



INSITE INTERIORS



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Notes On Design

Hello Friends,

Mother Nature seems to have skipped autumn and moved into winter as I watch our second snowfall before the middle of October. Nonetheless, I hope you are enjoying your autumn and maybe we'll still have colorful trees in the coming weeks.

I just returned from a beautiful trip to Barcelona Spain and a conference entitled "Design your Life". Barcelona is known for it's unique architecture by Antoni Gaudi, who is credited as the father of the Modernist Movement. More about him in our featured article below...

Insite Interiors is working on some exciting new ventures for 2010...look for more details in the coming months!

Wishing you all the best,
Sharon

Gaudi's Architecture

Some classify Gaudi's style with Gothicism, Surrealism and Art Nouveau, but really he is in a class by himself. His works

did not merely mimic nature; they were the result of attentive and intelligent observation of natural forms, structures and functional characteristics. He said "Those who look for the laws of Nature as a support for their new works collaborate with the Creator". Because of this philosophy, many have called him "God's Architect". His buildings also incorporated creative use of hyperboloids and paraboloids that required endless models to test the building's load-bearing qualities.

His last and greatest masterpiece is the Sagrada Familia. Started in 1882, Gaudi knew he would not live to see it completed. It is still an active construction site today, with an expected completion date of 2026. Regardless, thousands flock to stand in awe of what is and what is to be. The two completed facades narrate the nativity of Jesus on one side, and Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection on the other through modern sculptures incorporating ceramic mosaics, copper, brass and stone.

Gaudi's other works include the Casa Botilo, La Pedrera, the Crypt at Colonia Guell and Parc Guell. As with the Sagrada Familia, he had other projects that were never actually finished. The Crypt at Colonia Guell was supposed to be a large church with a soaring dome. But the client, Eusebi Guell, discontinued the funding and Gaudi had to abandon the project. The Parc Guell was funded by the same client and was to be a 60-home "Utopian neighborhood" for like-minded residents. Gaudi finished much of the public spaces in Parc Guell, but only 3 homes were built. Sounds like all those failed housing developments in sunny Florida!

In his time, he was ridiculed for his unique and sometimes crazy design, but history has proven his genius and creative insight. Now he stands as Barcelona's trademark contribution to amazing architecture.

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