruined and the clergy's coffers were empty. A man took up the double challenge of urgency and budget: the architect Auguste Perret. Building quickly and cheaply at that period meant building with reinforced concrete. This unloved material was considered shameful and only fit for industrial use.

Thirteen months of work on site was enough to build this, "Concrete Holy Chapel", a magnificent demonstration of the plastic and constructive qualities of this material and a splendid lesson from an architect, for a time forgotten, who revolutionised the language of architecture.
PHAENO, BUILDING AS LANDSCAPE

Zaha Hadid's museum is an unusual object that has landed alongside the rail tracks, between the station and the bridge leading to the Autostadt. It is like a space ship out of Star Wars, a great concrete and glass triangle.

At the end of the ninety years, the town of Wolfsburg, between Berlin and Hannover, order the construction of a new addition: a science centre will be called Phaeno (like phenomena).

The project is notable for satisfying two ambitions: for a woman, Zaha Hadid, it is one of her first major tasks and for the city, it is a statement of identity in the face of its powerful taxpayers Volkswagen. A single, triangular, concrete block is built on curious bases, some << cônes>>. Each << cône >> holds necessities pertinent: group reception, restaurant, the shop...

The triangular, is occupied by the exhibition area with 250 scientific experiments all about learning and amusement for children and adults. The building supposes a path, a way of being part of the world and yet feeling space like the experiments about vision, matter or energy.

Phaeno is an experimental landscape and a landscape to feel. As Zaha Hadid says: The landscape is the plan.

PIERREFONDS, THE ARCHITECT CASTLE

A real / mock Middle Aged castle rebuilt by Viollet Le Duc for the Emperor Napoleon III.

A reconstruction that paradoxically opened the way for modern architecture.
PYRAMID OF THE PHAROAH DJOSER A SAQQARA (THE)

The pyramid of King Djoser at Saqqara in Egypt, built in 2700BC by Imhotep, the legendary inventor of dressed stone construction.

The first pyramid, the oldest monument in dressed stone in the history of the world, the birth certificate of what today we call "architecture.

AWARDS:
2009 : Selected at FIFA - International Festival of Films on Art (Montréal, Canada).
Adalberto Libera was one of the most important architects of the XXth century, as well as being one of the most emblematic. He was a pioneer of architectural modernity and a die-hard fascist.

He was both innovative and an architect of the regime. Unlike the Nazis, Mussolini made an alliance with the modern movement, which became, for architecture, the official style of fascism.

In 1937, the regime launched one of its most ambitious projects - the E 42. The idea was to create a new monumental city embodying the new Imperial Rome, for the International Exhibition of 1942.

Libera won the competition for one of the most important buildings of the group - the Reception and Congress Building. It was more than a monumental building. It was "a basilica and temple", "a pantheon in reinforced concrete", a rationalist manifesto founded on simple geometrical forms - a parallelepiped and a cube.

Launched amidst great pomp and circumstance in 1938, the work made rapid progress initially and the structure was finished by the end of 1939. But when Italy entered war alongside Nazi Germany, this threw a spanner in the works. The pace of work became sluggish and was abandoned altogether in 1944 due to the allied bombing.

The E 42 quarter was to remain a dead town and wasteland, until in 1950, when the Italian Christian Democrats decided to resume work on it. The Reception and Congress building was only finished and put into service in 1952.

Analysing the building as it is today, but also using many archives from fascist Italy, this film explores the paradoxical alliance between a formal avant-garde movement and a totalitarian ideology. On a more general level, it also explores the link between architecture and power.
ROISSY 1

Roissy 1 embodied the aspirations of modern architecture.

It was built during the initial era of mass travel, a pre-crisis era that revered progress and dreams of high speed and that witnessed the first appearances of airport architecture. People would come to Roissy 1 to admire, no longer the planes, but the architecture.

Paul Andreu was the main player in this revolution. He was 29 years old at the time. It was his first construction and the very beginning of a long series of about fifty platforms throughout the world that were to make him into one of the greatest 20th century airport architects.

NEW

ROLEX LEARNING CENTER BY KAZUYO SEJIMA ET RYUE NISHIZAWA (THE)

We are on the shore of Lake Geneva, facing the Alps, a few kilometres from Lausanne. Poised on the shore of the lake, lies a wave of cement and glass, which has inspired many metaphors since it was built in 2010 - from a slice of emmental cheese to a piece of molecular fabric.

The building is certainly unlike any other and its shape provides no clues as to what goes on inside it. It is, in fact, a Learning Centre, a new concept in spaces dedicated to knowledge.
ROYAL MOSQUE AT ISPHAHAN (THE)

In 1598, King Abbas decided to make Isphahan his capital city and planned a huge urban project.

