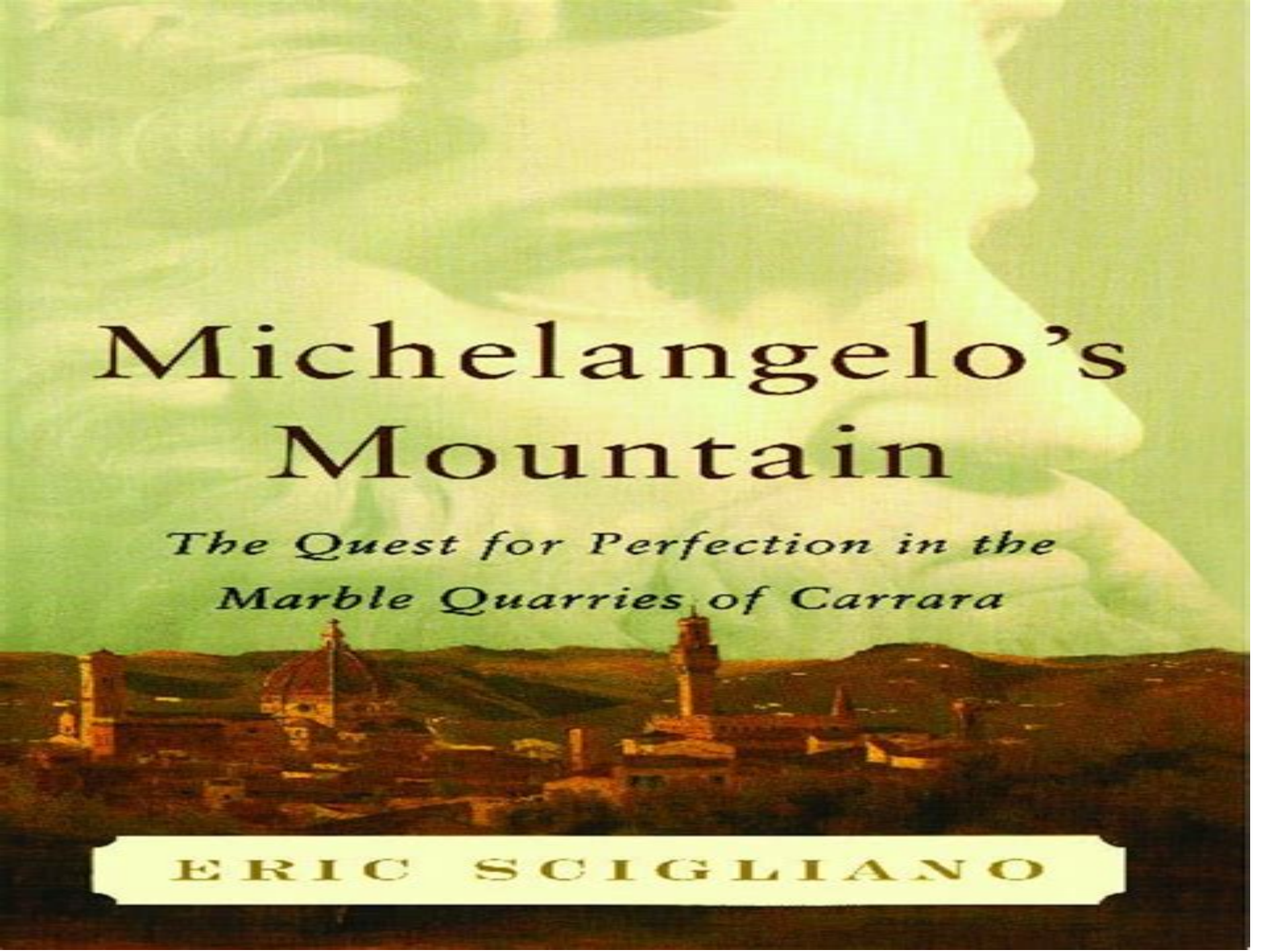




Michelangelo's Mountain

*The Quest for Perfection in the
Marble Quarries of Carrara*

ERIC SCIGLIANO

Michelangelos Mountain The Quest For Perfection In The Marble Quarries Of Carrara

