

ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ARCHITECTURE SURVEY

Instructor: Francesco Benelli, e-mail fb2013@columbia.edu
Teaching Assistant: Sara Switzer, e-mail ses190@columbia.edu
Time: Mon, Wed, 5.40-6.55
Room: 501 SCH
Course Number: W3410
Office Hours: Tue, 9.00-11.00, 902 SCH

The class starts with the broader cultural and social context focusing especially on the birth of archaeology, cartography and the rediscovery of the classical Greek and Roman literature in Florence and Rome. The first part will focus on the Medicean Florence and how the introduction of humanism affected the first generation of architects from Filippo Brunelleschi to Leon Battista Alberti in both the theory and construction of architecture. From Florence the analysis will proceed along several parallel lines: geographical, generational and typological. For example, the architects and buildings of the principal Italian cities, Rome, Florence, Venice, Milan will be introduced as well as such important provinces as Urbino, Pienza and Mantua. Second, beginning with the Florentine pioneers, the fundamental importance of the rediscovery of antiquity will be analyzed. The architect's fascination with antiquity permeated his thinking and his work and modified his perception of the city. Special attention will be paid to the design process and the tools of the Renaissance architect, through analysis of original drawings, models, etc.

CALENDAR

Jan W 22: **Introduction and organization.**

M 27: **The legacy of the Antiquity, Florence and Rome.**

Readings:

- J. Ackerman, *The Regions of Italian Renaissance Architecture*, H.A. Millon, V. Magnago Lampugnani (eds.), "The Renaissance from Brunelleschi to Michelangelo", New York, 1997, pp. 319-348.
- H. Günther, *The Renaissance of Antiquity*, *ibidem*, pp. 259-306.

W 29: **The legacy of Romanesque and Gothic, Florence and Siena.**

Readings:

- J. White, "Art and Architecture in Italy 1250-1400", New Haven and London, 1993, chpts. 2 (pp. 27-29) 3 (pp. 45-53), 4 (pp. 65-66), 7 (pp. 107-112), 15 (pp. 227-240), 16 (pp. 241-247), 36 (pp. 495-506).

Feb M 3: **Brunelleschi: the coming and early work.**

Readings:

- H. Saalman, "Filippo Brunelleschi. The buildings", London, 1993, chapters on Hospital of the Innocents, San Lorenzo, Pazzi Chapel.
- For a good synthesis on Brunelleschi's work see L. Heydenreich, *Brunelleschi*, "Architecture in Italy 1400-1500", revised by P. Davies, New Haven & London, 1996, pp. 13-24.

W 5: **Brunelleschi: late work and Michelozzo.**

Readings:

- H. Saalman, "Filippo Brunelleschi. The buildings", London, 1993, chapters on the Pazzi Chapel, the Palace of Parte Guelfa, Santo Spirito.
- L. Heydenreich, *Brunelleschi's Contemporaries and Successors in Florence: Michelozzo*, "Architecture in Italy 1400-1500", revised by P. Davies, New Haven and London, 1996, pp. 25-30.

M 10: **Alberti: Rome of Nicholas V and De Re Aedificatoria.**

Readings:

- C.W. Westfall, "In this most perfect paradise: Alberti, Nicholas V, and the invention of conscious urban planning in Rome, 1447-1455", University Park and London, 1974.
- J. Rykwert, N. Leach, R. Tavernor, "Leon Battista Alberti, On the Art of Buildings in Ten Books", Cambridge MA, and London, 1988, pp. 7-32.

W 12: **Alberti: the Architecture.**

Readings:

- L. Heydenreich, *Alberti*, "Architecture in Italy 1400-1500", New Haven and London, 1996, pp. 34-44.
- R. Wittkower, "Architectural Principles in the Age of Humanism", London, 1988, pp. 41-59.

M 17: **The provinces: Urbino, Federico da Montefeltro.**

First short paper due.

Readings:

- L. Heydenreich, *Urbino*, "Architecture in Italy 1400-1500", New Haven and London, 1996, pp. 74-81.
- C.H. Clough, "The Duchy of Urbino in the Renaissance", London, 1981.
- R. Krautheimer, *The Panels in Urbino, Baltimore and Berlin Reconsidered*, "Renaissance from Brunelleschi to Michelangelo", cit., pp. 233-257.

W 19: The provinces: Pienza, Pius II Piccolomini.

Readings:

- C. Mack, "The Creation of Renaissance City", Ithaca, 1987, pp. 43-106, 108-118, 156-163.
- N. Adams, *The acquisition of Pienza*, "Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians", 44, 1985, pp. 97-108.

M 24: Francesco di Giorgio Martini, Theory and Practice.

Readings:

- H. Millon, *The Architectural Theory of Francesco di Giorgio*, in "The Art Bulletin", XL, 1958, pp. 257-261.
- Q. Hughes, *Fortification in late 15th century Italy: The Treatise of Francesco di Giorgio Martini*, "British Archaeological Reports, Supplementary Series", 41, 1978, pp. 541-560.

W 26: Giuliano da Sangallo, Drawings and Practice.

Readings:

- L. Pellecchia, *Reconstructing the Greek House: Giuliano da Sangallo's Villa for the Medici in Florence*, "Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians", 52, 1993, pp. 323-338.
- P. Davies, *The Early History of Santa Maria delle Carceri in Prato*, "Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians", 54, 1995, pp. 326-335.

