Critical Regionalism and Monumental Architecture

by Prof. Garcia

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CRITICAL REGIONALISM

Alvar Aalto
Oscar Niemeyer
Luis Barragan
Ricardo Legorreta
Josep Luis Sert
Louis Kahn
ALVAR AALTO     FINLAND   (1898-1976)
ALVAR AALTO

- Called the father of Modernism in the Nordic countries

- Responsive to site, materials and form. Attuned to nature.

- He had a relaxed industrialization and a quest for authentic synthesis of the local and the international, the ancient and the modern.

- Retained abstract schemes adapted to the harsh Finnish climate.

- Also designed furniture and household items.
PAIMIO SANATORIUM
FINLAND
1928-1929
VILLA TAMMEKAN

ESTONIA

1932
ALVAR AND AINO HOUSE

HELSINKI 1934-1936
1937 WORLD’ FAIR FINNISH PAVILLION
NEW YORK
VILLA MAIREA       FINLAND       1937-1939
Alvar Aalto

Villa Mairea, Finland

1938-41

Photo credit: (Prestel: Icons)
VILLA MAIREA       ENTRANCE

FINLAND     1937-1939
VILLA MAIREA      FINLAND        1937-1939
VILLA MAIREA          FINLAND          1937-1939
VILLA MAIREA

FINLAND

1937-1939
BAKER HOUSE, MIT CAMBRIDGE, MA
1947-1948
BAKER HOUSE, MIT CAMBRIDGE MA
1947-1948
NORTH JUTLAND ART MUSEUM

AALBORG, DK 1958-1972
NORTH JUTLAND ART MUSEUM

AALBORG       DENMARK           1958-1952
MAISON CARREE
FRANCE
1959
MAISON CARREE          FRANCE             1959
MAISON CARREE  FRANCE  1959
ESSEN OPERA HOUSE       GERMANY      1959-1988
FINLANDIA HALL  HELSINKI  1962-1971
MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY LIBRARY

PORTLAND      OREGON      1970
MOUNT ANGEL ABBEY LIBRARY

PORTLAND OREGON 1970
NORDIC HOUSE

REYKJAVIK, ICELAND 1965-1968
ALVAR AALTO’S CHAIRS
THE SAVOY VASE  AKA  THE AALTO VASE
1936
OSCAR NIEMEYER

- Graduated as engineer-architect and experimented with reinforced concrete, taking it to its limits.
- In 1936 worked with Lucio Costa and Le Corbusier as a consultant for the first state-sponsored modernist skyscraper in the world finished in 1943.
- In 1939 with Lucio Costa designed the Brazilian Pavillion for the NY World’s Fair. His projects continued country wide combining his designs with landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx, creating most interesting and integrated complexes.
- His works and political views and affiliation were always controversial, however, he has been one of the most important and influential architects of the 20th and 21st centuries.
- At 103 years of age, he is still involved with architecture and design.
- He has received many international recognitions and awards. Among them, the 1988 Pritzker Prize.
CENTRO CULTURAL OSCAR NIEMEYER