Andrea Guidi



Michelangelos Mountain The Quest For Perfection In The Marble Quarries Of Carrara:

Michelangelo's Mountain Eric Scigliano, 2007-11-01 Discover the fascinating crucial and often dangerous relationship between Michelangelo and the stone quarries of Carrara in this clear eyed and well researched exploration that recounts the artist s large life and lasting works with care and reverence Booklist No artist looms so large in Western consciousness and culture as Michelangelo Buonarroti the most celebrated sculptor of all time And no place on earth provides a stone so capable of simulating the warmth and vitality of human flesh and incarnating the genius of a Michelangelo as the statuario of Carrara the storied marble mecca at Tuscany s northwest corner It was there where shadowy Etruscans and Roman slaves once toiled that Michelangelo risked his life in dozens of harrowing expeditions to secure the precious stone for his Piet Moses and other masterpieces Many books have recounted Michelangelo s achievements in Florence and Rome Michelangelo s Mountain goes beyond all of them revealing his escapades and ordeals in the spectacular landscape that was the third pole of his tumultuous career and the third wellspring of his art Eric Scigliano brings this haunting place and eternally fascinating artist to life in a sweeping tale peopled by popes and poets mad dukes and mythic monsters scheming courtiers and rough hewn quarrymen He recounts the saga of the David the improbable masterpiece that Michelangelo created against all odds of the twin Hercules that he tried to erect beside it and of the Salieri like nemesis who snatched away the commission turning a sculptural testament to liberty into a bitter symbol of tyranny and giving Florence the colossus it loves to hate In showing how the artist land and stone transformed one another Scigliano brings fresh insight to Michelangelo s most cherished works and illuminates his struggles with the princes and potentates of Carrara Rome and Medici Florence who raised intrigue to a high art

Understanding Building Stones and Stone Buildings John A. Hudson, John W.

Cosgrove, 2019-04-24 This book covers the wide spectrum of subjects relating to obtaining and using building stones starting with their geological origin and then describing the nature of granites volcanics limestones sandstones flint metamorphic stones breccias and conglomerates with emphasis being placed on how to recognise the different stones via the many illustrated examples from Great Britain and other countries The life of a building stone is explained from its origin in the quarry through its exposure to the elements when used for a building to its eventual deterioration The structure of stone buildings is then discussed with explanations of the mechanics of pillars lighthouses and walls arches bridges buttresses and roof vaults plus castles and cathedrals The sequence of the historical architectural styles of stone buildings is explained from the early days through to postmodern buildings Special attention is paid to two famous architects the Roman Vitruvius and the English Sir Christopher Wren who designed and supervised the construction of St Paul s Cathedral in London To demonstrate many of the concepts presented two exemplary stone buildings are described in detail the Albert Memorial in London and Durham Cathedral in northern England The former building is interesting because it is comprised of a cornucopia of different building stones and the latter building because of its architecture and sandstone decay mechanisms

In the final Chapter ruined stone buildings are discussed the many reasons for their decay and the possibility of their rebirth via digital recording of their geometry The book has over 350 pages and is illustrated with more than 450 diagrams and colour photographs of both the various stones and the associated stone buildings Readers knowledge of the subject will be greatly enhanced by these images and the related explanatory text A wide ranging references and bibliography section is also included

Michelangelo Lilian H. Zirpolo,2020-08-09 Michelangelo A Reference Guide to His Life and Works cover the life and works of Michelangelo Buonarroti Michelangelo is considered to be one of the greatest masters in history and he produced some of the most notable icons of civilization including the Sistine Ceiling frescoes the Moses and the Piet at St Peter s Includes a detailed chronology of Michelangelo s life family and work The A to Z section includes the major events places and people in Michelangelo s life and the complete works of his sculptures paintings architectural designs drawings and poetry The bibliography includes a list of publications concerning his life and work The index thoroughly cross references the chronological and encyclopedic entries

