

FEBRUARY 2019

TRAVEL + LEISURE

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ISLAND ESCAPES

+ THE CARIBBEAN NOW

ST. LUCIA

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THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS


 ISLANDS
SPECIAL

SHOOTING UP FROM the harborside in Santa Cruz, Tenerife's palm-lined capital, is an angular building reminiscent of a medieval knight's helmet. This concert hall, the **Auditorio de Tenerife** (*auditorio detenerife.com*), is unmistakably by Santiago Calatrava—and one of the reasons I traveled to this sunny Canary Island, which has become a surprising canvas for contemporary architects. I also found the provocative Spanish architect's trademark white ribbing nearby at the **Recinto Ferial** (*recintoferial detenerife.com*), a convention center and event space.

Tenerife is the home of Fernando Menis, the Canaries' greatest living architect. His **Plaza España**, in the

southwestern town of Adeje, is a public square with a jagged concrete tower as its focal point. At his unfinished but already arresting **Holy Redeemer Church** (32 *Calle Volcán Estromboli*), in San Cristóbal de la Laguna, I admired the abstract cross made by slits in the concrete façade.

The glass-lined inner courtyard of Herzog & de Meuron's triangular **Tenerife Espacio de las Artes** (*teatenerife.es*), in Santa Cruz, spun out my reflection like a hall of mirrors. The firm has also helped reimagine the city's 90-year-old **Plaza de España**, adding an artificial lake surrounded by pavilions covered in succulents. It's a whimsical complement to the avant-gardism found elsewhere on the island. ✕

WORTH FLYING FOR

Tenerife Modern

The largest of Spain's Canary Islands is an unexpected destination for architecture lovers. *By Hannah Walhout*

Santiago Calatrava's

AN KARCHNER/OTTO