

- 1) **Imagine that you have won a RIBA Award for a building that you designed, but which the client changed throughout the build process. You feel that the building is no longer your original design. What are your emotions about winning the award?**

What is the RIBA Award?

RIBA stands for the Royal institute of British architects, and RIBA award is one of several awards that an architect or building can receive in Europe. The work is submitted to a panel and judged against several buildings. The winner is chosen from their contributions to architecture and is awarded to the architect.

Other awards

Other awards that can be won in Europe are the AIA Gold Medal, UIA Gold medal, Pritzker Prize, and the Praemium imperiale. These are either awarded to the architect, the architectural practice, or the building.

Positive

Winning an award has its positives such as:

The award associated the architecture's name as trustworthy, experienced, and talented. Making a name in architectural career is highly as important as getting the job. As having a client trust in you allows for you to suggest ideas and they be more open minded to hearing out.

The publicity brings in more clients meaning, providing the practice and the architect with more work, this not only brings in more money to the practice but helps expose their name and work to be recognised.

The more the architect gets recognised, the more jobs role in and they can advance their career, gaining opportunities to work on bigger scale projects across the world and the high amount of work coming in they can choose what they wish to work on.

The architecture winning the award, can help inspire future architectural generations, with helping them find what their design styles are and using your design as a reference.

Negative

Though winning the award carries a high number of negatives:

Negatives for the architect and practice are they come into the public eye, and there comes a substantial risk, there is constant pressure of what's next for the architect, pressure for all the designs to be award winning, and their work is judged more harshly. If any mistakes are made within their career as they are now famous in the public eye their work will be questioned.

Though it's just not the architect that can experience negative effects for the award, the building has become famous. Once a building is famous members of the public want to see this building, so press will stand and take pictures, tourists will travel to take pictures. In many cases it gets out of hand, if the house is gated to ensure privacy public and press have been known to hop the wall to get a better view. People constantly calling, ringing the bells to get interviews or views of the property. Taking the clients privacy away. In some cases the house has been abandoned and they move somewhere else.

emotions about winning the award under the circumstances

There is two ways you can look at this.

Idea 1

The work is no longer mine alone, the adapted designs are not mine and these changes have been added to make the property more suitable for the client. I alone am responsible for the original design and do not deserve an award for the building as it is.

Idea 2

The building was originally my design adapted from the client's needs and wants for the property. From my original design the client took inspiration and could picture ideas that would accommodate them a better than the original design. These changes are still classed as my work as they required for me to amend the design and make the new changes functional with in the space. So, in this case the award has been earned and as the architect I am deserving.

Conclusion

The RIBA award has some outstanding benefits to a practice that is either starting up or is well established. The benefits defiantly out way the negatives for the architect. In my opinion architecture inspirations and ideas don't just originate from the architect. Frank Gehry is perfect example of this, his ideas come from buildings that already exist. So, the changes are still the architects work and should be recognised for the award.

2) Consider the term 'organic architecture'.? What is your understanding of this term, and does it have any relevance to architecture today?

Organic architecture

Simple meaning of organic architecture – is natural forms that were incorporated into the natural landscape. Basically, it is to bring the outside world in and let in the inside out

The opposite is inorganic architecture this means man made building which is a building that is processed and built to just provide functions limiting the relationship between the interior and natural. For example, more industrial buildings/ mass production.

Organic architecture an architect's approach of combining the relationship between building and nature. This includes the natural forms, structure, and local materials. Organic architecture is designed that the inside space is never simply a box to keep the people living there away from the outside but designed as a space to incorporate and respect the outside space, why continuing to provide the necessary functions of a building.

Organic architecture no two designs are the same as it takes several forms a style. This is down to the style of the architect and the surrounding landscape

Frank Lloyd Wright has a famous building called the Falling water that shows the relationship between the inside space and the outside space. Wright designed the building to provide a relationship between people and nature. This design shows that elements combined into the design. The nature of the location was respected, and the building was a frame of its environment.

Organic architecture does it have any relevance today?

Organic architecture is subjective, it may be relevant and beneficial to one architect and client but may not be for another.

Yes

Organic architecture has defiantly got relevance for several reasons.

With the climate goals been setting by the government, organic architecture today its relevant because of the environment, there is several landscapes being destroyed to add a building, cutting down trees to allow for heavy machinery, dig up the site to add carpark and as a country there should aim to preserve the nature.

The benefits and wellbeing of having nature surrounding them, there is significant studies showing that it makes people healthier and happier. Allowing people to experience true peace within their homes.

No

Although Organic architecture has relevance to some clients and architects it is not convenient or relevant to everybody. Organic architecture is a approach that can result in a pricey building that many people won't be able to afford due to the materials required, the planning, and labor costs because heavy machinery can't be taken through the land without care because the landscape is important to the building.

Though some architects and clients don't believe in the building flowing with the landscape, as they want their designs to stand out and contrast its surroundings as if the building was on a podium saying look at me.

To build an organic architecture can be incredibly expensive, take time and require land space.