Michelangelo William E. Wallace,2011-07-25 In this vividly written biography William E Wallace offers a new view of the artist Not only a supremely gifted sculptor painter architect and poet Michelangelo was also an aristocrat who firmly believed in the ancient noble origins of his family The belief in his patrician status fueled his lifelong ambition to improve his family s financial situation and to raise the social standing of artists Michelangelo s ambitions are evident in his writing dress and comportment as well as in his ability to befriend influence and occasionally say no to popes kings and princes Written from the words of Michelangelo and his contemporaries this biography not only tells his own stories but also brings to life the culture and society of Renaissance Florence and Rome Not since Irving Stone s novel The Agony and the Ecstasy has there been such a compelling and human portrayal of this remarkable yet credible human individual

Ecocriticism and the Anthropocene in Nineteenth-Century Art and Visual Culture Maura Coughlin,Emily Gephart,2019-09-06 In this volume emerging and established scholars bring ethical and political concerns for the environment nonhuman animals and social justice to the study of nineteenth century visual culture They draw their theoretical inspiration from the vitality of emerging critical discourses such as new materialism ecofeminism critical animal studies food studies object oriented ontology and affect theory This timely volume looks back at the early decades of the Anthropocene to query the agency of visual culture to critique create and maintain more resilient and biologically diverse local and global ecologies

Michelangelo Martin Gayford,2013-11-07 At thirty one Michelangelo was considered the finest artist in Italy perhaps the world long before he died at almost 90 he was widely believed to be the greatest sculptor or painter who had ever lived and by his enemies to be an arrogant uncouth swindling miser For decade after decade he worked near the dynamic centre of events the vortex at which European history was changing from Renaissance to Counter Reformation Few of his works including the huge frescoes of the Sistine Chapel Ceiling the marble giant David and the Last Judgment were small or easy to accomplish Like a hero of classical mythology such as Hercules

whose statue he carved in his youth he was subject to constant trials and labours In Michelangelo Martin Gayford describes what it felt like to be Michelangelo Buonarroti and how he transformed forever our notion of what an artist could be

Young Michelangelo John T. Spike,2012-08-01 In this biography the author of the acclaimed Caravaggio examines the relationships that shaped Michelangelo's first thirty years In this compelling account renowned art historian John Spike paints a vivid portrait of one of the world's greatest artists and the places and people Lorenzo de Medici Leonardo Machiavelli that inspired and defined his early life and career Spike's masterful text probes the thinking evolution and desires of a young man whose awareness of his exceptional talent never wavered Michelangelo's complex personality is revealed through lively examinations of the Pietà the David and all other major works Drawing on a rich background of Italian Renaissance politics and culture Spike deftly navigates the fiery Florentine master's struggle to surpass da Vinci's artistic mastery and his troubled relationships with Julius II and other key figures of the era Praise for Young Michelangelo Spike an art historian curator and critic has done some impressive research to flesh out the early years of the artist's life right up until his return to Rome in 1508 to focus on a commission in the Sistine Chapel The young sculptor's daunting talent and quest to earn as much money as possible are woven into the story of the Italian Renaissance and the outsized figures of the age The Washington Post Spike crystallizes historical detail into vivid memorable imagery Alternating between accounts of the turbulent political atmosphere and details of Michelangelo's most private moments in the sculpture studio Spike creates a rich narrative that promises more intrigue than the best adventure novel Publishers Weekly Such a comprehensive account of the master's early life and rise to fame amid the political upheaval in the Papal States and Florentine Republic Art Auction

