



Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future

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From the swooping concrete vaults of the TWA Terminal at JFK Airport to the 630-foot-tall Gateway Arch in St. Louis, the iconic designs of Eero Saarinen (1910–1961) captured the aspirations and values of mid-20th-century America. Potent expressions of national power, these and other Saarinen-designed structures—including the GM Technical Center, Dulles International Airport, and John Deere headquarters—helped create the international image of the United States in the decades following World War II.

Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future offers a new and wide-ranging look at the entire scope of Saarinen's career. This is the first book on Saarinen to incorporate significant research and materials from the newly available archives of his office, and includes the most complete portfolio of Saarinen's projects to date—a chronological survey of more than 100 built and unbuilt works, previously unpublished photographs, plans, and working drawings.

Lavishly illustrated, this major study shows how Saarinen gave his structures an expressive dimension and helped introduce modern architecture to the mainstream of American practice. In his search for a richer and more varied modern architecture, Saarinen became one of the most prolific and controversial practitioners of his time.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Far from a household name, Saarinen's works are nonetheless internationally recognizable icons. His Gateway Arch towers 630 feet above St. Louis, welcoming visitors from across the mighty Mississippi River; the cascading vaults of his TWA terminal at JFK airport greet guests from afar. In many ways, Saarinen's architecture conveys his own experience as an immigrant in the United States; originally from Finland, Saarinen set foot in America in 1923. This elegant compendium provides a lavish array of photographs and sketches of his work, as well as an impressive collection of essays by leading architects and academics. Renowned historian Vincent Scully, for example, addresses Saarinen's role in defining modern architecture in America: by seeing the nation through foreign eyes, he writes, Saarinen understood the responsibility incumbent upon empire. This book demonstrates the many ways Saarinen, and the school of young architects from his office-Pelli, Roche and Venturi, each of them an immigrant or the child of one—hasn't just brought a unique viewpoint to bear on his adopted home, but has changed the way America views itself.

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