

DESIGNING WITH CONSCIOUSNESS:

Aprielle Chung's Holistic Approach to Architecture

An Interview with the Founder of Atelier April Architects

What motivated you to start your own practice, and how do you approach the design process?

I started my own firm to approach architecture from a broader perspective. I am interested not only in the physical and material aspects of design but also in the mental, emotional,

and spiritual dimensions that shape how people experience space. Our work aims to cultivate higher consciousness and awareness, and to improve users' well-being. Every project begins with empathy and a deep understanding of the user, rather than a fixed signature style. Because

each site and client is different, we develop a unique methodology for every project to shape the user's sensory and perceptual experience.



I've heard that your mother is a descendant of King Sejong the Great. How did your background and upbringing shape your path in architecture?

I grew up in an egalitarian household, so we never considered our background as special. Even so, King Sejong's spirit of broad talent, innovation, and humanitarian values is reflected in my mother's side of the family. That environment helped me become well-rounded, versatile, and inventive, which has supported my career across many project types in both design and technical areas. My artistic eye also

comes from my mother, who often took me to museums and galleries, explained artworks to me, and taught me how to draw and paint. Her influence led me to win many art competition awards as a child.

Did your parents support you in becoming an architect or an interior designer?

My parents did not want me to pursue architecture, but I followed my own calling. I made that decision at thirteen and never looked back. To this day, nothing excites me more than architecture.

Where do you find inspiration?

I often draw inspiration from my dreams, where they appear as images, sounds, or words. After that initial spark, I develop them through both empirical and experimental exploration. However, sometimes inspiration is less about receiving something new from the outside and more about seeing what already exists from a different perspective. No matter how unfavorable the conditions are, talented people have the power to turn them into gold. ●

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