

## **Architecture: the Condition of Silence**

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### **Abstract**

*"Silence is not merely an auditory experience of the absence of sound; it is a multi-sensory and existential experience of being, rather than of listening." Juhani Pallasmaa*

In an increasingly fast-paced world, it is difficult to find time and space to be with oneself. We have become familiar to the disruptive noise and strangers to the sound of silence. Silence as a suspension in time, that opens space and guides us to contemplation. Silence as something intimate, that gives opportunity for the self to be heard. Silence as an intrinsic quality to architecture, as a spatial narrative or expression.

Contemporary art has been exploring this kind of silence through painting, sculpture, music, poetry. In architecture, the theme is often associated with sacred spaces. Hence, we will focus on the study of the Bruder Klaus Field Chapel, by Peter Zumthor. Through the study of the author's texts, drawings, and photographs, we aim to understand how each architect constructs his own silence and in what way it can be a hidden protagonist in architecture.

With this paper, we seek to address these reinterpretations of sacred space and question how they create a condition of silence. Indeed, how can a piece of art, specifically a work of architecture, bring us a moment and a place of quietness? How can architecture, through its multisensory essence, touch us? How can it generate an individual and unique experience while being an instrument that brings awareness to our consciousness? Ultimately, how can we establish a connection between architectural form and an atmosphere of silence?

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