

Architecture

Based on Blue Muggle notes 17 Dec 2013 and Alain de Botton's book 'The Architecture of Happiness'

1. 'The mother art is architecture.'

Frank Lloyd Wright

Did anyone have any lessons on Architecture at school?

2. 'Without architecture of our own we have not soul of our civilisation'

Frank Lloyd Wright

3. 'I call architecture frozen music' Goethe

. 'Every great architect is – necessarily – a great poet'

Frank Lloyd Wright

4. 'We require from buildings two kinds of goodness:

first, the doing their practical duty well; then that they be graceful and pleasing in doing it'.

John Ruskin

Until the early 20th century only the classical style of architecture was considered to be beautiful and buildings built in the first century were copied. Why?.

5. What is a beautiful Building?

6. The early 20th century brought 'modernism' founded on the new abilities of engineers who built bridges, for example, to get from A to B across water without any thought for the aesthetic. Modernists said they wanted functionality to transcend form when all prior architects believed their job was to make functional buildings pretty. Le Corbusier a Swiss architect was on the forefront of this movement. Alain de Botton thinks this was a sham and they sub-consciously put form before function.

7. Some believe that art and hence architecture emanate moral messages and that buildings can whisper these messages to make us better people.

'We shape our buildings, therefrom they shape us'

William Churchill

8. When we think of architecture we think of grand buildings, but what of the more mundane? –little boxes on the hillside

De Botton when staying in a Premier Inn said everything about the room conspired to make him unhappy.

9. Were the '60s quite the worst time for architecture in the modern era?

10. Is the present a golden age for architecture?