

12 2011

Şperçu

a free visual polemic

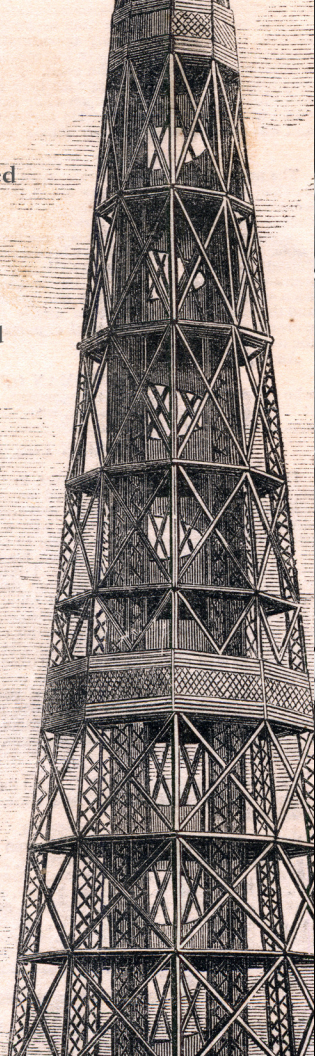


Latting Observatory

New York, circa 1853

Architectural histories written since the birth of Modern architecture have tended to focus on those material trends which anticipated that movement: the use of glass or steel, or the development of structures for industry. Others describe stylistic evolution or socially-determined changes in architectural form. The Latting Observatory must have been seen, in retrospect, as neither technologically influential nor socially relevant.

But the Observatory's lattice-like structure, its multi-floor staging and visible vertical circulation, and its pragmatic mix of building materials may be more relevant than ever before. Eiffel's Tower may have been the harbinger of the Age of Steel – despite its having been made of cast iron! – but perhaps Latting's Observatory might be claimed by our own Age of Composite, named for our embrace of diverse technical means and organically-derived, renewable materials.



INTERFERENCE MUSIC HOUSE



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Empty Lot



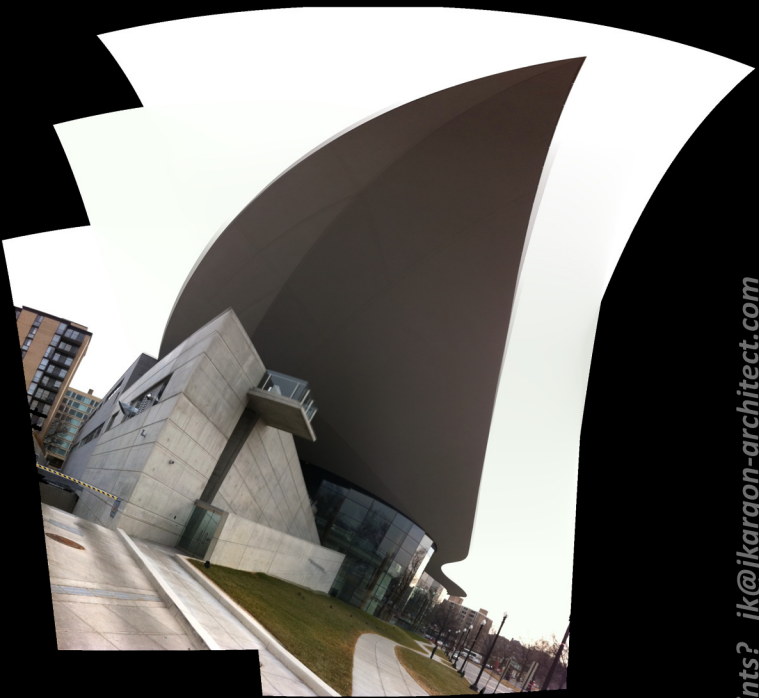


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Stop Glock 11/16
Jan 11 2010



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