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Abstract:

The Roman 'Accademia di Architettura':
The First International Interdisciplinary Research Network

Last year at Vancouver I presented a paper about the publishing program of the so-called *Accademia della Virtù*, formulated by the Sienese humanist Claudio Tolomei in a letter from 1542, published in 1547. The intention of the program was to document and revive ancient architecture and culture as a basis for the future: a *Renaissance* in the strictest sense. In the meantime, research regarding this project made considerable steps ahead: new sources were recognised as (probably) belonging to the project, and also some changes had to be made: First, the *Accademia* should rather be described as a loosely institutionalised network active for almost 20 years and consisting of more than 60 persons in changing constellations. Secondly, there are large corpora of manuscript material closely related to members of the *Accademia*'s or based on such material. Thirdly, some of the most important and influential printed books on architectural topics seem to be derived from the *Accademia*'s work. In fact: For almost all 23 *libri* described by Tolomei, according material could be identified. In this sense, Tolomei's proposterious sounding claim that the entire material could be printed *in less than three* years, seems to be fully justified and *not* the crazy idea or straight lie as which it has always been seen. The paper will present the new findings about this first international interdisciplinary research network which undertook – and left (!) – *the largest survey of ancient Roman architecture and material culture ever done in history.*

Curriculum vitae

since 2013 ETH Zurich, gta Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture, research project: *The Study of ancient architecure in Rome ca. 1550*
since 2010 Bibliothek Werner Oechslin, Einsiedeln: architectural historian, IT administration
2006–2008 Karman Center for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Berne: IT / Digital Pantheon project
2001–2004 Bibliotheca Hertziana, Max Planck Institute for Art History, Rome: database developer
1996–2002 TU Berlin: PhD (art history): *Drawings regarding Sangallo's last project for St Peter's*
1990–1996 TU Berlin: MA (musicology): *Seconda prattica – the Italian madrigal around 1600*
1986–1988 TU Dresden: Physics (4 semesters)
1983–1986 Ship machinist at the East German Navy

. . . more on www.bibliothek-oechslin.ch/stiftung/team/kulawik