

I.M. Pei



About the Artist

I.M. Pei (Ieoh Ming Pei) a Chinese-born-American Architect was known for creating large elegant-looking structures and complexes. After moving to the United States, he enrolled in college for a degree in architectural engineering and received his Master's in Architectural Engineering from Harvard University. During his lifetime, he rejected the style trends in architecture of the **International Style** that gained popularity during the mid-20th century even though his works have similar characteristics. When designing a building, Pei focuses on a more **Modern style** of the building's **purpose** and place in the community. Pei is recognized for his bold and skillful grouping of **geometric shapes** and dramatic use of richly contrasted materials, spaces, and surfaces. Pei is known for designing the Louvre, The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, The National Gallery of Art- East Building, and the Everson Museum of Art.

Artist Examples



Louvre's Pyramid, Paris



The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Cleveland, Ohio. Front/Entry View



Side View

Saturday Class Week Five:Fifth Grade Big Idea: Community

Learning Targets for the Day:

- Children will discuss how the **purpose** of the building might affect design choices they make in creating their paper community.
- Children will discuss how buildings designed like the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame affect the community.
- Children will compare and contrast I.M. Pei's designs to the buildings around their communities.
- Children will talk about how they can incorporate geometric shapes into their designs.



National Gallery of Art-East Building, Washington D.C.

Vocabulary:

Purpose - the reason for which something is done or created or for which something exists

International Style- first used in 1932 to describe architects associated with the modern movement whose designs shared similar visual qualities – being mostly rectilinear, undecorated, asymmetrical, and white

Geometric Shapes - closed figures created using points, line segments, circles, and curves

Modern Style - a style of building that emphasizes function and a streamlined form over ornamentation.

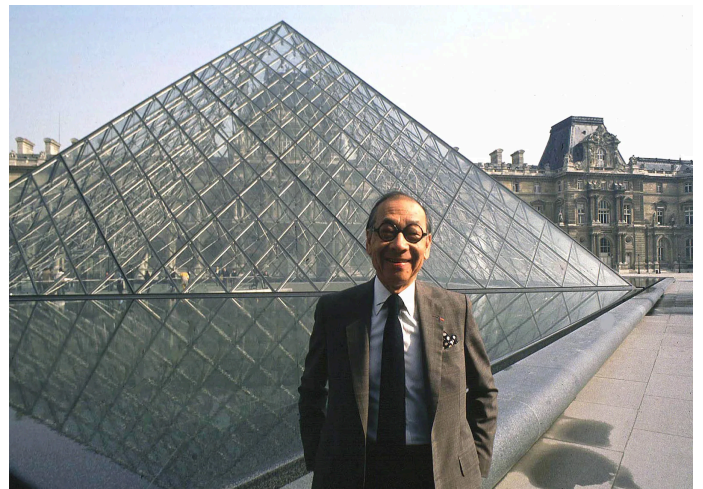
Questions:

Artist - Why do you think I.M. Pei focused on the purpose of the building when creating his designs?

Artwork: What part of the buildings catches your eye first? How does the material use affect the look of the building?

World: When in time do you think this style of building would fit in best? How do designs like these affect the look and the vibe of the community?

Audience: Do you think I.M. Pei designs for the purpose of the building? Do you think he should be more traditional with his designs? Why?



Links About I.M. Pei and his works
[National Mall-National Gallery of Art](#)
[I.M. Pei-Profile from his Firm](#)
[The 12 Most Significant Projects Of I.M. Pei](#)
[Louvre Pyramid](#)