Conclusion

My conclusion is that organic architecture is subjective, no two people are the same. Though organic architecture should always be provided when there is an opportunity. The movement of organic architecture has preserved nature and created a natural harmony between the outside space and the inside space which can help mental health and allow for some amazing designs and views. With the way global warming is going as architects we should be considerate to the landscape cut less trees and make the minimum disturbance to the land to help out our future.

4) As an architectural student, what do you think about the two UK Channel 4 television programmes, *Grand Designs* and *Amazing Spaces*?

What is architecture?

Architecture is the art of designing and constructing a building

What do these programs display as architecture?

These programs do not necessarily teach you prosaically about architecture what is required today, though it does give inspiration what is possible with in our designs and explains and shows the progress in a way that any member of the public watching can understand.

Grand designs

Grand designs are a program that is based in the UK. This is where a producer shows the most unusual and grand designs, showing the stages of construction. From the meeting client, discussing the plans and then shows the stages of construction to the completed building.

Though the program is very informative of the stages of constructions. It keeps to reality that delays, and changes happen at various stage through construction, and explains why the change or delay has happened and why it wasn't foreseen.

Amazing Spaces

Amazing spaces is a program that is shown in the UK, where a presenter travels the UK to look a smaller property and take inspiration to maximise the space and then travels to homes in need, that are struggling and adapts their property to maximise it space.

Positives

- They provide Inspiration for a design, location, and material use. Not only visual on TV but students can actual go view the building.
- Its informative about the design process – from the plans to the finish building.
- The shows highlight delays and even changes with in the design showing some of the thing's students can experience as architect in the real world
- Its informative about budgets and that some projects come under, but most go over.
- Students can reference from the show, something that they learnt in class (function over form)
- It can teach students how to maximize their space within a design, which is important in today's architecture requirements
- It doesn't just cover one type of building

Negatives

- The designs don't show us the beginning of the process where the client and architect form the design – so it may teach us a little bit about the end of the process by talking about the plans, it doesn't show the whole process. Which limits us on learning a project start to finish
- Some of the designs are to elaborate and doesn't explain how they got planning permission for such a design.
- Been known to destroy older buildings that contain a lot of history with it walls, or waste a building that was functional, and their high amount of waste created on both shows, they

could have considered recycling the old material or incorporating a little of their history in their designs.

- It can give clients the wrong expectations, the shows don't show enough architectural role.
- It can set expectations for clients to high.

My views

As a student studying architecture, these programs are great help for several reasons,

They have taught me that there will be unforeseen delays, or changes and architects must be prepared to change and adapt, part of their design to accommodate this. The show has taught me the importance of space within a design, elaborating to what is taught at university function over form. It shown me several possibilities with designing that I would never originally think of and especially the material choices and the shape of the building by that I mean not all designs have to be square. The shows have shown me from there elaborate designs that no two clients are the same and that architecture is forever changing. The show defiantly helps me relate back to my course and gets me asking questions, for example I watched on grand designs them using straw for a building, now as a student I thought this was used for the older homes like straw roofs during the Victorian period but from seeing this I researched and found that there are still quite a few houses that have straw within them in the UK.

The program has showed us what we are getting taught in university is defiantly relevant and relatable to the real world, it gives us ideas and understandings of what is expected from our designs not just as a student but when we become professionals.

Conclusion

As a student taking architecture, I recommend every architecture student watches this alongside their course, it a tool to help us understand a little of what architect face and the construction process. It can help us students relate to the real world with design, why providing us with solutions and inspirations. Though don't be mistaken what is taught in university is in greater detail but defiantly helps see what teachers are say in visual context in a real situation.

3) What does the inclusion of 'ornament' signify, in architectural terms?

What does ornament mean?

Ornament in architecture is the detailing added to a functioning structural form, though is used more to add decoration than function, and enhance a more elegant design. That could be argued that it originated in Greece.

What does ornament signify?

Ornament is an outdated design concept that comes down to symbolism, examples of this are,

Wealth – ornament architecture in today's day age and in the past has always symbolised money. The ornament is commonly added to pillars or incorporated in the stairs or wall with spirals. They are added to the designs as an aesthetic and if taken away it would not affect the building as it adds no function as a normal simple pillar could do the same job. This is to show to the lower class that they can afford more luxury things, as if a woman in an elegant dress adding pearls to her finished look.

Commonly seen in country houses across the UK. A perfect example is Calke Abbey



Religion- A religious building that incorporated Ornament not only represented wealth as in money but as wealth as in the value of faith. This was not just incorporated in the columns would betray Greek pantheon several places of the building, they could be seen on the pillars of the nave, and aisle. The poor was not associated with the religious building and they often had to use a private door showing wealth was important with in the building that incorporate ornament. You don't commonly see this anymore, as religion does play a big role in 2020 society

Perfect example of this Sagrada Familia



Benefits

- Ornamental is outdated design concept but with modern technologies designs that would take months, can now be mass produce cutting time
- It adds autistic please to the building
- Adds value to the building

Negatives

- Ornamental no longer no longer has connection to the culture as it once did, adding it to today's building can be interpreted as a waste of time and cost.
- It will \associated with money

Conclusion

Ornament doesn't really have a place in today society as a building can look extravert without the need of ornament within the design due to progression of architecture. Though ornamental should be persevered as it has cultural and historic value.