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DES382

February 20, 2023

Santiago Calatrava



Figure 1. Calatrava Revisits His Iconic Milwaukee Design, 20+ Years Later

4, May 2022,

<https://www.milwaukeeemag.com/calatrava-revisits-his-milwaukee-designs-over-20-years-later/>

Santiago Calatrava was born in Benimamet, Spain, on July 28, 1951. Calatrava launched the firm Calatrava Valls S.A. in Zurich in 1983. Today it is a global firm with offices in New York City, Paris, Valencia, Dubai, and Zürich. Calatrava's inspiring architecture is drawn from his talent to incorporate both engineering and aesthetics into astonishing iconic structures. He believes that the practice of architecture gathers all fields of arts and brings them together in one creation. This is

the reason, along with his architectural projects, he did not lose hold of his skills in painting and sculpting.

“For me, architecture is an art....the same as painting is an art or sculpture is an art. Yet, architecture moves a step beyond painting and sculpture because it is more than using materials. Architecture responds to functional outputs and environmental factors. Yet, fundamentally, it is important for me to stress the art in architecture to bring harmony.”

(Calatrava, 2012)

Figure 2 is a major work by Santiago Calatrava of the World Trade Center Transportation Hub or known as the Oculus in New York City. This building, along with many others of Calatrava's, inspires me because it rejects the idea of “form follows function”. I am encouraged by the idea to focus more on aesthetical aspects rather than structural ones.



Figure 2. WORLD TRADE CENTER TRANSPORTATION HUB, NEW YORK  
2016 from Santiago Calatrava Engineers & Architects, 20, February 2023,  
[https://calatrava.com/projects/world-trade-center-transportation-hub-new-york.html?view\\_mode=gallery&image=1](https://calatrava.com/projects/world-trade-center-transportation-hub-new-york.html?view_mode=gallery&image=1)

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