



Frank Wright

DESIGNER'S FULL NAME: : Frank Lloyd Wright

DESIGNER'S PSEUDONYM/NICKNAME: None

GENDER: Male

YEAR BORN: 1867

COUNTRY IN WHICH DESIGNER BORN: America

YEAR DIED: 1959

COUNTRY IN WHICH DESIGNER DIED: America

RACE | ETHNICITY | RELIGION | POLITICAL ALIGNMENT

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE AFFECTED EITHER THE ARTIST'S LIFE EXPERIENCE OR WORK BECAUSE IT/THEY PROVIDED A CHALLENGE AT THE TIME, PLEASE EXPLAIN.

None of the above qualities of the designer provided a challenge for the time.

DID THIS DESIGNER DO NOTABLE WORK IN FIELDS OTHER THAN WHAT WOULD BE CONSIDERED GRAPHIC DESIGN TODAY? EXPLAIN.

Explain here and remove this explanation text. Things "other than what would be considered graphic design" for the sake of this timeline: Photography, Painting, Sculpture, Package Design, Printmaking, Printing, Architecture, Interior Design, Jewelry Design, Fashion, Papermaking, Bookbinding. (Any others, please check with Prof. Nikki.) Typeface design is part of graphic design, so do not include here. Please explain the typeface design in another answer. (No job titles like previous version of the questionnaire.)

LIST AT LEAST ONE OTHER WORK THAT IS NOT NAMED IN THIS TIMELINE FOR WHICH THIS DESIGNER IS WELL KNOWN. IF WORK CO-CREATED, LIST THE OTHERS INVOLVED.

The William H. Winslow House that Wright designed isn't mentioned in Meggs' but was his first independent commission. This construction would eventually be called Prairie Style and would set the standard for this in America for many years after.

EXPLAIN IF THIS FAME IS ONLY WITHIN DESIGN CIRCLES OR ANY OTHER SUBSET OF THE POPULATION.

Architectural circles this man is a legend. From this one design of the William H. Winslow House, it started a trend throughout American housing.

DOES THIS WORK EXEMPLIFY ASPECTS EXPLAINED IN PREVIOUS QUESTIONS?

Explain here and remove this explanation text.

FOR WHAT IS THIS DESIGNER MOST NOTED? EXPLAIN.

Frank Wright is most noted for his architecture. From the top 100 most important buildings list of Architectural Records he has created 12 of those. Along with basically creating Prairie Style and Usonian style that was popular during the Great Depression.

IS THERE ANYTHING CONTROVERSIAL ABOUT THIS DESIGNER? EXPLAIN.

There is nothing notably controversial about this designer.

WHAT MATERIALS WERE MOST OFTEN USED BY THIS DESIGNER IN THE CREATION AND PRODUCTION OF WORK?

Wright used a lot the new technologies that came out during his era. He was not scared to venture out of his comfort zone in architecture, using materials like rock, wood, and concrete. He used regular printing methods for his posters and book covers.

EXPLAIN THIS DESIGNER'S EDUCATION/TRAINING, INCLUDING ACADEMIC, APPRENTICESHIPS, AND /OR MENTORSHIPS.

Frank attended the University of Wisconsin knowing he wanted to be an architect. Early in his career he was hired by Adler and Sullivan for six year as a mentorship directly under Louis Sullivan.

DID THIS DESIGNER PROMOTE A SPECIFIC IDEOLOGY IN HIS/HER WORK? EXPLAIN.

Something that could be considered an ideology, Frank promoted form follow function. Meaning the shape of a building of object should primarily relate to the intended purpose of use.

WHY IS THIS DESIGNER VIEWED AS ICONIC IN THE HISTORY OF GRAPHIC DESIGN?

There isn't necessarily one piece that stands out from his graphic design profession, but Wright did experiment with a lot of white space within his designs. He was a large inspiration to designers trying to convert to a rectangular approach from the more recent curvilinear art nouveau style.

IS THERE ANY OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO KNOW ABOUT THIS DESIGNER?

No.

YOUR NAME: Cody Crittenden

GIVE YOUR EDUCATED OPINION OF THIS DESIGNER AND HIS/HER WORK. ALSO EXPLAIN WHAT INFLUENCE, IF ANY, THIS WORK HAS HAD ON YOUR OWN. A LACK OF INFLUENCE MUST BE EXPLAINED.

Before I knew what graphic design was during my juniors year of high school, I wanted to do architecture. Also not knowing what modernism was at the time the style was really influential to most of my work. I really enjoyed the clean lines, dimension, and the overall look of a house like Wright's Fallingwater design. Adding a machine created quality with hard straight lines, variation, and large windows to house then putting it out in nature to be one absolutely drives me crazy, in a good way.

My dad did construction most of his life along with designing houses and interiors. That is Probably one of the reasons why I gravitated towards architecture so heavily early on. Though I never knew who created Fallingwater until this semester, I always thought I would have really enjoyed doing what Frank Lloyd Wright did in his era. With his mind working with these designs, there is no doubt that he had a major roll in pushing modernism in the early 1900's.

It is basically impossible to go out anywhere, with civilization, and not see a building. Though posters, books, billboards, packaging can be seen anywhere, they have no weight compared to the overall feeling that can be taken from architecture. Seeing a skyscraper or a home that was designed by a real architect (not those phonies that make suburbs) gives me an overwhelming feeling.

It brings you into the reality of how little and insignificant we actually are. After watching my dad build houses for so many years, I can put into perspective the amount of teamwork it takes to put together a home. Without a group of people with different skill sets, our houses would still look like the wood cabins pilgrims use to live in.

You have to have painters, electricians, architects, roofers, people to pour concrete. It really takes a village. Wright's designs I feel were so ahead of their time and probably even technology. As many tools I've seen used while building a house, there is no way the construction workers had anything as close as useful while building. Yet they found a way to make the house's so clean and perfect.

Wright's posters and cover designs aren't anything special besides the line work and they don't have any obvious correlation to his architecture. They seem so busy or disorganized, I would think his designs would come close to the clean look he gives his houses. There was little inspiration that can be found in his graphic design work pushing forward the movement of modernism, but certainly his efforts in the architectural field landed him a spot in the history books.

Having 12 of the top 100 most important building in America is outstanding. It would be phenomenal just to have designed one house that could make that list let alone 12. I believe he actually influenced some of my early works and maybe even how I do things today.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"About Frank Lloyd Wright." Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. <http://franklloydwright.org/frank-lloyd-wright/>.

Meggs, Phillip B. and Alston W. Purvis. *Meggs' History of Graphic Design, 5th Edition*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2012.

