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EVolo 04 (Summer 2012): Re-imagining The Contemporary Museum, Exhibition And Performance Space: Cultural Architecture Ahead Of Our Time





Synopsis

The architecture for performance and exhibition, being museums, galleries, music halls, pavilions, etc., has been in the leading edge of architectural innovation throughout the history and evolution of the discipline. Architects and designers experiment on new aesthetics, concepts, and ideas with projects that tend to have a flexible program and a large budget. In many cases, the main requirement of such structures is not only to accommodate a specific program but also to inspire the imagination of its users and challenge the current state of architectural design. Some examples, such as the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao by Frank Gehry or the Sydney Opera House by Jørn Utzon are considered design masterpieces of the 20th Century. Gehry's Museum transformed the city of Bilbao from a small industrial Spanish city into a world destination, while Utzon's Opera House became the symbol of Sydney and Australia. This issue of eVolo studies the most innovative examples of performance and exhibition architecture today. These are projects that revolutionize architecture on many levels, including sustainability, aesthetics, technology, and urban design. It is interesting to point out that these works are not concentrated in one specific region, but are located in every corner of the globe; from MVRDV's Comic and Animation Museum in China, to the new Broad Museum in Los Angeles by Diller Scofidio + Renfro, or Kengo Kuma's Victoria and Albert Museum in Dundee, Scotland.

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Carlo Aiello graduated from the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP) at Columbia University in New York City. After collaborating with Asymptote Architecture and Skidmore, Owings and Merrill he established eVolo Magazine in 2006 for which he is Editor-in-Chief and Creative Director. Carlo is also professor of Architectural Design at the University of Southern California since 2010.

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