

TEDU ARCH 222 HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE II PRESENTATION

03.05.2018

**ELIEL SAARINEN «THE CITY ITS GROWTH ITS
DECAY ITS FUTURE»**

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ELIEL SAARINEN

He was an architect, a city planner, educator, writer and president of Cranbrook Academy of Art. He was born on 20th August 1873 in Finland. His education life started with painting at Helsinki University, then he studied architecture at Polytechnic Institute of Helsinki. He started to work with Herman Gesellius and Armas Lindgren who were the classmates from Polytechnic Institute of Helsinki.



HERMAN GESELLIUS

He was a Finnish architect and one of the founder of firm Gesellius, Lindgren and Saarinen. Wuorio house is the most important work of Herman Gesellius. He designed that project between 1908 and 1909 but he did not finish because of health problems. Armas Lindgren finished this house from 1913 in 1914. Gesellius finished his architectural career in 1912 because of serious sickness and he died early because of throat cancer in 1916



ARMAS LINDGREN

He was a Finnish architect and born on 28th November 1874. He worked with two famous Finnish architects Gustaf Nyström and Josef Stanback while he was studying architecture. After that, he studied history of art and culture in Sweden, Denmark, Germany, France and the United Kingdom for two years. In 1905, he separated his way from Gesellius, Lindgren and Saarinen Firm and he set up his own Office



LINDGREN WORKS

He became a professor at Polytechnic Institute of Helsinki, he was in charge of the history of art lecture in 1900. After that, he became artistic director of the higher department of the Central School of Arts and Crafts of Helsinki between 1902 and 1912. His most known Works are Uusi ylioppilastalo, Sakala and Estonia Theatre. He was the professor of one of the most important Finnish architects Alvar Aalto and he taught him and influenced him efficiently.



FINDLAND WORKS

Finnish pavilion is the first important work of Eliel Saarinen. This work was a remarkable mix of several styles of that time, such as Gothic Revival, art nouveau and Finnish wooden architecture. At the beginning of the 20th century, his art nouveau buildings helped him get to fame. He worked about this style and this style helped to found National Romantic movement in Scandinavia. He had an important role and designed important railway stations and National Museum with the help of National Romantic movement in the rising culture. Helsinki Central Railway Station is the most important symbol of Scandinavia's rational nationalism.