In 1598, King Abbas planned an immense urban project. His royal Mosque captured the unprecedented wealth of an art of living, the king's power, and the talent of architect Ali Akbar Esfahani.

The royal Mosque is at once a place of prayer, a garden in the middle of the desert and a means for writing all the texts of the faith. It is also a school and a place of public hygiene. It is the incarnation of an incredibly rich life style, the power of a king and the talents of hundreds of artists and craftsmen.

ROYAL SALTWORKS OF ARC-ET-SENANS

At the end of the 18th century, Claude Nicolas Ledoux builds a monumental factory in Franche-Comté for the King of France.

It is an aesthetic revolution, an innovative industrial site and the structuring core of an ideal city that will never come into being.
SAINT PANCRAS STATION (THE)

In the 19th century in London, the Midland Company had Saint Pancras and a luxury hotel built.

Engineer W.H. Barlow carried out a major feat, creating a 73 metre single-span hall, with no columns or pillars. As for architect Sir George Gilbert Scott, his Midland Grand Hotel was a neo-gothic manifesto.

SAINTE GENEVIEVE LIBRARY (THE)

La bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève, place du Panthéon, est considérée aujourd’hui comme un jalon essentiel sur le chemin qui mène de l’architecture classique à l’architecture moderne du XXe siècle.

A l’époque, il n’y a aucun modèle architectural pour ce type de grand équipement public et les problèmes inédits qu’il pose : sécurité, conservation organisation, confort. La nouvelle bibliothèque doit contenir 80 000 volumes à la disposition de 500 lecteurs. Sur le site d’une ancienne prison démolie, Henri Labrouste élève un bâtiment d’une indéniable beauté avec sa façade, son premier étage entièrement occupé par une grande salle de lecture où, pour la toute première fois, la structure en fonte et en fer forgé est apparente.
SATOLAS TGV

At Santiago Calatrava’s TGV station at Lyon-Satolas airport, in the middle of nowhere, the high-speed trains travel through an amazing steel structure at speeds of up to 300 kilometres per hour.

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SEOUL HIDDEN UNIVERSITY (THE)

Seoul. Urban density. Skyscrapers. An Asian city. At the end of the road, a vast esplanade giving onto a landscape of wooded hills and buildings of various periods, Ewha university is emblematic of this meld of tradition and hypermodernity set in the very heart of the capital city.

Classed as one of the top universities, the Ewha campus is the largest women’s university in the world, with more than 20,000 students. It was founded in 1886 by Mary F. Scranton an American missionary. In 2002 the university launched an international competition for the construction of a new building, or rather a new domain. A complex 70,000 m2 (750,000 square foot) programme in which place for studies (lecture rooms, amphitheatres, libraries) administration and commercial ventures (theatre, cinema, cafeteria, shops) would coexist. On either side of a large divide, the installation is completely buried; the roofs with their plants follow the natural slope of the terrain. The two mirrored façades make high, glazed cliffs.

Dominique Perrault, the architect of the French National Library in Paris and the Olympic Velodrome in Berlin, continues here with a concept that is dear to him: the absence of architecture. It is the urban dimension and the organisation of the territory that prevails over the built object. The landscape supplants the architecture.
HOME OF THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY (THE)
At the top of a sloping garden is a mysterious white dome and an undulating glass façade: the headquarters of the French Communist Party built between 1965 and 1980 by Oscar Niemeyer.

A fine example of the curtain wall designed by Jean Prouve, an extraordinary Central Committee room under the dome, some of the finest Parisian architecture of the period.

SIZA SCHOOL (THE)
Alvaro Siza, one of the greatest living architects, is designing new buildings for the school of architecture where he himself studied and continues to teach.
STONE THERMAL BATHS (THE)

The thermal baths of Vals-les-Bains designed by Peter Zumthor reinvent the very concept of bathing and provide the stage-setting for a play of light on water in all its various states.

In the remote alpine village of Vals-les-Bains, in Switzerland, a mountain hot spring has been enjoyed for over a century. In the 1990s, however, as the tourist complex and spa were declining, the community decided to construct a new facility. Designed by Peter Zumthor, the building is the form of a parallelepiped, which seems half submerged in the mountain face. From the route that crosses the village, all that can be seen is a large wall of flat stones, with large openings resembling fissures. Closer up, foliated strata of gneiss, the material traditionally used in the roofs of the chalets, can be seen, which form horizontal bands of identical widths. Inside the thermal baths, along the sixty-metre long walls and terraces, are a stone clock and precise spatial configurations. The building echoes the idea of thermal baths with an astute juxtaposition of the various states of water, of stone everywhere the same, immutable and reassuring, and variations of light, creating an experience of both sensuality and spirituality.

