Peter Zumthor

Two significant buildings:

* Brother Klaus Filed chapel, 2007

Wachendarf, Eitel, Germany

* + - This chapel was in honor of Swiss Saint Nicholas Von Der Flue (1417-1487)
    - It was commissioned by farm Hemannr Josef Scheidueiler and his wife
    - Built by the Scheidueiler family and friends and some craftsmen
    - 112 tree trunk were used inside of the chapel in the shape of a tent and covered with layers of 50 m thick concrete
    - In 2006, after weeks of burning a fire inside the tent, the concrete was dry and the tree trunks were removed from the inside of the chapel
    - The floor of the chapel is made out of lead, which was manually led on the floor.
* Therme Vals, Graubunder, Switzerland

* + - The Therme Vals Designed by Peter Zumthor, built over an old bankrupt hotel/spa/bath and over the only thermal springs in Graubunder Canton in Switzerland.
    - Opened in 1996
    - Built to look like a cave or quarry like structure
    - Layers of locally quarried Valser Quarzite slaps are used for almost 90 % of the structure
    - There are light and shade areas, open and closed areas and linear element around the building which allows the visitor to feel relaxed and enjoy their experience.
    - The viewpoints are shows carefully to get the best visual images from the area.

Biography:

* Peter Zumthor was born on April 26, 1943, in Basel, Switzerland. Zumthor was the son of a cabinet maker, Oscar Zumthor. Before becoming an architect he learned cabinet making from his farther. After trying go down that path he decide to go on a different path so, from 1963 to 1967 he studied at the kunstgewerbeschule, vorkurs and fachlasse but he didn’t stop there, he went to study at Pratt Institute in new York, to become an architect. He built his own practice in 1979 in Haldenstein, Switzerland, and he’s still working to this day. His work has received many awards like the Praemium imperial from the Japan art association in 2008 and the Carlsberg architecture prize in Denmark in 1998. Since 1996 to today he has been the professor at the academy of architecture, and etc. He has been a visiting professor at the University of southern California institute of architecture and lots of other schools because of his achievement and creativity. He has also been recognized in many books like *Thinking Architecture* by Birkhauser in 1998.

Style:

* Some say he is a minimalist but Zumthor doesn’t work with a single “style” or material. He works project by project, reacting to the needs of individual people.

Questions:

* Do you think Peter Zumthors experience in cabinet making gave him an upper hand in designing residential buildings and commercial buildings?
* Why do you think Zumthor decide to use Valser Quarzite slaps throughout the spa/bath? Do you think he achieved he goal of creating the form of a cave or a Quarry like structure?

Research websites:

* <http://www.pritzkerprize.com/2009/bio>
* [www.vaintyfair.com/culture/2001/07/peter-zumthor-architect-buildings](http://www.vaintyfair.com/culture/2001/07/peter-zumthor-architect-buildings)
* [www.archdaily.com/13358/the-therme-vals](http://www.archdaily.com/13358/the-therme-vals)
* www.dezeen.com /2009/04/18/key-projects-by-peter-zumthor/