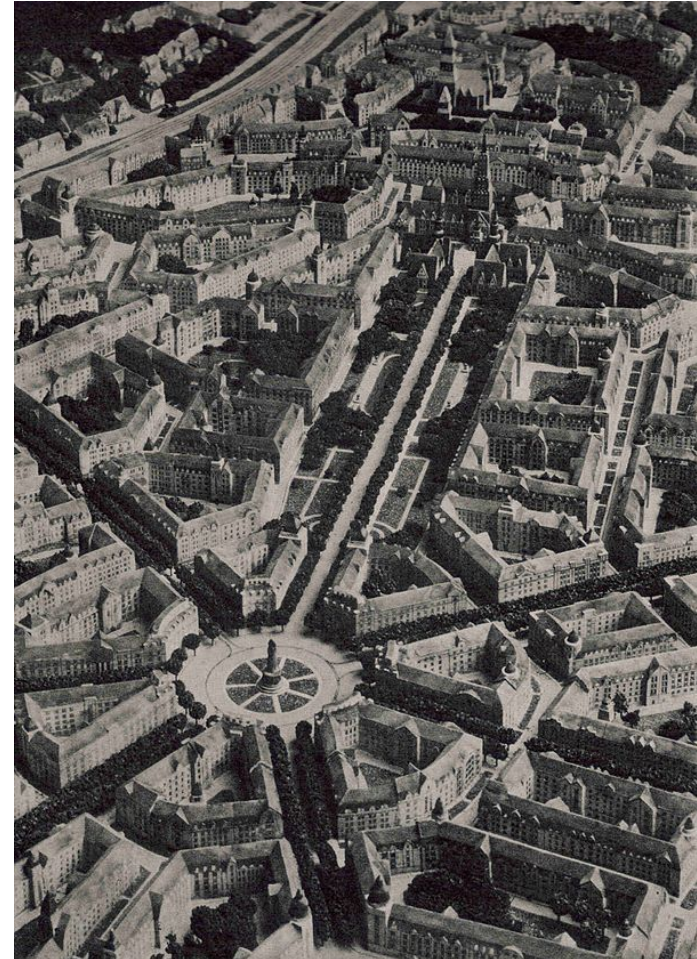
CITY PLANNINGS

He started to work on great city plan project of Munksnäs-Haga between 1910 and 1915. This plan is one of the most important publications of Eliel Saarinen. His Works started to be famous and he became an expert for city planning of Tallinn in Estonia in 1911. After that, he worked for Budapest in 1912. He became an advisor for city problem of Budapest and he published a brochure for the city problems. He had a prize in an international competition with the city plan of Reval(Tallinn). With that success of city planning, he started work on greater city plan of Helsinki between 1917 and 1918.



Saarinen's Proposal for Metropolitan Helsinki

Munkkiniemi-Haaga Plan is announced by Saarinen in 1915. The main purpose of the plan was that Saarinen expressed the development of the entire metropolitan area even if the fundamental purpose was to create a new town district. Munkkiniemi-Haaga was designed and planned by Saarinen with the consistent urban identity of Helsinki while considering region features of the city. This utopian design aims that increase the life quality of society and employment with the harmony of art. He remained to processes his works with not the only artistic way, Tallinn and Budapest plans provided him to increase extent and proportions of his planning works while he was planning Mubkkiniemi-Haaga.



City planning

The Canberra plan was also another work to provide him to make a development of range and proportion of his planning works. Saarinen's proposal was developed by the architect of the first town planner who is Bertel Jung. Saarinen and Jung announced "Greater Helsinki Town Planning Proposal with a booklet which is called "Pro Helsingfors" (1918) thanks to supporting a private foundation. With that proposal, city planning of Helsinki was in rapport with organic decentralization and that is considered for development the city in terms of progress in future. Furthermore, it was important to control the growth of a city. Finnish Helsinki New Town Munkkiniemi-Haaga, which also known as the "Greater Helsinki" plan was created for 170.000 people and hypothesis, it affirms that towns ought to be set up close to Helsinki, and the city should have advantages to develop in a control further.



CHICAGO TRIBUNE TOWER



He was admitted to the Tribune Tower competition in Chicago. He had a second place for this, competition project never built. This design has a harmony of modern style and gothic verticality. This design idea affected lots of the USA architects in the early generations of skyscrapers. According to Louis Sullivan “father of skyscrapers,” this design is the future of Chicago school. In 1929, Gulf Building is similar to competition work and designed by Alfred C. Finn, Kenneth Franzheim, and J. E. R. Carpenter architects. This competition and first World war are the powerful reason for the migration of Eliel Saarinen to the USA. In the 1940s, he developed his design according to Art Deco. He defined Los Angeles with West coast style.



CHICAGO TRIBUNE TOWER



Cesar Pelli Architect
tower, 181 W. Madison, Chicago
1990

People still influenced from Eliel Saarinen.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Eliel Saarinen became a part-time professor at the University of Michigan in 1923 and he was the lecturer of the graduate class. Dean of the University of Michigan gave an honour Eliel Saarinen(Collegiate Professorship).

STARTING CRANBROOK ACADEMY

George Gough Booth founded the Cranbrook Educational Community and he asked Eliel Saarinen to design the campus. He dreamed of creating a school like American Academy in Rome. They created a school with new applications like Bauhaus.

Cranbrook Academy of Art

Cranbrook Academy of Art played an important role to develop American Modernism and it has big impacts on whole world in terms of art, architecture and design. There are no courses in Cranbrook Academy, all incomes, experiences or learnings are self- directed under the guidance who expert in his/her field. Eero Saarinen, Eliel Saarinen, Ray and Charles Eames, Edmun Bacon, Henry Weese, Raphe Rapsen, Florence Knoll, Jack Lenor Larsen, Donald Lipski, Duane Hanson, Lorraine Wild, Nick Cave and Hani Rashid was in part of the community of Cranbrook..



