

Actualizing Poetry in Architecture: Modern Iranian Monumental Architecture

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Iran is undoubtedly one of the capitals of world poetry. Poetry is intertwined with Iranian life: in cinema, in architecture and even in its classical sport, *Zur-khaneh*. And it seems that Iranian classical architecture is more inspired by the subtleties of a poet's mind than the prowess of a professional industrialist. And in modern Iran, if architecture is inspired by poetry it can represent an identity; if, that is, it is poetic.

The purpose of this set of posters is to introduce architectural projects that have been informed and inspired by Persian poetry, as representative of Iranian identity examining the influence of poetry in the creation of a structural design and investigating the possibility of actualizing poetic ideas in architecture.

The first project is a floating restaurant and for serving "slow food" as opposed to "fast food". The idea is the resurrection and restructuring of a very old village in southern Iran. The initial concept is based on the mourning ceremonies, *Ayeen-e Zar*, and has planned itself on a poetic scenario to achieve its goal.

The second project is a marine control tower. This building is inspired by the poet of epic Persian poetry, *Firdausi*, and differentiates itself from the rest of similar repetitive "soulless" projects lacking an identity by displaying a poeticity of structure absent elsewhere.

The third project is a symbolic Entrance Gate located at the largest harbor in Iran welcoming all the incomers. This structure, inspired by *Rumi's* poetry, intends to carve a memorable image of Iran in the minds using modern ingredients.

The fourth project is the 'Center for Dialogue among Civilizations', an intelligent structure that is mobilized and directed by the Universe. The building is mobile and travels at a specific moment to a different country through the oceans hosting a splendid annual cultural ceremony.

The last project is the *Sheykh-e Eshragh* monument, celebrating an Iranian philosopher of that name executed for his opinions. This structure is unswervingly planned by turning the philosopher's ideas, expressed in a poetic language, into executable architectural design. This structure intends to display the interdependencies of philosophy, art, and architecture. These projects' purpose is to show a tangible picture of poeticity in architecture and how to turn words into concrete structures.