NAPLES HIGH SPEED TRAIN STATION 2017

THE ARCHITECTURE OF

ZAHA HADID

BRIAN ROBERTS
Dame Zaha Hadid was an Iraqi-British architect, artist and designer recognised as a major figure in architecture. Hadid studied mathematics and enrolled at the Architectural Association School of Architecture in 1972. She searched for an alternative to traditional architectural drawing and adopted painting and abstraction as a design tool for a wide variety of buildings, several of which were still under construction at the time of her death. Hadid received the Pritzker Architectural Prize in 2004, the Stirling Prize in 2010 and 2011, was made a Dame for Services to Architecture in 2012, and in 2016 became the first woman to be individually awarded the RIBA Royal Gold Medal.
ART, PROJECTS & BUILDINGS BY COUNTRY
Listed by Page Numbers

Abu Dhabi 4, Austria 9,33, China 18,35,36,
Dubai 21, France 5,16,19, Germany 8,12-14,
Italy 1,15, Korea 27,28, Netherlands 30-32,
Russia 29, Saudi Arabia 22,34,
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Abu Dhabi and Dubai are part of the United Arab Emirates

Picture captions are quotation extracts from "The Complete Zaha Hadid."
"The primary components of this design.... were transformed from abstract diagrams into architectural design."
"Schemes to recapture London's most famous square."
GRAND BUILDINGS TRAFALGAR SQ. 1985

IBA BLOCK 2 BERLIN 1993
"The geological centre is housed in the mountain itself, cutting into the strata like a blade, revealing the bedrock."
".......a bridge can take the form of a horizontal skyscraper."
"......a hybrid of a highly specialized sports facility and public spaces, including a cafe and viewing facilities."
"As the active nerve centre of the entire BMW factory complex, the point at which all threads of activity gather and branch out..."
"...the first of its kind in Germany, is intended to confront visitors with a degree of complexity and strangeness."
"The project is based on an unusual volumetric structural logic. .... a large volume is supported and structured by cones turned inside and out of the box above them."
(It) "...forges an innovative, intimate relationship between the city and the waterfront."
"...the building’s form recalls a large tree trunk, laid horizontally."
".... the design is a play between a folding surface and a connecting ground slab."
"Like pebbles in a stream smoothed by erosion, (it) sits in perfect harmony with its riverside location."
"... a curving arc that gradually lifts from the ground into a vertical line."
"Two contrasting elements, 'shell' and 'shadow' general the stations' spatial qualities...."
DUBAI OPERA HOUSE 2006
"......within two main residential areas allows the building to be coherent in formation, and to assume a strong urban character..."
"Inspired by the fluid geometry of water in motion...."
"... a series of vertically stacked plates offset at each level with connecting curved elements."
"...an existing fire station, and a new crystalline volume that 'floats' above the retained volume."
"Hovering asymmetrically above the central courtyard of the fire station...."
".....rises as a polygonal block from the centre of the university campus. The design takes the form of a cube with both inclined and straight edges."
"... the architecture also endeavours to create an organic form, which transcends simple technical strategies..."
"...a composition of five continuous flowing volumes, set apart, fused or linked by stretched bridges, which adapt to each other in all directions...."
REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

   (Note: In four volumes of different sizes, cost around £200).
2006 Zaha Hadid: BMW Central Building, Leipzig, Germany, (Books in Architecture),
   Princeton Architectural Press, USA.
   Zaha Hadid died in 2016.

2017 The Complete Zaha Hadid (Expanded and Updated), Thames and Hudson, London.