Cranbrook Academy of Art

The community is established by George Booth who soon contracted Eliel Saarinen the Finnish engineer who involves a noteworthy position ever of American plan and design. Eliel Saarinen and George Booth are both were roused by the vision of the Arts and Crafts Movement, they applied the vision of Arts and Crafts Movement styles the international style to Cranbrook Academy through of Art which started in England in the mid-nineteenth century and soon spread to the United States. Per classes consisted of 10-16 students

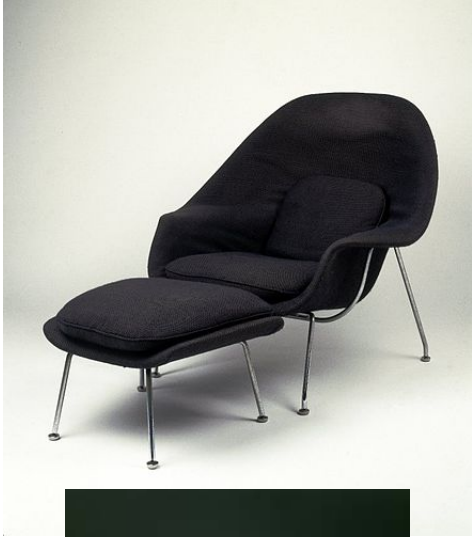


Eero Saarinen

Eero Saarinen who is son of Finnish architect Eliel Saarinen lived between 1910 and 1961. Saarinen is known for outlining the Washington Dulles International Airport outside Washington, D.C., the TWA Flight Center in New York City, and the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri. Saarinen's structures, have a tendency to reverberate with well-known subjects inside human experience, actually human experience was the main reference to design according to him and he designed industrial things, too with his neo-futuristic style.



Eero Saarinen

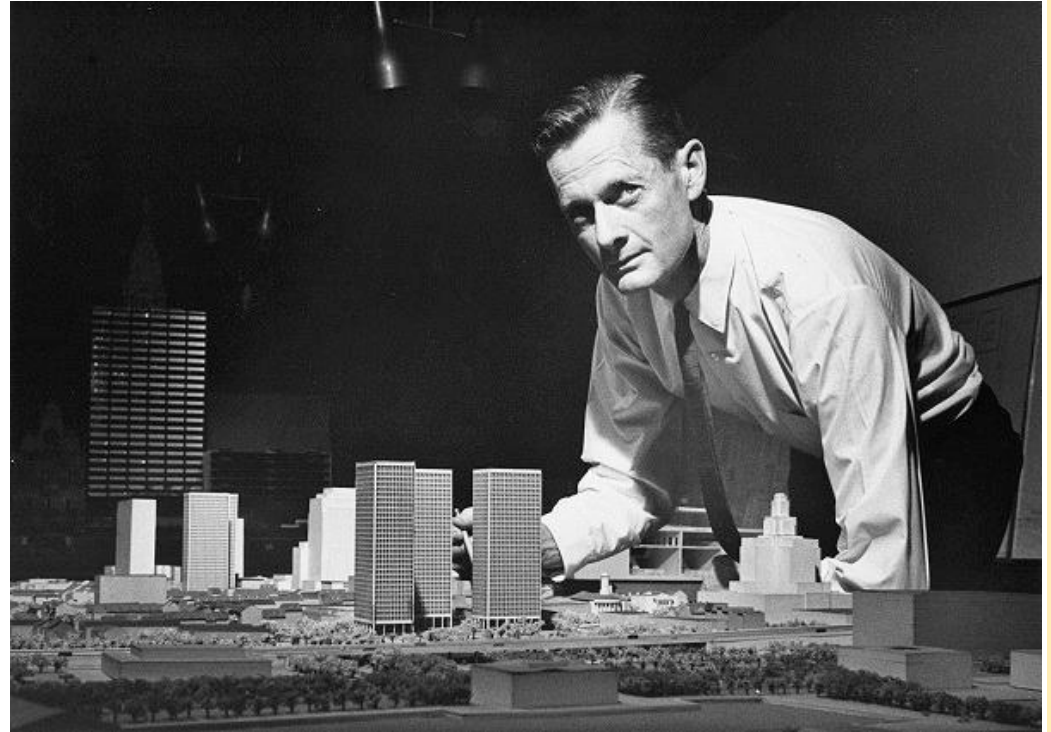


Bringing out associations with structures and situations that may at first be sudden yet blend well with their motivations upon assist investigation. Furthermore, Saarinen's sharp handle of history and culture helped him comprehend the setting and the solid associations that they make with their surroundings focuses. Additionally, Eero studied design in Cranbrook Academy of Art with his father, as well. He designed chairs, tables, furniture and kind of thins as well. His furniture included simple structures mixing natural and mechanical motivations.



