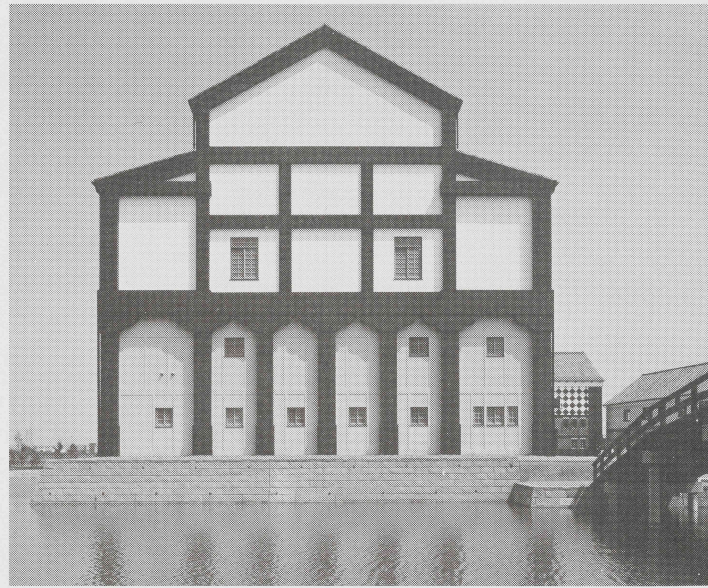


Places for the Soul: The Architecture of Christopher Alexander



A Remarkable New Film on an Important American Architect

This beautifully crafted and absorbing film provides an intimate portrait of one of America's most original architects and thinkers. Christopher Alexander is a radical humanist of international repute and a passionate critic of contemporary architecture.

A professor at the University of California in Berkeley and the founder of the pioneering Center for Environmental Structure, Alexander has spent his life pursuing a single, ultimate goal: the creation of beautiful, timeless buildings whose sense of wholeness unites thought and feeling and which are small but complete pieces of a harmonious universal order.

He believes that the only way architects are ever again going to produce buildings of beauty and integrity is if they are themselves actively involved in *making* those buildings.

The film explores his increasingly influential ideas and his controversial attempts to introduce a new, unified approach to design and construction. It leads the viewer through two of his major projects — the stunning New Eishin University campus near Tokyo, Japan, and an innovative shelter for the homeless in San Jose, California.

The film's dramatic visuals and Alexander's provocative commentary illuminate this exceptional documentary and enable viewers to perceive the built environment around them with new eyes.

29 minutes Color
Catalog #11399 (16mm) / #37991 (video)
Purchase: \$595 (16mm) / \$250 (video)
Rental: \$45 (16mm, 1/2" VHS, 3/4" U-Matic)

"With a growing body of built work to illustrate the principles set forth in his numerous books, Christopher Alexander is not only proposing radical changes in architectural practice, he is proving that they can work. The buildings are real magic." — *Progressive Architecture*

Places for the Soul is essential viewing for anyone interested in architecture, urban planning, the arts, and environmental planning issues. It was produced and directed by award-winning filmmaker Ruth Landy.



A Film Arts Foundation Festival Selection

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