FILIPPO JUVARRA

Filippo Juvarra was an Italian Baroque architect working in the early part of the 18th century. He was born in Messina in 1678 to a family of goldsmiths and engravers. After spending his formative years with his family in Sicily, Juvarra moved to Rome in 1704. The first phase of his independent career was occupied with designs for ceremonies and theatres. Juvarra's period of most intensive activity as an architect began in 1714 when he moved to Piedmont where Victor Amadeus II of Savoy elevated him to the position of the first architect of the court. The fame obtained here led to demand for his talent and capacities at some of the richest royal courts of Europe. In 1719, he was in Portugal, after which he travelled to London and Paris. In 1735, the architect was invited to Madrid by the Bourbon King of Spain, Philip V, for whom he designed the Royal Palace. Juvarra died in Madrid in 1736.