AVILES, SPAIN  2011
OSCAR NIEMEYER

MODERN ART MUSEUM NITEROI 1996
OSCAR NIEMEYER

NEW MUSEUM

CURUTIBA

2002
OSCAR NIEMEYER

BRASILIA CATHEDRAL 1970
OSCAR NIEMEYER

BRASILIA CATHEDRAL 1970
OSCAR NIEMEYER

BRASILIA PALACE HOTEL

1970
OSCAR NIEMEYER

PCF HEADQUARTERS PARIS 1965
OSCAR NIEMEYER

UNIVERSITY OF CONSTANTINE  ALGERIA  1968
OSCAR NIEMEYER

ALVORADA PALACE AND CHAPEL  BRASILIA  1957
OSCAR NIEMEYER
DANCE HALL
PAMPULHA
OSCAR NIEMEYER

BRASILIA
OSCAR NIEMEYER

BRASILIA
OSCAR NIEMEYER

ITAMARATY PALACE  
BRASILIA  
1967
OSCAR NIEMEYER

TEATRO NACIONAL CLAUDIO SANTORO       BRASILIA
OSCAR NIEMEYER
PALACE OF JUSTICE  BRASILIA
OSCAR NIEMEYER

NATIONAL CONGRESS       BRASILIA       1960

PHOTO CREDIT: AUGUSTO AREAL
OSCAR NIEMEYER

BRASILIA UNIVERSITY
OSCAR NIEMEYER

ECUMENIC TEMPLE

BRASILIA
OSCAR NIEMEYER

DON BOSCO SANCTUARY    BRASILIA
LUIS BARRAGAN

• Educated as an engineer and self-trained as an architect.
• Influential as an architect, landscape architect and urban planner.
• He transformed the International Style into a vibrant, sensuous Mexican aesthetic by adding vivid colors and textural contrasts and accentuating his buildings’ natural surroundings.
• Light and water were his favorite themes.
• 1977 exhibition of Barragan’s work at MOMA.
• 1980 Pritzker Prize recipient.
TORRI SATELITE 1957

DESIGNED TO BE VIEWED FROM A MOVING VEHICLE
MEXICO CITY
LUIS BARRAGAN’S HOUSE 1953-1960
LUIS BARRAGAN’S HOUSE

1953-1960
LUIS BARRAGAN
CUADRA SAN CRISTOBAL (HORSE FARM) 1966-1968
LUIS BARRAGAN

LOVER’S FOUNTAIN

CUADRA SAN CRISTOBAL

HORSE FARM

1966-1968
LUIS BARRAGAN

CAPILLA DE TLALPAN  1953-1960
LUIS BARRAGAN

CASA GIRALDI

1975-1977
LUIS BARRAGAN  CASA GIRALDI  1975-1977
LUIS BARRAGAN
CASA GIRALDI
1975-1977
LUIS BARRAGAN  CASA GIRALDI  1975-1977
LUIS BARRAGAN       CASA GIRALDI         1975-1977
LUIS BARRAGAN
CASAGRADI
1975-1977
SWIMMING POOL
LUIS BARRAGAN        ARANGO RESIDENCE        1971
OVERLOOKING ACAPULCO BAY
RICARDO LEGORRETA

• Disciple of Luis Barragan. He carried his ideas to wider realm. He is known as the architectural son of Luis Barragan.

• One important contribution has been the use of these elements in other building types.

• In the late 1960’s he embraced “the Emotional Architecture” following Barragan’s influence and his own strong sense of Mexican identity.

• After the International Style, he brought back “the wall culture” of Mexico emphasizing the supremacy of solids over voids, the use of color to enclose wall space and the Latin American preference for privacy.
RICARDO LEGORRETA

1931-
FASHION AND TEXTILE MUSEUM

LONDON    UK
RICARDO LEGORRETA

METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
MANAGUA, NICARAGUA 1994
RICARDO LEGORRETA

SOUTH TEXAS INSTITUTE FOR THE ARTS 1997
RICARDO LEGORRETA

SHERATON ABANDOIBARRA HOTEL   BILBAO SPAIN   2000
RICARDO LEGORRETA

SHERATON ABANDOIBARRA HOTEL BILBAO SPAIN 2000
RICARDO LEGORRETA

VISUAL ARTS CENTER – COLLEGE OF SANTA FE
PHOTO CREDIT: LOURDES LEGORRETA
NM 1999
RICARDO LEGORRETA

TERRACOTTA CIEN OFFICE BUILDING (LEED GOLD)

MEXICO 2011
RICARDO LEGORRETA

TECH MUSEUM       SAN JOSE   CA       1998
RICARDO LEGORRETA

PASAJE SANTA FE RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX
MEXICO CITY  1994
RICARDO LEGORRETA

EMERYVILLE CITY    CA    1999
RICARDO LEGORRETA

EMERYVILLE CITY  CA  1999
JOSEP LLUIS SERT

• Born in Barcelona, Spain. In 1929 set up his own office and went to Paris to work with Le Corbusier, returning a year later to continue his practice until 1937. Founded the Spanish group of CIAM (International Congress of Modern Architecture) and created outstanding work.

• In 1939 went into exile in New York city working with the Town Planning Associates for cities in South America.

• In 1952 became a visiting professor at Yale University. A year later became Dean of the Harvard School of Design, initiating the first course in urban planning.

