

TDTCOUK FLW #2

In this Friday's installment of TDT's College of Useless Knowledge FLW Lecture Series, we focus on famous or infamous quotes by or about our hero, Frankie.

Registrars note: You must have completed at least 30 undergraduate hours of architectural design studio as a prerequisite to calling him that.

Successful completion of this course will earn you 32 credits.

To opt-out of future correspondence on this course, reply to this message with STOP ANNOYING ME in the subject line.

Abandon it! (FLW) (when asked how he would go about improving Pittsburgh)

A doctor can bury his mistakes but an architect can only advise his client to plant vines. (FLW)

Less is only more where more is no good. (FLW)

Great architecture like any form of great art, ultimately takes you somewhere words alone cannot. Fallingwater does that the way Chartres Cathedral does that. There are some experiences that get you in your gut & you just feel it & you can't quite even say it. My whole life is spent describing architecture with words yet there's something that I can't entirely say when it comes to what Fallingwater feels like. I remember the first time I went to Fallingwater, taking the slow walk down, glimpsing it first thru the trees, looking at it from across the waterfall & I just wanted to sing! I just looked at it & wanted to start singing some song or doing something. There was nothing really to say. It was so extraordinary!! (Paul Goldberger, Architecture Critic New York Times) (this is probably the most famous architecture critic in the world & he usually hates everything) Hey Frankie, he likes it!

Pictures deface walls more often than they decorate them. (FLW)

The only thing wrong with architecture is the architects. (FLW)

I'm in favor of keeping dangerous weapons out of the hands of fools. Let's start with typewriters. (FLW)

A man is a fool if he drinks before he reaches the age of 50, and a fool if he doesn't afterward. (FLW) (you see why I like this guy now, eh?)

No house should ever be on a hill or on anything. It should be of the hill. Hill & house should live together with each the happier for the other. (FLW)

There are many places where conversation & Frank Lloyd Wright's work can be studied; there is nowhere else than Fallingwater that his architecture can be felt so warmly & appreciated so intuitively. That is the beginning of wisdom. (Edgar Kaufman Sr.)

An architect's most useful tool is an eraser at the drafting board, and a wrecking bar at the building site. (FLW)

Television is bubble-gum for the mind. (FLW)

Regard it just as desirable to build a chicken coop as to build a cathedral. (FLW)

It has served well as a house, yet has always been so much more than that, a work of art beyond any ordinary measure of excellence. Itself an ever-flowing source of exhilaration, it is set on the waterfall of Bear Run, spouting nature's endless energy & grace. House & site together form the very image of man's desire to be at one with nature, equal & wedded to nature. (Edgar Kaufman Jr.)

Classicism is a mask & does not reflect transition. How can such a static expression allow interpretation of human life as we know it today? A fire house should not resemble a French Chateau, a bank a Greek temple & a university a Gothic Cathedral. All of the isms are imposition on life itself by way of previous education. (FLW) (preach on reverend Frank, can I get an amen)

Eventually, I think Chicago will be the most beautiful great city left in the world. (FLW)

Every great architect is necessarily a great poet. He must be a great original interpreter of his time, his day, his age. (FLW)

Form follows function - that has been misunderstood. Form & function should be one, joined in a spiritual union. (FLW)

Always all things at once, Fallingwater remains as magical, as hallucinatory & as ethereal as a cascade of white water or an early morning mist. (Neil Levine)

The space within becomes the reality of the building. (FLW)

Fallingwater is a work by man for man, not by a man for a man. (Edgar Kaufman Jr.)

Why, I just shake the buildings out of my sleeves. (FLW)

I never design a building before I've seen the site & met the people who will be using it. (FLW)

Fallingwater is one dang nice house. (TDT)

Next Friday we will focus on FLW as a young man & the childhood that shaped a genius.