

GUGGENHEIM HELSINKI DESIGN COMPETITION

GH – 3822727974

PRESS SUMMARY

As part of its 'genius locii' the building is designed to achieve a voyage of discovery, unique to Helsinki, by its historical and factual allusions – Kalevalan boat voyages and dockside architecture.

Its civic function is expressed in the porous nature of the building which combines internal and external public spaces with their links to each other, the town and Tahtitornin Vuori Park – this ensures maximum use of the site. Boat keel, warehouse roof and container give a dockside image with associated hard exterior (glass, Corten steel, granite) and soft interior (luminous lighting, wood, fabrics).

The museum's success as a generic form will depend on its appeal to the senses as well as to the intellect, that indefinable quality that produces a piece of 'architecture' – architecture that reflects the democratic heritage of the Guggenheim and Helsinki.