



Left
**Monastery Church at
Bechyne**, end of 15th
to early 16th century

Below
**Frank O. Gehry &
Associates**, Spiller
House, Venice, California
1979–80

'I have been searching for a personal vocabulary. This search has been far ranging, from childlike exploration of my fantasies – a fascination with incoherent and seemingly illogical systems – to a questioning of orderliness and functionality.

'If you try to understand my work on the basis of fugal order, structural integrity and formalised definitions of beauty, you are apt to be totally confused.

'A client's programs are interesting to me but are not the driving force in creating his building. I approach each building as a sculptural object, a spatial container, a space with light and air, a response to context and appropriateness of feeling and spirit. To this container, this sculpture, the user brings his baggage, his program, and interacts with it to accommodate his needs. If he can't do that, I've failed.

