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The curved concrete of experimental architect Félix Candela on display in Chicago



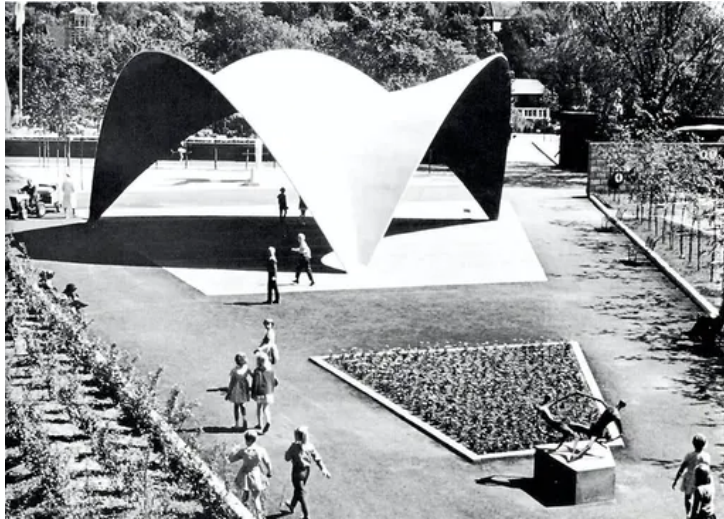
By [Hope Daley](#)

Feb 1, '18 5:47 PM EST

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Concrete roof shell in Botanical Garden by Félix Candela, located in Oslo, Norway. 1962. Image: Gallery 400.

An [exhibition](#) showcasing the work of architect Félix Candela (1910-1997) is currently up at Gallery 400, located in the College of Architecture and the Arts at the University of Illinois. The show, [Félix Candela's Concrete Shells: An Engineered Architecture for Mexico and Chicago](#), features architectural models, plans, and photographs following the development of Candela's work.

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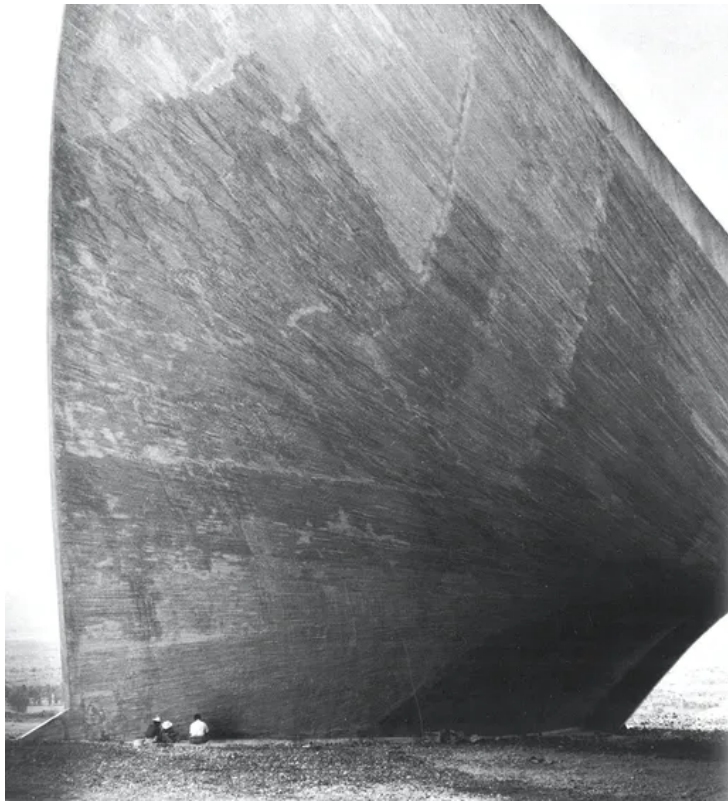
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Chapel Lomas de Cuernavaca by Félix Candela, located in Cuernavaca, Mexico. 1959. Image: Gallery 400.

Born in Spain, Candela was exiled to Mexico at the end of the Spanish Civil War in 1939, where he lived for thirty years and established his career as an architect.

Woodbury University

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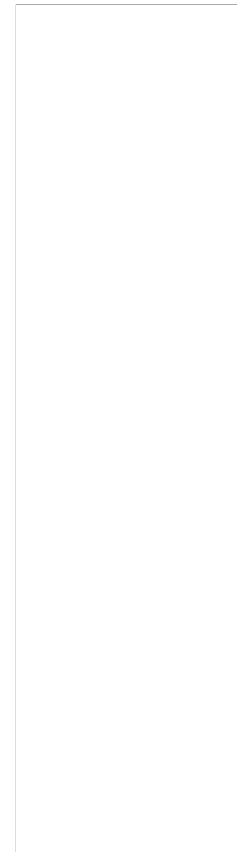
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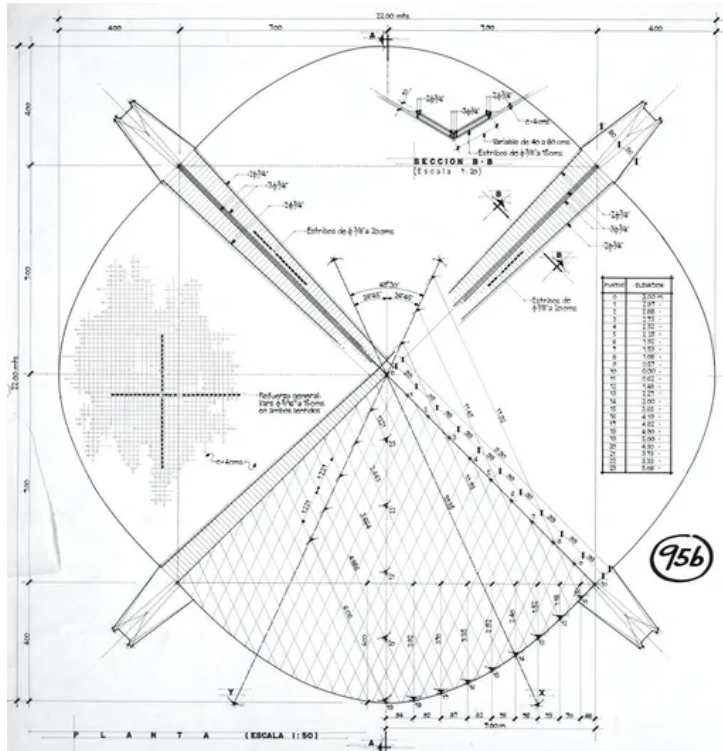
Chapel Lomas de Cuernavaca by Félix Candela, located in Cuernavaca, Mexico. 1959. Image: Gallery 400.

