

David Adjaye

By: Arpad Marka



Early life

- He was born in 1966 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- During his childhood he constantly went to different cities and countries because his father was a Ghanaian diplomat.
- At the age of 9 he went to live in Britain
- Adjaye was born into a time of emancipation and freedom from colonialism in Africa which influenced his work.
- During his childhood he saw further inequalities in life, especially for disabled people because of his partially paralysed brother.
- While going to South Bank University in London, he started to think about how facilities can be designed for handicapped people.
- In 1990 he won the RIBA(Royal Institute of British Architects) International Bronze Award.
- He graduated with a Masters degree in 1993 for the Royal College of Art in London.



Career Life

- During his career he gave lectures at the Royal College of Art.
- His early works included mostly residential projects such as Chris Ofili's (British painter) house in 1999.
- Later on he moved onto larger projects like the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo Norway.
- From these larger projects he became a notable name in the architecture world and got his major projects from these successes.
- In 2000 Adjaye established his own firm called Adjaye Associates. The firm currently operated with offices in London, New York, and Accra.
- His firm has completed projects Europe, North America, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa.



Nobel Peace Center

Major Works



National Museum of African American History and Culture

Principles and elements of Design:

- Horizontal lines: The use of long horizontal lines gives a feeling of calm and peace, one that is nice for a museum.
- Diagonal Lines - In contrast the diagonal lines give a feeling of action, creating an interesting feeling and structure.
- Texture: the rough texture gives the building a darker look.
- Balance - The building has mostly a symmetrical balance.
- Rhythm: the building has a regular rhythm with the repeating floors.

Major Works



Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO

Principles and elements of Design:

- Lines: The use of curvy lines contrasted with the horizontal and vertical lines give a feeling of oddity and creativity.
- Form: The odd and creative form gives the building a sense of grandeur and creativity.
- Balance: there really isn't a balance in this building giving it a feeling of grandeur.
- Emphasis: The emphasis in this building is focused on the top rectangular prism.

Major Works



Museum of Contemporary Art Denver

Principles and elements of Design:

- Lines: The long horizontal lines give a feeling of calmness something suitable for a museum.
- Space: The blank sides give a feeling of openness and clutter free ness.
- Texture: the windows give a smooth texture reflecting light and making the building lighter.
- The building has an asymmetrical balance since the left side has an overhang.
- Movement: The flat sides give no sign of movement or action.

Major Works



Princeton University Art Museum

This building has not been built yet these are just plans.

Principles and elements of Design:

- Lines: The horizontal lines give a feeling of calmness something useful in a museum.
- Texture: the building has a rough texture with protrusions all round the sides.
- Balance: There is an asymmetrical balance here.
- Rhythm: many places have a regular rhythm here.
- Movement: This rhythm also give a feeling of movement and action.

Bibliography

“David Adjaye.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 9 Mar. 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Adjaye.

“Who We Are.” Adjaye Associates, 18 July 2020, www.adjaye.com/who-we-are/.

“David Adjaye.” Encyclopædia Britannica, Encyclopædia Britannica, Inc., www.britannica.com/biography/David-Adjaye.

Tom Ravenscroft. “Adjaye Associates Unveils ‘Romantic and Porous’ Princeton University Art Museum.” Dezeen, 24 Sept. 2020, www.dezeen.com/2020/09/24/princeton-university-art-museum-adjaye-associates/.

Ed Reeve, CC BY-SA 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons

MrPumpkin, CC BY-SA 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons

Frank Schulenburg, CC BY-SA 4.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons

User: JZ at wikivoyage shared, CC BY-SA 3.0 <<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons