

Martin Filler

Quotes

*Art, Design, Architecture, Artist, Cities, Museums, Movement, Machines,
Towers, Jobs, Office, School, Cutting, Technology, Practice, Ideas, Style, Age,
Years, Numbers*

The most basic task of any museum must be the protection of works of cultural significance entrusted to its care for the edification and pleasure of future generations.

~Martin Filler

There is no sadder tale in the annals of architecture than the virtual disappearance of the defining architectural form of the Modern Movement - publicly sponsored housing.

~Martin Filler

Architecture is not a profession for the faint-hearted, the weak-willed, or the short-lived.

~Martin Filler

Architecture was the last of the major professions to devise a formal 'cursus honorum' before its practice could be undertaken.

~Martin Filler

High among the unpredictable variables that endanger the survival of worthy buildings are the vagaries of taste.

~Martin Filler

There can be little question that the tall building presents one of the most difficult challenges to the architect.

~Martin Filler

Truly great architecture always transcends its stated function, sometimes in unanticipated ways.

~Martin Filler

After Lyndon Johnson's Great Society, the belief in decent housing as a political right or social obligation was supplanted in the U.S. by the notion that suitable shelter should be an act of charity.

~Martin Filler

One of the most persistent yet elusive dreams of the Modern Movement in architecture has been prefabrication: industrially made structures that can be assembled at a building site.

~Martin Filler

One of the stated goals of the postmodern movement in architecture was a greater sensitivity to the people who live in or use newly designed buildings.

~Martin Filler

Despite the persistent image of the architect as a heroic loner erecting monumental edifices through sheer force of will, the building art has always been a highly cooperative enterprise.

~Martin Filler

Always beware an unsigned architectural design.

~Martin Filler

From the outset, MoMA followed the Bauhaus's strict prohibition against design that even hinted at the decorative, a prejudice that skewed the pioneering museum's view of Modernism for decades.

~Martin Filler

Considering my specialization in architecture, I'm not surprised that the first graphic novel to thoroughly engage, not to say captivate, me is Chip Kidd and Dave Taylor's 'Batman: Death by Design.'

~Martin Filler

Elevated locations imply elevated purposes, even in American cities departing as radically as Los Angeles does from the traditional planning patterns of the Eastern Seaboard.

~Martin Filler

Any set of decisions about design is inevitably influenced by cultural

prejudice, no matter how intent an architect might be to avoid it.

~Martin Filler

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