

GH-1023515502

The Swan

Guggenheim Helsinki

Press summary

A homage to Sibelius' *Swan of Tuonela*, based on the *Kalevala*, the proposed Guggenheim Helsinki offers a Romantic counterpoint to the Neoclassical, Modernist, industrial and ecclesiastical harbourfront. Its curved forms are clad in alternating panels of local timber, glazing and copper-coloured photovoltaic panels. Bronze detailing echoes the golden cuppolas of Uspenski Cathedral across the bay. The park is extended through the site to the sea, with a rooftop planted with native wildflowers and a waterfront grove of native *Pinus sylvestris*. A striking visual presence on the skyline, the museum integrates the urban grid with a public route through the site, making the Swan a gateway to, and extension of, the city of Helsinki – while offering visitors a varied experience of art that is intimately linked to that of the city and of nature.