Will Alsop, 70: British architect’s ‘flying tabletop’ changed Toronto

Will Alsop first came to global attention for the Peckham Library, which opened in London in 2000. It was one of his first major projects, and it helped launch his career in the global architectural spotlight. Alsop’s design was a radical departure from traditional library architecture, with its bright colors, playful forms, and surprising materials. It was a visual celebration of the joy of reading, and it quickly became a symbol of the city’s cultural renewal.

Alsop’s work has been both controversial and influential. His designs are often criticized for their lack of functionality and practicality, but they are also praised for their ability to challenge the status quo and inspire new ways of thinking about architecture. Alsop’s approach to design is always firmly rooted in his belief that architecture should be approached more as an experience than as a mere container for people. As unabashedly outlandish as his work could seem, it was always driven by a desire to reshape the way we think about buildings and their role in society.

Alsop’s career has been marked by a series of high-profile projects, including the Palazzo della Civilta at the University of Florence, the Royal Ontario Museum, and the Centre Pompidou in Paris. He has also been recognized with numerous awards, including the Stirling Prize, the Pritzker Architecture Prize, and the Royal Gold Medal from the Royal Institute of British Architects.

The Canadian Real Estate Association reports that in April, sales were down 43.5 per cent year-over-year. In 60 per cent of all markets, and the average sale price decreased 11.3 per cent. New listings are down 11.7 per cent; prices dropped in 84.5 per cent of all markets. "The supply crunch continues to plague the market," said Kellen Kusmir, chair of the CREA's national real estate board. "This year's rebound will be different from previous years, where we saw significant gains in sales and prices. This year, we're seeing a more moderate increase in sales, with prices softening in many areas."