

Unity Temple: Frank Lloyd Wright's Modern Masterpiece

There are great buildings and there are great restorations. Sometimes, both come together.

In **Unity Temple: Frank Lloyd Wright's Modern Masterpiece**, filmmaker **Lauren Levine** follows the challenging \$25 million restoration and revival of Wright's first public commission and the painstaking efforts to bring the 100-year-old building back to its original beauty.

Wildly experimental for its time, Unity Temple is also widely considered Wright's most significant work and a vastly influential forebear of the modern architecture movement. Wright said, "Unity Temple makes an entirely new architecture—and is the first expression of it. That is my contribution to modern architecture." Unity Temple was recently named as part of the UNESCO World Heritage site "The 20th-Century Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright."

The documentary is anchored by interviews with the dedicated team of historians, craftspeople, artisans, and members of the Unitarian congregation who share their passion for Wright and for historical preservation. Five years in the making, the film reveals the history of one of Wright's most innovative buildings that merged his love of architecture with his own spiritual values. With narration by Oscar and Emmy award-winning actor **Brad Pitt**, a Wright acolyte himself, the film creates a passionate multi-perspective statement not only for the beauty of the building but the ways that architecture continually alters the world within and around it.

Film's website: <https://www.unitytemplefilm.com>

Quotes:

Frank Matero, Professor and Chair of Historic Preservation at the Stuart Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania -- "All buildings, like people, have their stories, and so it should be no surprise that in the course of this latest attempt to find relevance and truth in this remarkable building, a new chapter of insights and experiences have been added to that saga, that all buildings, great and small, possess."

Justin Gunther, Director Fallingwater -- "The documentary is perfectly paced and accessible with just the right balance of technical information, inspiring commentary, and beautiful imagery. Along with Brad Pitt's narration of Wright, the interviewees, particularly Gunny (Harboe) and Paul (Goldberger), established a wonderfully eloquent tone throughout. A joy to watch."

Jeff Warner, WRNS Studio, AIA LEED AP, Founding Partner -- "This was a beautiful film. I appreciated the film's focus on exploring Frank Lloyd Wright's layering of quality and intent for every detail, and was heartened to learn of the restoration team's commitment to that integrity and accuracy. Especially now, with life seeming to be more fragile and messaging seeming to be more superficial, it is refreshing to be reminded of the potential of a community working together for a common, positive purpose."





Producer/Director/Editor Lauren Levine launched her career at Whitewater Films in Los Angeles as Director of Development for director/producer Rick Rosenthal. She has worked in all phases of production and post production in feature films and television in the role of showrunner, supervising producer, field producer and post producer. Lauren has produced network, reality and documentary programming for ABC Family, Discovery, Disney, TLC, Warner Brothers, Lifetime, National Geographic and TV One. Lauren is currently in production on a longitudinal documentary following a diverse group of dedicated students immersed in the student-activated movement to reform legislation and prevent gun violence.