



ARTS

BY GLYN HUGHES

Far and not so very far away

Sacred Space - Maath Alousi

It was my editor who best described the difficulties of being an architect: "You have to stand inside and look around before you've built it".

Iraqi architect **Maath Alousi** is participating in the "Architecture and Sacred Space in the Modern Age" exhibition at the Venice Biennale at Antichi Granai, Giudecca, from December 4 1992 - January 6 1993.

This is in the ancient granaries, lying very close to the Zitelle buildings, on the eastern extremity of the Giudecca island, just in front of St Mark's Square.

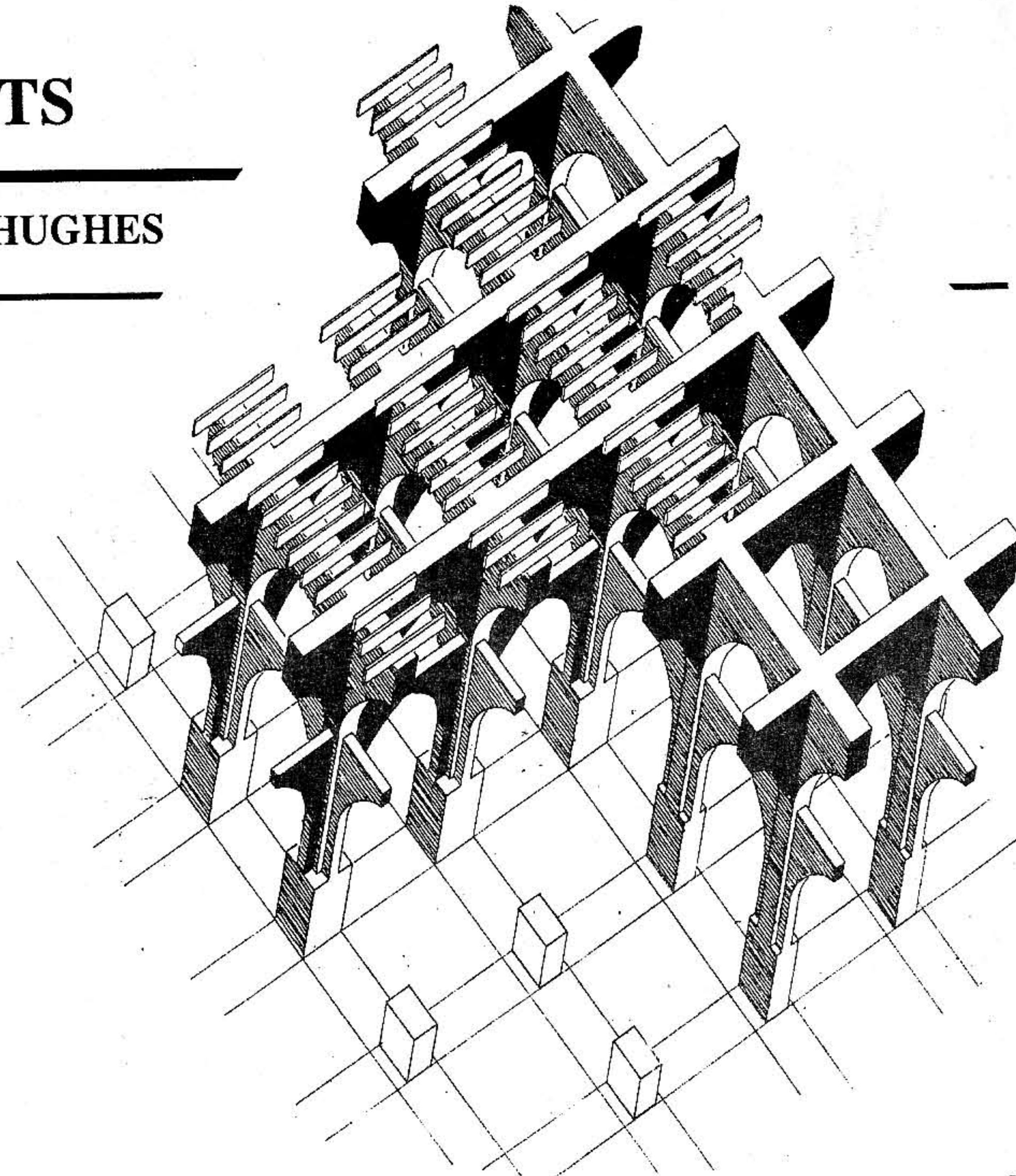
The exhibition is subdivided into three sections: 1. Sacred Space in History, 2. Sacred Space in Modernity, 3. Sacred Space Today (1970-1993).

In Sacred Space Today, we can see the most important works and projects of the last 20 years on the theme of the Christian church, the synagogue and the mosque.

Architects of international fame and prestige have been invited to exhibit their works and recent projects in the form of designs, photographs and models.

Maath Alousi, the Iraqi architect who lives in Limassol, and is very much part of the Cyprus art scene, has entered superb designs for a mosque.

Maath is also a painter and has exhibited his work here in Nicosia. He also designed the set of cardboard boxes and masks of painted brown paper bags for the powerful Lebanese play about Beirut which was performed at the (then) Chanteclair two years ago. Maath is always seen at exhibition openings in the towns here. We show one of his drawings for a mosque in the Sacred Space Today exhibition.



SACRED SPACE: Maath Alousi's designs on exhibition at the Architecture and Sacred Space in the Modern Age Biennale in Venice.