Félix Candela is known for his experimental signature shell structures, which were massive architectural engineering undertakings. To create these curved designs he used hyperbolic paraboloid geometry to reinforce the numerous concrete shells.



Chapel Lomas de Cuernavaca construction by Félix Candela, located in Cuernavaca, Mexico. 1959. Image: Gallery 400.

These cantilevered forms were not only structural advancements but also brought new textural and atmospheric qualities to the social and communal spaces.



Verde Valle Sales Stand by Félix Candela, located in Guadalajara, Mexico. 1960. Image: Gallery 400.

Some renowned structures include the Pavilion of Cosmic Rays at UNAM, the Chapel Lomas de Cuernavaca, Los Manantiales Restaurant, and the Palace of Sports for the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City.

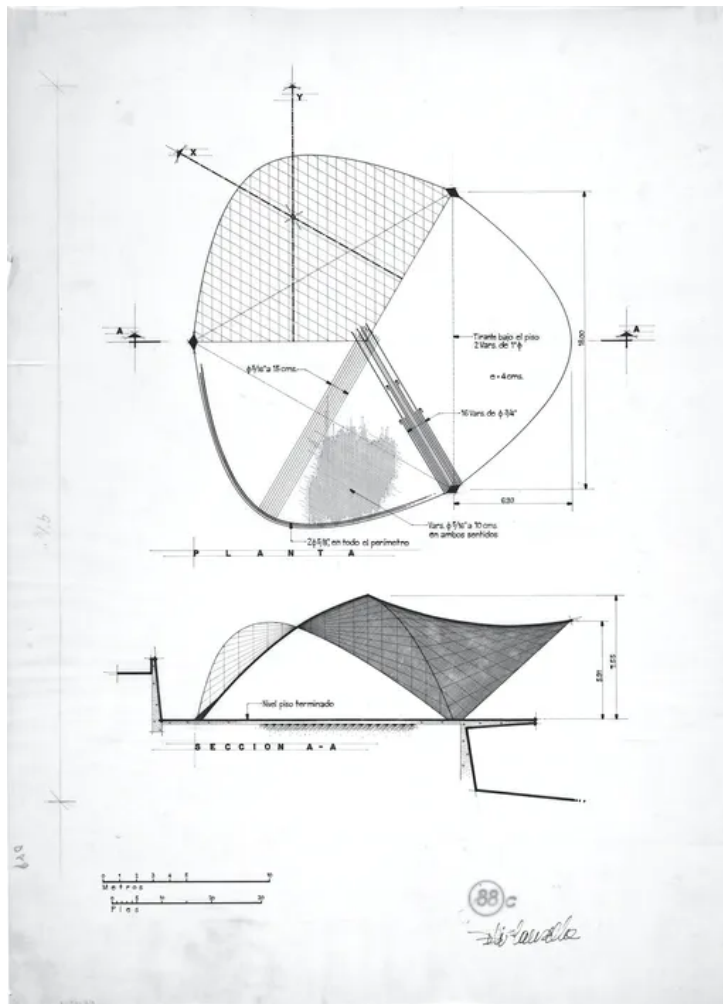


Los Manantiales Restaurant by Félix Candela, located in Mexico City. 1958. Image: Gallery 400.



Los Manantiales Restaurant by Félix Candela, located in Mexico City. 1958. Image: Gallery 400.

Candela's advanced geometric designs have influenced contemporary architecture with formal influences seen in works such as Zaha Hadid's Heydar Aliyev Ali (Azerbaijan, 2013), FOA's Yokohama Terminal (Japan, 2002), and UNstudio's Burnham Pavilion (Chicago, 2009).



La Jacaranda Cabaret, Presidente Acapulco Hotel by Félix Candela located in Acapulco, Mexico. 1957. Image: Gallery 400.

SOME CURRENT COMPETITIONS ON [BUSTLER](#) THAT MAY INTEREST YOU...



Legendary Bird Home 2021

Register by Tue, May 11, 2021
Submit by Tue, Dec 7, 2021



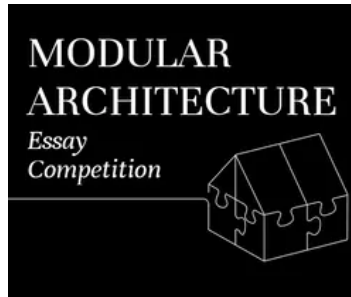
WARMING Competition 2021

Register by Sat, Sep 4, 2021
Submit by Sun, Sep 5, 2021



SKYHIVE 2021

Register by Fri, Apr 23, 2021
Submit by Fri, May 28, 2021



Modular Architecture Essay Competition

Register by Thu, Jul 8, 2021
Submit by Thu, Sep 2, 2021

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chigurh

beautiful work but completely fails architecture as anything more than a folly

FEB 1, 18 8:06 PM

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