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Editorials/Op-Ed

What a Building Says About Us

To the Editor:

Tom Wolfe has it right (Op-Ed, Oct. 12). The high priests of architectural religion spout their theory speak. Regrettably, the novice students and clients accept this as truth. Yet this approach, which disregards everything else for the artistic statement, produces dysfunctional and costly "installations" that most people dislike. Exactly the point, the fanatics say; eventually, the public will follow. But the public has not followed, and the avant garde has often moved on to its next new thing.

Architecture needs a shake-up to replace its high priests of theory-speak with a down-to-earth approach to solving real problems.

JACK NASAR

Columbus, Ohio, Oct. 13, 2003

The writer is a professor of city and regional planning at Ohio State University.