

Antoni Gaudí: architect and structural artist

As 21st century universities consider the wisdom of instituting '*architectural engineering*' courses we are invited to consider who our role models might be. In the main, they will either be renowned architects with an effective penchant for embracing structural design, or renowned engineers with conspicuous architectural sensibility. Are there any truly hybrid figures – individuals that appear to comprise an indivisible fusion of both architect and engineer?

In his keynote address, Mark Burry will position Catalan Architect Antoni Gaudí (1852-1926) as one such hybrid. He will review Gaudí's 43-year career during which no project emerged with its architectural and structural design being anything less than extraordinary. Through the medium of Gaudí's oeuvre he will reflect on the additional value that such holistic talent brings to building projects, arguing that society needs more of such figures: less the exception and more the rule.