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Have you ever entertained the possibility of experiencing a space based on listening? Or sound quality, not the acoustic route, we have plenty of that already in concert halls or theatres, have you ever heard of aural architecture? It becomes extremely interesting to think and understand what happens in a space or building beyond its acoustics when experienced via our sense of hearing, along with gaining another element that can significantly influence us as we listen. It has been said that every single one of our environments has aural architecture, and it is that aspect of “real and virtual spaces that produces an emotional, behavioural, and visceral response in inhabitants. A space can produce feelings of intimacy, anxiety, isolation, connectedness, warmth, as well as a mystical sense of spirituality”, feelings you can perceive in a church or memorial for example, furthermore “Such responses parallel those of visual architecture, except that the space is experienced by listening rather than seeing”. Imagine walking into a space with your eyes closed and just listening to the sounds around you, if you’re religious think about being in a church on Sunday mass listening to the serene and melodic sounds flowing through the space, giving you warmth and the feeling of being closer to God, we are usually not aware that aural architecture itself is a sensory stimulus but we react to it either way. In the book *Spacespeak* are you listening Blesser and Salter recognized the sense of hearing “as a means by which humans sense the events of life, aurally visualize spatial geometry, propagate cultural symbols, stimulate emotions, communicate aural information, experience the movement of time, build social relationships, and retain a memory of experiences”.

Unappreciated, yet very important, aural architecture influences all of these functions, additionally it is also seen as a “ sociocultural force” in which people can also arrange surround sound systems in their living rooms or choose their desirable movie or theatre seats, and that if designers and architects were to notice and recognize the language and importance of aural architecture then it can create a massive improvement in social cohesion. “ We are all aural architects at home, the ear resides in a way the way can’t”, states Finnish architect Juhani Pallasmaa he designed the International Moscow Bank with a series of ramps draped in courtyards meant to broadcast the sound of the visitor’s footsteps, he reveals “ I have always found a special pleasure and intimacy in hearing my own footsteps echoed from walls and buildings in the streets of old towns, especially in the quiet of the night. I wanted the visitors to my buildings to have the same momentary experience of spatial interaction and belonging.”