• In 1955 he founded a studio (office) in Cambridge, designing well known projects.

• In 1961 he brought Le Corbusier to the US to design his first building here: the Carpenter Center for Visual Arts at Harvard.
JOSEP LLUIS SERT

CASA DUCLOS   BARCELONA   1930
JOSEP LLUIS SERT

DUPLEX DWELLINGS ON MUNTANER ST.
BARCELONA 1931
JOSEP LLUIS SERT’S

HOUSE      CAMBRIDGE      1957
JOSEP LLUIS SERT

HOUSE IN CAMBRIDGE 1957
JOSEP LLUIS SERT

FUNDACIO JOAN MIRO

BARCELONA

1975
JOSEP LLUIS SERT
BOSTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL AND LIBRARY
JOSEP LLUIS SERT

HARVARD PEABODY TERRACE 1965
JOSEP LLUIS SERT

SCONCE FOR HIS HOME  CAMBRIDGE  1957
MONUMENTAL ARCHITECTURE
LOUIS KAHN

- Trained in the Beaux Arts tradition in Philadelphia.
- Studied Le Corbusier, learned much from Sullivan and Wright and later from Mies van der Rohe.
- Found his distinctive architectural style when he was in his fifties. A stay at the American Academy of Rome in the early 1950’s marked a turning point in his career.
- Yale University Art Gallery was his transitional work (1951-1953).
- He said that a good plan had to be one which found the central meaning of the institution it housed. A good design would be one where the form and the underlying meaning was coherently expressed through the parts.
- He was striving to express an order in which space, structure and light would be fused.
- Heavily textured brick and bare concrete and an ability to create monumental architecture that responded to human scale was his trade mark.
- His work was highly influential among “high-tech” architects of the late 20th century.
LOUIS KAHN 1901-1974
LOUIS KAHN

YALE UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY
NEW HAVEN CT  1951-1953
LOUIS KAHN

RICHARDS MEDICAL RESEARCH LABORATORIES

PHILADELPHIA  PA  1957-1965
Louis Kahn

Richards Medical Research, U of P, Philadelphia 1962

Photo credit: Malcolm Smith
LOUIS KAHN

JONAS SALK INSTITUTE
LA JOLLA CA 1959-1965
Louis Kahn

National Assembly, Dhaka, Bangladesh 1962-1974

Photo credit: Trip, D. Saunders
LOUIS KAHN

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT
AHMEDABAD INDIA
1962
LOUIS KAHN
PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY LIBRARY

EXETER, NH 1965-1972

PHOTO CREDIT: CHECKONSITE.COM
LOUIS KAHN

KIMBELL ART MUSEUM   FORT WORTH  TX   1967-1972
LOUIS KAHN

YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART
NEW HAVEN CT 1969
LE CORBUSIER

• He lived a long life, trained as an artist, travel extensively and developed a keen interest in the synthesis of various arts. He extracted abstract principles from tradition to distil this information into a formal system with his own rules.

• His early work was related to nature designing houses as machines for living, incorporating his five points of architecture. Did not fare well in international competitions.

• Did a lot of writings, inspiring several generations of architects. Also developed a proportional system called Modulor. Central to his thinking was movement. After WWII, he became more introspective. His architecture became more sculptural, more forceful, using brute concrete and articulated structures.

• Dominated the architectural world from 1929 to his death in 1965. He was “modern architecture’s conscience” and made the world aware that a new style had been born.
LE CORBUSIER
1887-1965
LE CORBUSIER

CHANDIGARDH   PALACE OF ASSEMBLY   INDIA   1953-1963
LE CORBUSIER

PLACE OF ASSEMBLY

CHABDIGARDH

INDIA

1955
LE CORBUSIER               PHILLIPS PAVILION

BRUSSELS WORLD FAIR       1958
LE CORBUSIER

CHANDIGARH HIGH COURT INDIA 1953
LE CORBUSIER

PALACE OF GOVERNMENT CHANDIGARH 1953
LE CORBUSIER

ATAMA BUILDING           AHMEDABAD           1956
LE CORBUSIER

LA TOURETTE MONASTERY     FRANCE     1957-1960