

Santiago

Calatrava

Architect, Sculptor, Ceramist

Grand Curtius

28.05 > 27.09.10

Press Release



T. + 32 (0)4 221 93 25
www.lesmuseesdeliege.be

PRESS RELEASE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	page 3
SANTIAGO CALATRAVA ARCHITECT, SCULPTOR, CERAMIST	page 4
ORGANISATION	page 6
USEFUL INFORMATION	page 7

SANTIAGO CALATRAVA OR THE ITINERARY OF A SPOILED CHILD

In the setting of the Grand Curtius Museum, the town of Liège presents the creations of Santiago Calatrava.

The many visitors who are expected to come will have the opportunity of witnessing his qualities as an architect, a sculptor, and a ceramist.

This is a one-off opportunity to step into the worlds of this indefatigable creator who was inspired for numerous architectural projects renowned the world over.

The Grand Curtius will be showcasing a large range of Santiago Calatrava's diverse work.

A monograph dedicated to the artist has been published thanks to the support of Euro-Liège-TGV at the Fonds Mercator.

A teachers' pack has also been produced. This is a result of our passion for pupils and students to engage with the wealth of Santiago Calatrava's work: an extraordinary man whose story is told by his art.

Don't miss out on this pleasurable experience; Calatrava's work is as great as the man himself.

Jean Pierre Hupkens
Deputy Mayor for Culture

SANTIAGO CALATRAVA

ARCHITECT, SCULPTOR, CERAMIST

Grand Curtius - 28/05 > 27/09/2010

This is the first time in Europe that an exhibition has been used to showcase the fundamental and applied research the renowned architect mobilises for his visual art activities. Calatrava's unremitting enthusiasm for designing is reflected in his output: he produces shapes, sculptures, mobiles, furniture, ceramic objects, glasses,...

« To produce architecture that is both original and personal, I start by undertaking research in the form of sculpture and drawing. By working in this way I have created a new vocabulary that transcends the boundaries between architecture and sculpture. »

Santiago Calatrava

Santiago Calatrava

The architect, artist and engineer Santiago Calatrava was born on 28 July 1951, in Valencia, Spain.

Calatrava attended primary and secondary school in Valencia. From the age of eight, he also attended the Arts and Crafts School, where he began his formal instruction in drawing and painting. Upon leaving high school, he enrolled in the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura in Valencia, where he studied for a degree in architecture and a post-graduate qualification in urbanism. While at the school, he also undertook independent projects with a group of fellow students, bringing out two books on the vernacular architecture of Valencia and Ibiza.

Attracted by the mathematical rigour of certain great works of historic architecture, and feeling that his training in Valencia had given him no clear direction, Calatrava decided to pursue post-graduate studies in civil engineering, enrolling in 1975 at the ETH (Federal Institute of Technology) in Zurich. In 1981 he received his Ph.D. for a thesis entitled Concerning the Foldability of Spaceframes. It was during this period that he met and married his wife, who was a law student in Zurich.

After completing his studies, he took on small engineering projects and began to enter competitions, believing this to be the most likely way to secure commissions. His first winning competition proposal, in 1983, was for the design and construction of Stadelhofen railway station in Zurich, the city in which he established his first office.

In 1984, Calatrava, designed and built the Bach de Roda Bridge in Barcelona. This was the first of a number of bridge projects that established his international reputation. Since then he has completed major commissions throughout the world.

The first exhibition of Calatrava's work was mounted in 1985, with a showing of nine sculptures in an art gallery in Zurich. His work has subsequently been displayed around the world, including major solo exhibitions at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London, and at The Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Honours and awards presented to Santiago Calatrava include the August Perret Prize from the Union Internationale des Architectes (UIA) in 1987, and the Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres from the Republic of France in 1998. He has received 18 honorary doctorates to date and is a Permanent Honorary Guest (Ständiger Ehrengast) of the University of Zurich.

The exhibition

In the form of a constant, constructed dialogue, this exhibition showcases various works by Calatrava which are publicly displayed for the first time in Europe, alongside his architecture. With this objective in mind, the selection illustrates and throws light on the artist's creative process.

Preparatory drawings and other documents such as architectural models underline and illustrate Santiago Calatrava's creative process.

The exhibition also includes his diverse favoured modes of creative expression: sculptures (ebony, white marble, alabaster, brass, black granite), mobiles (brass or aluminium), various ceramics, drawings, paintings, and items of furniture. There will of course be a dedicated room for the new Guillemins Station.

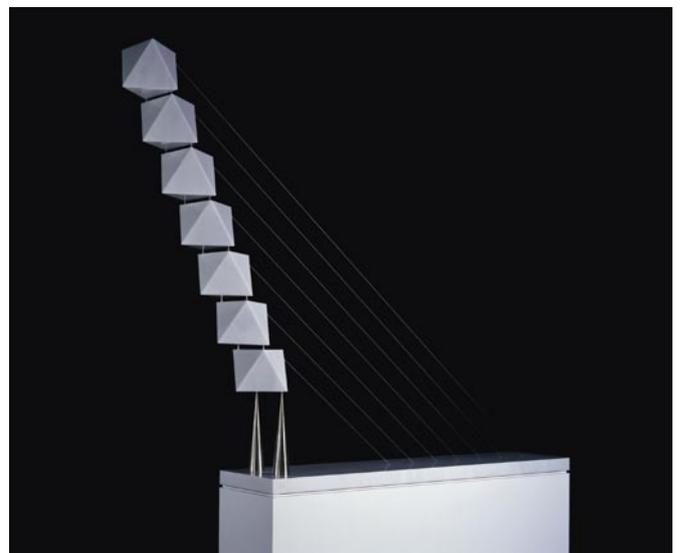
Publications

At the request of Euro Liège TGV, a monograph about the artist, by Constantin Chariot, has been published by the Fonds Mercator. (60 colour illustrations, in two versions: English-French and English-Dutch).

A teachers' pack for use in schools has also been produced.



Milwaukee © Santiago Calatrava, architect and engineer



© Santiago Calatrava, architect and engineer

ORGANISATION

- City of Liege, Deputy Mayor's Office for Cultur
- « Les Musées de Liège » asbl

With the support of Euro Liège TGV.



Twisting Torso, 2002, Sculpture en ébène
© Santiago Calatrava, architect and engineer



Gratte-ciel *Turning Torso Malmö* (Suède, 1999-05)
© Santiago Calatrava, architect and engineer

USEFUL INFORMATION

LOCATION	Grand Curtius Féronstrée 136 - 4000 Liège
DATE	28.05 > 27.09.2010
OPENING HOURS	from Monday to Sunday: 10 am > 18 pm. Closed on Tuesdays and on the 1/05. Ticket office closing time: 5 pm
ADMISSION FEE	8 € : adult 6 € : adult and senior groups 3 € : school and student groups (12>18 years), unemployed persons 1,25 € : article 27 20 € : Family ticket (2 adults + children) Combined ticket Grand Curtius + Calatrava 12 € : adult 10 € : adult and senior groups 6 € : school and student groups (12>18 years), unemployed persons 25 € : Family ticket (2 adults + children)
GUIDED TOUR	Extra fee (duration 1h15') School groups: 60 €, adult groups: 65 €
BOOKING	must be made in advance for group visits

INFORMATION

Les Musées de Liège asbl
Tél : +32(0)4 221 93 25 - Fax : +32 (0)4 221 26 16
info@lesmuseesdeliege.be
www.lesmuseesdeliege.be
www.grandcurtiusliege.be

PHOTOGRAPHS

High-resolution photographs may be downloaded from the exhibition site:
www.lesmuseesdeliege.be in the section "press".