



Jože Plečnik

1872 –1957



## Presentation of the work

Required age:  
starting from 8  
years

### Educational interest:

Students learn about the architect Jože Plečnik and some of his works. They learn about pillar as an architectural element and expressions cathedral and parliament. They build their own „parliament“ using natural materials which they rarely meet.

### Encounter with the work:

- Students learn about some works by architect Jože Plečnik, which can be mainly seen in the capital of Slovenia – Ljubljana.
- Jože Plečnik draw plans for a magnificent Slovenian parliament named The Cathedral of Freedom. It was never built. Plečnik used pillars in his buildings a lot. The Cathedral of Freedom is also decorated by pillars.



Source: <http://www.obzor.hr/blogs/t14974.html>

### Work's analysis

- The Cathedral of Freedom or Plečnik's Slovenian parliament consists of the lower part – colonnade of pillars. This part circles the two storey main part. Above this part there would be a conical dome based on oblique pillars. The height of the dome would be 120 meters.

## Creative process

### Pedagogical organization

- ↪ Students learn some of Jože Plečnik's works.
- ↪ They see The Cathedral of Freedom.
- ↪ They see the presentation and the explanation of the words pillar, cathedral, parliament.
- ↪ They look at some parliaments of European countries and think about common characteristics of parliaments.
- ↪ From wooden sticks and round wooden boards they make their own parliament.
- ↪ They name their parliaments.

### Duration

- ↪ The presentation about Plečnik and his works 20 min.
- ↪ Explanation and presentation about pillars, cathedral, parliaments 10 min.
- ↪ Making "parliament" 45 min.
- ↪ Evaluation 15 min.

### Implemented resources / materials (per student)

- ☐ Materials: Small wooden boards with holes and wooden sticks in different sizes (waldorf wooden blocks)

### Learning objectives

- ↪ They learn words in connection with architecture.
- ↪ They learn about the work of Slovenian greatest architect Jože Plečnik.
- ↪ They design spatial formations by making different spatial units.
- ↪ They develop the sense for stability of their formations.
- ↪ They develop spatial idea.

## Progress

- students tasks

- By watching PP students learn about Jože Plečnik and some of his architectural works in Ljubljana.
- Watching the photos they learn about architectural element - pillar and think why it is used for in architecture.
- They learn about the Plečnik's unrealized Cathedral of Freedom – Slovenian parliament
- Watching the photographs they observe some of the European countries parliaments.
- From wooden bricks and sticks they make their own parliaments and include wooden sticks as an architectural element.
- In groups they think about names and laws adopted in their parliaments.
- They present their palaces to their schoolmates.

- instructions

- In groups make a parliament or a cathedral from wooden bricks and sticks.
- The palace has to be solid, magnificent and interesting.
- Think how to name your palace.
- In your parliament peace, respect, cooperation, freedom and friendship should rule.
- What kind of laws would be adopted by the members of your parliament?

### teacher's role

- Explains about the life of Jože Plečnik and his architectural creation.
- Explains what pillar is.
- Explains what parliament is.
- Explains about Plečnik's unrealized project The Cathedral of Freedom.
- Guides the group work.
- Guides the presentation of the groups.

# implementation steps

1



We build a palace from wooden boards and sticks.

2



We use the sticks as pillars which carry the weight of the ceilings and walls. They can be only used for decoration.

3



We have built a palace.

4



We named the building with pillars and stores The Big Slovenian palace.

5



Our Palace of Freedom.

6



A Parliament Palace