

I.M. Pei, **acclaimed** architect who designed the Louvre's pyramid,
dead at 102

I.M. Pei, who was **revered** as one of the last great **modernist** architects, has died, Pei Cobb Freed & Partners confirmed. He was 102 years old.

Acclaimed 受到赞扬的

revere 敬畏

Modernist 现代主义的

Although he worked mostly in the United States, Pei will always be remembered for a European project: his redevelopment of **the Louvre** Museum in Paris in the 1980s. He gave us the glass and metal pyramid in the main courtyard, along with three smaller pyramids and a vast **subterranean** addition to the museum entrance.

The Louvre 卢浮宫

subterranean 地下的

Pei was the first foreign architect to work on the Louvre in its long history, and initially his designs were fiercely opposed. But in the end, the French — and everyone else — were won over.

Winning the fifth Pritzker Architecture Prize in 1983, Pei was cited as giving the 20th century "some of its most beautiful interior spaces and exterior forms ... His **versatility** and skill in the use of materials approach the level of poetry."

Versatility 多才多艺

His East Building of the National Gallery of Art in Washington in 1978 altered people's perceptions of a museum. The site was an odd **trapezoid** shape. Pei's solution was to cut it in two. The resulting building was dramatic, light and **elegant** — one of the first crowd-pleasing cathedrals of modern art.

Trapezoid 梯形; 不规则四边形

elegant 优雅的; 讲究的

In person, I.M. Pei was **dapper**, good-humored, **charming** and unusually modest. His working process was evolutionary, but innovation was never a conscious goal.

Dapper 短小精悍的；整洁的

charming 迷人的；可爱的

"Stylistic originality is not my purpose," he said. "I want to find the originality in the time, the place and the problem."