Will Alsop: 'His joyously surreal creations broke the laws of physics'.

British architect Will Alsop dies aged 70 after short illness

Will Alsop obituary

The British architect Will Alsop has died aged 70. His practice confirmed on Sunday.

Will Alsop was one of the most influential and provocatively modernist architects of the last four decades, but his legacy is a complex one. He was an iconoclast who gained fame for buildings that were not only groundbreaking but also controversial.

Alsop was born in 1947 and grew up in Northampton. He left school at 16 to work as an apprentice for a local architect, and he later went on to study at the Architectural Association in London. He founded his own practice, Alsop Architecture, in 1973.

Alsop was known for his bold and innovative designs, which often challenged conventional ideas of architecture. He believed in the power of design to transform communities and enhance people's lives. His work included a variety of buildings, from residential towers to public buildings.

Alsop's most famous building was the Peckham Library in London, which he designed with the German architect Jan Störmer. It won the 2000 Stirling prize, thanks to its double-height reading room and trademark columns.

Alsop also designed the Royal Festival Hall in London, which he completed in the 1960s. He was involved in the design of many other buildings, including the Eden Project in Cornwall and the Eden Park Health Centre in New Zealand.

In 2011, Alsop was awarded an OBE for his services to architecture. He was also appointed a Knight Bachelor in 2012.

Alsop was a controversial figure, and his designs often drew criticism for their unconventional shapes and materials. However, he was also celebrated for his ability to create buildings that were both functional and beautiful.

It's with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to a truly great architect. Will Alsop's legacy will live on through his work and his influence on the world of architecture.