Title : Oeuvres d'Architecture de Vincent Scamozzi

3. Xenotheka

Process despription

The words I have chosen are: **universal architecture, principles of geometry and architectural theorist.** So the type of brains I have adopted in Alice are Alberti and Vitruvius, being in the general theme of architecture at the late Renaissance time. The relationships and connections that my books hold with other books are the architectural knowledge and findings of the 16th century.
Not so many books have been written then, because they were produced before the age of printing. All Alberti's writings for example appeared in manuscript form, which were copied by scribes and often dedicated by him to selected patrons, princes and friends. Consequently, there were very few in circulation as they were expensive to reproduce.
As for the stages of my search and the possible initial dead ends I didn't find any, because there exist a few Italian authors writing about the architectural development.

Illustration of my findings

As I have chosen the books **Vitruvius (1), Ten Books on Architecture 1999** and **The Mathematical Works of Leon Battista Alberti**, they connect with my own book by describing the theme of architecture of the late Renaissance and the mathematical measures explored.

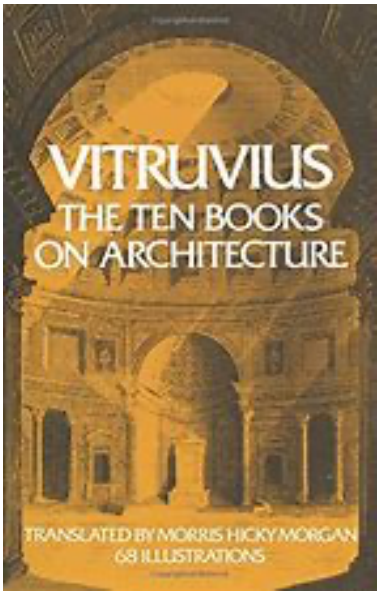
The first book is the single most important work of architectural history in the Western world, having shaped humanist architecture and the image of the architect from the Renaissance to the present, written by Williams, Daniele Barbaros Vitruvius of 1567.
The book is the only full treatise on architecture and its related arts to survive from classical antiquity. In the previous nine, on the other hand, there is information about the individual types and parts of architecture, so that the entire body of that art might have all its components explained in the space of ten volumes.
The second book The Mathematical Works of Leon Battista Alberti describes density measurements in general and compares the known relative weights of some materials. Clearly such methods may be used, in any case, to get decent approximations for general needs. It represents an explicit expression of his concern for number, measure and proportion set within a contemporary cultural context visual as well as intellectual. His approach to architecture would not have been the same without his mastery of mathematics and geometry.

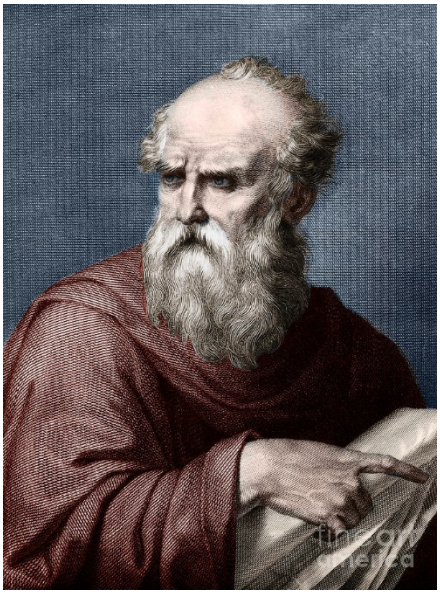
These two books share the topics and themes of architecture in the late Renaissance and also the principles of geometry and the use of them, mathematics being at its basis. Also the authors come originally from Italy, a country with a precious architectural outcome in Venice, Florence and Rome.

(614 words in total, 429 words without the addition of the historical facts)

Addition: Historical facts

There were several major Vitruvian inspired renaissances of architecture in Italy starting in the fourteenth century, and especially in the early fifteenth century after a good copy of Vitruvius's original manuscript was discovered in 1416 in the monastic library of St. Gallen in Switzerland by Poggio Bracciolini (1380 - 1459), one of the greatest Florentine humanist scholars of that time. His find provided the Early Renaissance architecture in Florence with its intellectual substance, direction, and longevity: Vitruvius's text was the key to unlocking a more complete understanding of the remains of ancient Rome, which were surveyed and re- evaluated with a renewed fervour by artists and architects.




Vitruvius

Vitruvius was **a Roman architect and engineer** during the **1st century BCE,** known for his multi-volume work entitled De architectura. He originated the idea that all buildings should have three attributes: firmitas, utilitas, and venustas ("strength", "utility", and "beauty").

Leon Battista Alberti (14.2. 1404 - 25 Apr. 1472) was an Italian Renaissance humanist author, artist, architect, poet, priest, linguist, philosopher, and cryptographer; he epitomised the nature of those identified now as polymaths.

(614 words in total, 429 words without the addition of the historical facts)