

# Peter Zumthor

## Quotes

*Thinking, Architecture, Quality, Design, Together, Real, Order, Space, Art,  
Believe, People, Past, Architect, Trying, Simple, Body, Drag, Feelings,  
Resistance, Rain*

When I start, my first idea for a building is with the material. I believe architecture is about that. It's not about paper, it's not about forms. It's about space and material.

~Peter Zumthor

In order to design buildings with a sensuous connection to life, one must think in a way that goes far beyond form and construction.

~Peter Zumthor

My buildings should have an emotional core -a space which, in itself, has an emotional nice feeling.

~Peter Zumthor

I think space, architectural space, is my thing. It's not about facade, elevation, making image, making money. My passion is creating space.

~Peter Zumthor

I've said goodbye to the overworked notion that architecture has to save the world.

~Peter Zumthor

If you're lucky, and a building succeeds, the real product has many more dimensions than you can ever imagine. You have the sun, the light, the rain, the birds, the feel.

~Peter Zumthor

Architecture is not about form

~Peter Zumthor

Architecture is exposed to life. If its body is sensitive enough, it can assume a quality that bears witness to past life.

~Peter Zumthor

Presence is like a gap in the flow of history, where all of [a] sudden it is not past and not future.

~Peter Zumthor

What I try to do is the art of building, and the art of building is the art of construction; it is not only about forms and shapes and images.

~Peter Zumthor

In a society that celebrates the inessential, architecture can put up a resistance, counteract the waste of forms and meanings and speak its own language.

~Peter Zumthor

My relationship to plants becomes closer and closer. They make me quiet; I like to be in their company.

~Peter Zumthor

There was a time when I experienced architecture without thinking about it.

~Peter Zumthor

I'm a passionate architect... I do not work for money

~Peter Zumthor

When I concentrate on a specific site or place for which I am going to design a building, I try to plumb its depths, its form, its history and its sensuous qualities.

~Peter Zumthor

There is still a real need for good quality architecture, not paper architecture, but the real stuff.

~Peter Zumthor

If, early on, you know how things are put together, then you can build.

The architect is in charge of making - he is not an artist.

~Peter Zumthor

Small museums are great. Big museums are a drag.

~Peter Zumthor

I grew up in a craftsman's home, where things were done with our own hands. I did cabinetmaking for four years and I hated it.

~Peter Zumthor

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