

Deconstructivism—1975 to Present



Deconstructivism takes an approach to building design that views architecture in bits and pieces. The basic architectural elements of a building are dismantled. Deconstructivist buildings may seem to have no visual logic. They appear to be made up of unrelated, disharmonious abstract forms. The Deconstructivism movement has been led by architect Frank Gehry. His design for the

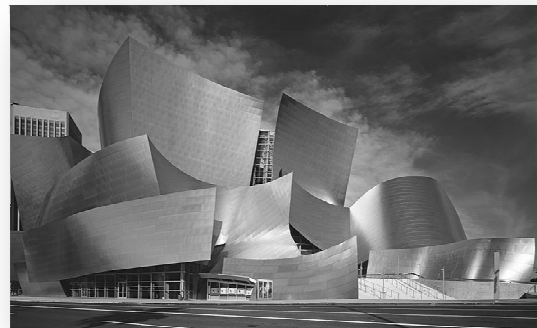
Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain (pictured top left), has become world famous. There are many examples of Deconstructivism in Southern California, since Gehry’s practice is based here. One of the best examples in Southern California is the Walt Disney Concert Hall located in Downtown Los Angeles (pictured below).

Common Features

- Abstract, unrelated forms
- Smooth exterior surface
- Use of metal, typically a stainless steel or similar material, as exterior siding
- Contrast in shapes and forms

Windows

Windows were typically large expanses of glass in metal frames hidden in the abstract forms of the walls.



Doors

Doors were typically simple metal frames, with glass panels

Colors

Buildings were typically painted a variety of colors, or when metal was used, it was left exposed.