VAN NELLE FACTORY AT ROTTERDAM (THE)

Designed by the architects Jan Brickman and Leendert Van der Vlugt, supervised by Kees Van der Leuw, the boss of Van Nelle, the factory is the most important and the most accomplished example of industrial architecture in the modern movement.

The result of a cross between Taylorism and Bauhaus, the Van Nelle factory at Rotterdam, built between 1926 and 1931, is a gigantic factory in which, up to the 80s, they processed tobacco, coffee and tea. Rather than a simple building, picture a great machine, a huge liner clad in glass and metal.

The completely glazed facades expose the internal structure of the buildings and allowed the employees to work by daylight. Every step through lift wells, staircases and bridges was visible thanks to their glass walls - transparency was both a touch of style and a means of surveillance.
**DISASTER UTOPIA**

After the tsunami in Japan in March 2011, an architects’ collective led by Toyo Ito launched the project “Homes for All”, communal buildings for the inhabitants of the devastated towns.

Along with Toyo Ito, 3 young architects, Su Fujimoto, Kumiko Inui and Akihisa Hirata, build one of these homes in Rikuzentakata. Using trees from the destroyed forest, they create the image of a house with a pointed roof, pierced by 19 tree trunks. Running around the inner space is a promenade deck alternating stairs and terraces, facing the countryside: the rectangular street grid is the only trace left of the vanished town.

Designed in 6 months, built in 5 months, the “Home” was awarded the Golden Lion at the 2012 Venice Biennale. The title is a reference to the phenomenon of mutual assistance and solidarity that emerges following a catastrophe. The “Home for All” project seeks to further such utopias.

**VIENNA SAVINGS BANK (THE)**

Otto Wagner designed one of the first office blocks of the 20th century, radically departing from the style of architecture traditionally associated with banks.

Otto Wagner designed one of the first office blocks of the 20th century, radically departing from the style of architecture traditionally associated with banks.
In the second half of the 16th century, the countryside around Venice witnessed the arrival of a totally new type of housing. They were called "Villas", in reference to the villas of Ancient Rome. They were all the product of the same man, their inventor - Andrea Palladio.

In about 1560, in Maser, the Barbaro brothers, members of one of the most important Venetian families, asked the architect Andrea Palladio to build them a country house and the painter Paolo Veronese to decorate the walls. Andrea Palladio, a former stonemason, had become the favourite architect of the Venetian aristocracy and invent a new type of country residence, half palazzo, half farm, known as a Villa. The palladian villa is a revolution.

For the first time, Architecture must also consider habitation and daily usage in trying to marry beauty with utility, for a new architectural ambition and a new concept of beauty. Some thirty of these prestigious houses were built in Venetia between 1550 and 1580, Andrea Palladio define the basis for all orderly and geometric occidental architecture.

In front of the rationnalist work of Palladio, the Veronése frescoes which decorate the villa Barbaro are a trompe l'oeil type of illusion, play to open imaginary doors and windows everywhere and insert a dialog between real architecture and painted architecture.

The Villa Rotonda is the most famous of all Palladio’s villas and for some critics it is the most beautiful home ever built in the West.

Rem Koolhaas’s Villa dall’Ava, a single-family dwelling, sets a fantastical imaginative enterprise in the bourgeois Paris suburb of Saint-Cloud.

Rem Koolhaas’s Villa dall’Ava, a single-family dwelling, sets a fantastical imaginative enterprise in the bourgeois Paris suburb of Saint-Cloud.
VITRAHAUS

In 2006, the company Vitra asked two Swiss architects, Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron, to design a building in Germany, to showcase the furniture of their new "Home" collection, and to include a show-room, a restaurant and a shop.

The result was not one building, but ten. Houses with sloping roofs, stacked over four levels. All the houses are different, in their length, width, height, and roof design. Each house was inspired by a traditional house of the region, which was carefully photographed. The building was finished in 2009.

WIND BOX (THE)

The Fort de France Education Authority is the only example of a contemporary architectural building in Martinique. It is also the only official building to be naturally ventilated by the trade winds.

Taking on board both natural ventilation issues and the requirements of an architectural approach, Christian Hauvette has created a totally open building, in which the boundaries between exterior and interior are blurred.
ARCHITECTURE - DESIGN

In 1987, he was the first Japanese recipient of the Pritzker Prize, the world’s highest distinction for architecture. To understand the real origin of the two Olympic gymnasiums built by Kenzo Tange for the 1964 Olympic Games, one must look back over the Japanese defeat after WW2 and the ensuing years: the American occupation of Japan, Japan's absence from the international scene, and its slow economic recovery. It is rare for a building to embody so many ambitions: those of an architect and a team of 25 young architects and urbanists; those of a city; and those of a country determined to become a world power once again.
# THEMATIC INDEX

## ARTS - CULTURE

### ARCHITECTURE - DESIGN

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