EDMUND BACON

He was an American architect, urban planner author and educator. He also was known as “The father of Philadelphia”. He was director of city planning of Philadelphia between 1949 and 1970. Eliel Saarinen supports him and invited him to Cranbrook Academy of Art. He had ideas about the cities and Eliel Saarinen mentioned his idea in The City book(the city is a living organism)



FLORENCE KNOLL

She was an American architect, city planner, and furniture designer. she was a student of Mies van der Rohe and Eliel Saarinen and graduated from Cranbrook Academy of Art. Florence Knoll worked with founders of Bauhaus movement Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer. She studied city planning under Eliel Saarinen and worked with Eero Saarinen and Charles Eames about furniture design. Also, she was the member of Architectural Association in London and she affected from Le Corbusier's International style.



CHARLES EAMES

He was an American architect, graphic designer, and furniture designer. Charles influenced from Eliel Saarinen and worked with Eero Saarinen. He studied in Cranbrook Academy and he became the teacher and directed the industrial design department. Charles Eames and Eero Saarinen won the competition of “Organic Design in Home Furnishings” for New York's Museum of Modern Art.



RADIANT CITY-LE CORBUSIER-CIAM

The Radiant City (Villa Radieuse) is the urban plan which is created by Le Corbusier. This city plan created for high-density housing typologies. According to Le Corbusier's ideas, this city plan is the ideal city plan. In 1928, Le Corbusier presented Radiant City in CIAM. CIAM wanted to solve the contemporary city problems. Radiant city idea affected the using of lands. According to Radiant City, apartment houses and skyscraper offices settled in the core of a city. This city plan aimed to increase the standards of life quality.



Camillo Sitte/ City Planning

Eliel Saarinen could consolidate medieval and baroque authoritative ideas into completely created spatial gatherings that had particularly urban characteristics according to Sitte's city planning ideas. Saarinen was influenced from Sitte's city planning ideas. City Planning of Camillo Sitte is not directly a modern planning whereas it is harmony between artistic and modern tools. Sitte traveled many different cities to observe their city plans and how the cities develop in that sense. Then he creates some principles about that how cities should be planned. These ideas were presented in City Planning according to Artistic Principles. These principles consider also a grid layout for physical structure of city such as streets. He claims that their combining was so important to development of city.

THE NATIONAL ROMANTIC STYLE

This movement born in Finland and affected all the Scandinavian countries. This movement became a voice of social and political ideals rather than Gothic Revival Style. This style was the reaction of the Scandinavian community against the industrialism.

