



Adolf Loos -Teodoro Adorno y la Estética Moderna [

2022

text (article)

Analítica

As a cultural critic, Loos is mostly remembered for his contemptuous critique of ornament in the 1910 essay "Ornament und Verbrechen" (). Loos believed that ornament fundamentally masks the authenticity and integrity of architecture; therefore, he concluded that "Only a very small part of architecture belongs to art: the tomb and the monument. Everything else that fulfills a function is to be excluded from the domain of art." As a corollary to this position, Loos realized the radical conclusion that art exists outside of culture whereas architecture is rooted in culture. Ironically, Adorno in his lecture "Functionalism Today" ('Funktionalismus Heute') that was given to the intellectual heirs of the same Deutsche Werkbund, which was the object of Loos' contempt more than half a century earlier. His discourse to this group was essentially a critique on the impoverished quality of German building; and how it dispensed with aesthetic qualities to serve an expedient functionalist agenda.

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