Mar M 3: Lombardy: Filarete, Leonardo and the early work of Bramante.

Readings:

- L. Heydenreich, *Lombardy*, "Architecture in Italy, 1400-1500", New Haven and London, 1997, pp. 102-117.
- A. Bruschi, "Bramante", London, 1977, pp. 27-70.

W 5: Around Italy: Mantua, Naples, Bologna.

Readings:

- L. Heydenreich, *Mantua, Naples, Emilia and Romagna*, L. Heydenreich, "Architecture in Italy, New Haven and London, 1997, pp. 82-85, 130-135, 118-125.
- H. Burns, *The Gonzaga Renaissance Architecture*, D.S. Chambers, "Splendours of the Gonzaga", London, 1981, pp. 27-38.

M 10: Mid term exam

W 12: Rome of Julius II and Bramante.

Readings:

- A. Bruschi, "Bramante", London, 1977, pp. 71-144.

- W. Lotz, *Classical Architecture in Rome: Bramante*, "Architecture in Italy 1500-1600", revised by D. Howard, New Haven and London, 1995, pp. 11-25.

M 24: Julius II and Bramante in the Vatican.

Readings:

- C.L. Frommel, *St. Peter's: the Early History*, "The Renaissance from Brunelleschi to Michelangelo", cit., pp. 399-413.
- A. Bruschi, "Bramante", London, 1977, pp. 145-176.

W 26: Raphael as Architect.

Readings:

- W. Lotz, *Classical Architecture in Rome: Raphael*, "Architecture in Italy 1500-1600", revised by D. Howard, New Haven and London, 1995, pp. 27-34.
- J. Shearman, *Raphael as Architect*, "Journal of the Royal Society of Arts", CXVI, 1968, 388 ff.

M 31: Assignment in class. TBA

Second short paper due.

Apr W 2: Antonio da Sangallo the Younger.

Readings:

- W. Lotz, chpt. 3, "Architecture in Italy 1500-1600", revised by D. Howard, New Haven and London, 1995, pp. 34-39, 52-60.
- C.L. Frommel, N. Adams, "The Architectural Drawings of Antonio da Sangallo the Younger and his Circle, Cambridge MA, 2000, vol. II, pp. 1-21.

M 7: Giulio Romano and Michele Sanmicheli.

Readings:

- E.H. Gombrich et al., "Giulio Romano", Milan, 1989.
- W. Lotz, *Sanmicheli*, "Architecture in Italy 1500-1600", revised by D. Howard, 1995, pp. 67-75.

W 9: Baldassarre Peruzzi, Sebastiano Serlio.

Readings:

- W. Lotz, chpt. 4, "Architecture in Italy 1500-1600", revised by D. Howard, New Haven and London, 1995, pp. 45-51.
- M.N. Rosenfeld, "Sebastiano Serlio on Domestic Architecture", Cambridge MA, London, 1978.

M 14: Michelangelo in Florence.

Readings:

- J. Ackerman, "The Architecture of Michelangelo", revised ed. 2 vols., London, 1986, pp. 53-135.
- W. Lotz, *Michelangelo*, "Architecture in Italy", revised by D. Howard, New Haven and London, 1995, pp. 89-106.

W 16: Michelangelo in Rome.

Readings:

- J. Ackerman, "The Architecture of Michelangelo", revised ed., 2 vols., London, 1968, pp. 136-288.

M 21: Saint Peter after Bramante. The largest building site in the world.

Readings:

- C.L. Frommel, *St. Peter's: the Early History*, H. Millon, V. Magnago Lampugnani (eds.), "The Renaissance from Brunelleschi to Michelangelo", New York, 1997, pp. 399-423.

W 23: Venice, from Codussi to Sansovino.

Readings:

- L. Heydenreich, *Venice*, "Architecture in Italy 1400-1500", revised by P. Davies, New Haven and London, 1996, pp. 86-101.
- W. Lotz, *Venice*, "Architecture in Italy 1500-1600", revised by D. Howard, New Haven and London, pp. 64-66, 71-73, 83-88, 159-163.

M 28: Vignola and Pirro Ligorio.

Readings:

- W. Lotz, chpt. 10, "Architecture in Italy, 1500-1600", revised by D. Howard, New Haven and London, 1995, pp.107-120.

W 30: Palladio.

Readings:

- J. Ackerman, "Palladio", Harmondsworth, 1966.
- R. Wittkower, *The Genesis of an Idea; Palladio's Church Facades*, "Architectural Principles in the Age of Humanism", London, 1988, pp. 60-103.

May M 5: Mannerism, Counter Reformation, toward Baroque.

Readings:

- W. Lotz, *Rome; the period from 1575 to 1600*, "Architecture in Italy", revised by D. Howard, New Haven and London, 1995, pp. 120-129.
- R. Wittkower, *From Sixtus V to Paul V*, "Art and Architecture in Italy 1600-1750", revised by J. Connors, J. Montague, New Haven and London, 1999, vol. I, pp. 1-17.

REQUIREMENTS:

Mid term exam (30%), 1 short paper, 4 pages, 1 class assignment (30%), final exam (40%)
Attendance at all sessions is required.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

All books and articles are or will be on reserves. Extra bibliography may be add during the semester.