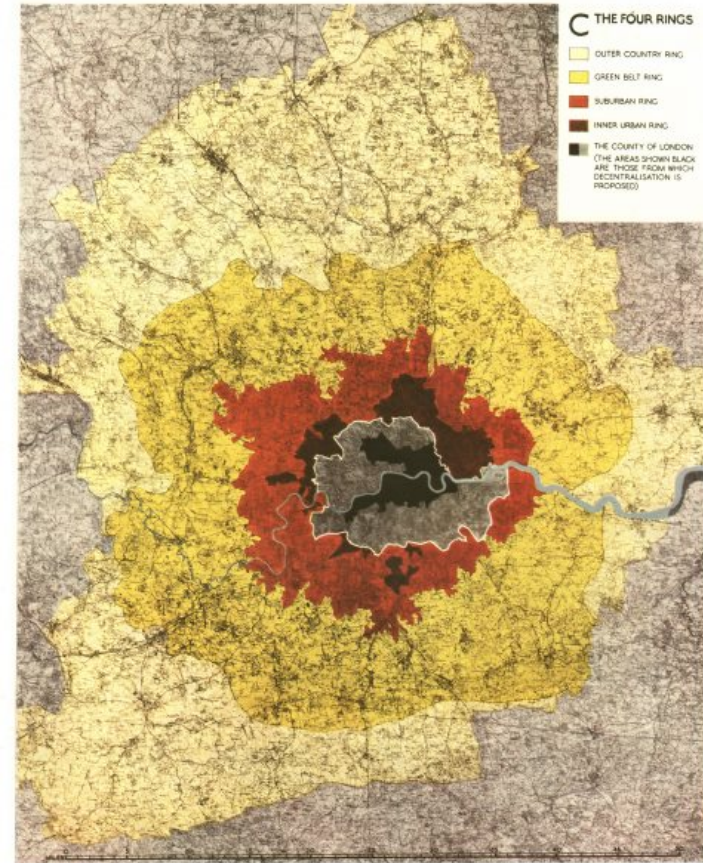


Organic Decentralization Theory

The issue of Organic Decentralization Theory is about create an order for cities which are developing so fast. When the cities were developed, many problems were occurred. For example, when population is increased, dwellings might not be enough for people and growing speed of city can be not enough or slow to receive people because of the planning of cities. Physical formation of city plays an important role for this issue. Increasing density of people happens and as a result of this disruptions happen. Squatting occurs and physical of city changes because of uncontrolling. Organic Decentralization affairs that solving these kinds of problems with suitable spatial layout structure and urban development. According to Saarinen: "Cities disintegrate step by step: new towns do not abruptly separate from the central city but move away organically."

Organic Decentralization Theory

The theoretical system of Saarín was originally announced in 1943 in *The City—Its Growth, Its Decay, Its Future*. He uses information about living organisms and the human body to do research on cities, and he claims a city that should work like human body and cells and he thinks that the internal sequence as living organisms is an organism at the same time. A city consists of many cells with certain gaps between them. A living organism grows with continuous cell reproduction, and each cell expands towards its adjacent area. This area is already reserved for cell production and can make the growth of the organism more flexible and less dangerous. With this his knowledge, he made relations between the growth, the decay and the future while he was applying these relations on his city planning ideas.



Saarinen keeps up that, to control the the decay of modern cities, urban areas and advance urban improvement, three objectives ought to be accomplished in that sense what he claims. Initially, exchange a wide range of exercises of the summary zone to appropriate spots as per a proposed design. Second, revamp the previously mentioned exhausted territory and change over it for other most reasonable purposes. Third, ensure the incentive being used of both the old and the new. In this way, natural decentralization is to partition the swarmed zones of the huge city into two or three brought together units and after that arrange them into "related and practical packed focuses in exercises" with these three goals Saarinen creates basement of his ideas to control the decay of modern cities and development of cities. Hence, the initially thick urban region separates into singular towns isolated by greenbelts.

Organic Decentralization Theory holds that some open and urban managerial division must be sent at the focal point of the city. For the theory, industry should be out of urban because there are already empty areas out of urban and center of the urban should have green areas for people. People who have to work in center of city need to these green areas and industry cannot take the places instead of trees and parks. With that, people who have to work center of urban can also rest their time in the green areas with their families such as specialists, executives, and merchants etc.

After World War 2, many big cities had to be planned and Organic Decentralization became to a guide for these cities to create a healthy order and create a system to development while the plans were considering such as Greater London Plan and Grand Paris Plan.

According to his book *The Search for Form in Art and Architecture* (same analysis with the City) he describes organic order with these sentences: "The principles of an organic order have often been referred to. It has been referred to particularly because of its close relation to the structural consistency of the universe. And in view of this fact, we preferred the principles as the fundamental principles of architecture. Expression and correlation are daughter principle of the universal principle of the organic order. The expression is that natural form richness is established through a certain significative order different each case and expressive of the meaning behind the form. Correlation is our subject of study was the landscape, we learned that in the landscape there must exist a trend to correlation so as to keep things together and to make the whole an integrality of correlated order."

"Concentration and decentralization was opposite terms. When the cities grow quickly, concentration increases. With this growth decentralization causes existence suburbs, satellite towns, neighbor communities, and all sorts of miscellaneous settlements about the core of the original centralization. Centralization in the overgrown cities has caused compactness and disorder and though these, deterioration and spread of slums. So this problems can be solved with organic decentralization. " Saureen claims that Organic Theory must be a key word to solve problems.



Eliel Saarinen's plans for the decentralization of Greater Helsinki, Finland (left), and Greater Tallin, Estonia (right)