

DESIGN MUSEUM

DESIGN MUSEUM, SHAD THAMES, LONDON
SE1 2YD TICKETS: Adults £8.50; Concessions
£6.50; Students £5.00; Under 12s free
OPENING: 10.00 -17.45 Daily.

Last Admission: 17.15

PUBLIC INFORMATION T: 020 7940 8790

W: designmuseum.org

ADVANCE BOOKING T: 020 7940 8783 W: ticketweb.co.uk



Media Announcement

Remembering Jan Kaplický: - Architect of the future

1 July – 1 November

Media View 30 June 12pm – 2pm

Jan Kaplický, who died earlier this year aged 71, was the Czech architect responsible for some of the most remarkable buildings that Britain has ever seen. This exhibition curated by Deyan Sudjic will celebrate Kaplický's career, his influences and unique futuristic vision for building design.

Kaplický was the driving force behind a new school of architecture and his buildings continue to stimulate, amaze and inspire. Kaplický pushed against the status quo, offering a unique personal vision. This exhibition celebrates the work of a gifted architect and designer.

Arriving in London as a refugee after the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, Kaplický worked with Denys Lasun, Richard Rogers and Norman Foster. He established Future Systems with David Nixon in 1979 which worked initially as a kind of think tank. Astonishing drawings and plans for robot built structures spinning in earth's orbit, weekend houses in the guise of space age survival pods and malleable interiors were just some of Kaplický's visions.

Amanda Levete joined Future Systems in 1989, and together Kaplický and Levete began to build some of the practice's best known work. In 1994 Future Systems designed the Stirling Prize winning media centre at Lord's Cricket Ground and in 1999 designed the Selfridges department store in Birmingham, a sensuous iceberg like building that would win the 2004 RIBA Award for Architecture.

Deyan Sudjic comments "Jan was a remarkable architect, and a brilliant artist. We can only now begin to understand his impact on the shape of the contemporary world".

Ends



Image credits from left to right:

Selfridges, Birmingham, 2003. Photography by Norbert Schoerner
House in Wales, 1996. Photography by Richard Davies
Comme des Garçons Tokyo, 1998. Photography by Masa Yuki Hayashi.
Title Image: Lord's Media Centre, 1999. Photographer by Richard Davies

Notes to Editors

1. Media View 30 June 12pm – 2pm

Deyan Sudjic, Director of the Design Museum and curator of this exhibition will be available for interview at the media view. Interview slots maybe requested in advance.

2. Biography

Jan Kaplický was born in Prague in 1937 where he studied at the College of Applied Arts & Architecture. In 1968 he fled to London following the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

In London Kaplický worked at Denys Lasdun & Partners before joining the office of Renzo Piano and Richard Rogers working on the design for the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris. From 1979 until 1983 he worked at Foster & Associates working on projects including the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Headquarters and the Nomos Glass Table.

Future Systems began in 1979 as a partnership between Jan Kaplicky and David Nixon. In 1989 Amanda Leveté joined Kaplický as partner and together they began to build some of the practice's best known work including The Hauer-King House, House in Wales, Docklands Floating Bridge and the Media Centre at Lord's and the building for Selfridges in Birmingham.

Prior to his death Kaplický won several competitions in his native country including the Czech National Library in Prague and he was chosen by the South Bohemian Association of Friends of Music to build the Concert Hall in Budvar. In Italy Kaplický won the competition to build the new Enzo Ferrari Museum in Modena which is currently under construction.

Kaplický lectured in more than 20 countries and published 14 books.
Jan Kaplický died in Prague on 14 January 2009.

4. Exhibition Merchandise:

To accompany this exhibition the Design Museum shop will stock an exclusive limited edition Jan Kaplický screen-print. Deyan Sudjic's book 'Future Systems' (£45.00) and Kaplický's Bettina range for Alessi will also be available. designmuseumshop.com

5. Late Night Opening - Design Overtime Festival, 25 September:

Exhibitions open until 10pm.