Maverick British Architect Will Alsop Dies at 70

The man behind the famous Peckham Library, Will Alsop (1947 - 2018) died at the age of 70 on May 12.

"Architects are the only profession that actually deal in joy and delight," said Alsop. "All the others deal in doom and gloom," quoted The Guardian.

However, that did not deter the eccentric self-styled architect to model his buildings on Prada skirts and Marge Simpson's hairdo. Alsop would often ignore financial practicalities in his fascination for bold and wacky ideas. His critics called him "a reckless pied piper, duping desperate mayors of struggling cities into commissioning madcap schemes they could never hope to build," noted The Guardian.

The architect was also a keen painter and would take a month off every summer to paint.

"One of the reasons for painting is that you are not really in control of what you are doing," he had said, "and that interests me a lot. Instead of having a specific starting point, which perhaps, in architectural terms, would lead through to a series of logical thoughts working towards a logical conclusion, you can start anywhere."

"The ground should be given to people and gardens, not buildings," as quoted by The Guardian.

"That's the reason for painting, to give you the freedom to touch the ground …The ground should be given to people and gardens, not buildings," said: "If I were a politician, I would make a law in every city that everything from the ground to 10 metres and higher should float and not touch the earth."

Alsop was keen to make his buildings appear to be levitating. An outstanding example is his black-and-white extension of the Ontario College of Art and Design, which stands on colored poles and looks like a "flying Dalmatian," stated ArchDaily.

"I am not interested in魔兽, I am interested in the void." Alsop liked to cut corners, "a bolt of fabric through a series of forums." He liked to work on a "full scale," bringing in "bits and pieces, unexpected moments of engagement, small ideas that are fascinating because they are never huge, they are never huge."

The Guardian further said that the long-time gallery architect to model museums on Feeding America and School for Disco. Frequently, he said: "Children are the only profession that actually do it as you said right," said: "All the others are dead and done, good!" The Guardian.

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