A Cultural Symbiosis Klazina D. Botke, Henk Th. van Veen,2021-12-15 The history of the Florentine patriciate did not end with the establishment of the Medici Duchy and Grand Duchy of Tuscany Proud and self-confident these patricians were not subservient courtiers on the contrary they continued to exert a considerable influence on Florentine culture and politics for centuries The patrician class in sixteenth century Florence were the descendants of wealthy sophisticated and politically savvy families who while acquiring noble titles estates and villas retained their long standing urban identity The mark they left on the city's cultural and artistic life was embraced by the Medici who used their political and diplomatic knowhow elaborate artistic commissions and European networks to enhance their power and prestige A Cultural Symbiosis highlights the contributions to Florentine art and culture of eight patricians focusing on the Valori Pucci Ridolfi Vecchietti del Nero Salviati Guicciardini and Niccolini families The Last Judgment James A. Connor,2009-06-23 Painted on the altar wall of the Sistine Chapel 28 years after Michelangelo completed the glorious and hopeful ceiling The Last Judgment is full of stark images depicting the End of Days James Connor uses the famous fresco as the lens by which to view the end of the Renaissance arguing that Michelangelo's imagery and composition reflect the religious and political upheavals of the time Combining his flair for storytelling with incisive historical analysis Connor demonstrates how the Counter Reformation arose

from the ashes of Renaissance Italy and how that sea change altered the course of Western history *The Rise* Sarah Lewis,2014-03-04 From celebrated art historian curator and teacher Sarah Lewis a fascinating examination of how our most iconic creative endeavors from innovation to the arts are not achievements but conversions corrections after failed attempts The gift of failure is a riddle it will always be both the void and the start of infinite possibility The Rise part investigation into a psychological mystery part an argument about creativity and art and part a soulful celebration of the determination and courage of the human spirit makes the case that many of the world s greatest achievements have come from understanding the central importance of failure Written over the course of four years this exquisite biography of an idea is about the improbable foundations of a creative human endeavor Each chapter focuses on the inestimable value of often ignored ideas the power of surrender how play is essential for innovation the near win can help propel you on the road to mastery the importance of grit and creative practice The Rise shares narratives about figures past and present that range from choreographers writers painters inventors and entrepreneurs Frederick Douglass Samuel F B Morse Diane Arbus and J K Rowling for example feature alongside choreographer Paul Taylor Nobel Prize winning physicists Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov and Arctic explorer Ben Saunders With valuable lessons for pedagogy and parenting for innovation and discovery and for self direction and creativity The Rise prompts deep reflection and sparks inspiration **Hidden Tuscany** John Keahey,2014-07-15 In Hidden Tuscany acclaimed author John Keahey takes the reader into a part of Tuscany beyond the usual tourist destinations of Chianti Florence and Siena The often overlooked western portion of Tuscany is rich with history cuisine and scenery begging to be explored and Keahey encourages travelers to abandon itineraries and let the grooves in the road and the curves of the coast guide your journey instead Follow Keahey as he turns off the autostrada and takes roads barely two lanes wide to discover fishing villages along the Tuscan sea Then move inland into rolling foothills adorned with cherry orchards ancient olive groves and sweeping vineyards that produce wines that challenge Chianti s best Here it is still possible to follow the paths of Romans Crusaders and pilgrims from throughout the western world who were eager to reach Rome Hidden Tuscany provides intriguing images of places such as Livorno a port city with canals Pietrasanta Tuscany s Citta d Arte and Capraia an island formed by volcanoes Keahey engages with the inhabitants of these enchanting landscapes whether sculptors who toil in marble studios or residents whose own memories and traditions illuminate major moments in world history From coastal towns to vineyards farther inland to the Tuscan archipelago Keahey reminds us that each village city and island has its own unique story to tell For armchair travelers and vacation seekers alike Hidden Tuscany brings a new side of this classic Italian region to life and the result is mesmerizing *The Economics of the Roman Stone Trade* Ben Russell,2013-11-28 The use of stone in vast quantities is a ubiquitous and defining feature of the material culture of the Roman world In this volume Russell provides a new and wide ranging examination of the production distribution and use of carved stone objects throughout the Roman world including how enormous quantities of high quality white and polychrome

marbles were moved all around the Mediterranean to meet the demand for exotic material. The long distance supply of materials for artistic and architectural production, not to mention the trade in finished objects like statues and sarcophagi, is one of the most remarkable features of the Roman world. Despite this, it has never received much attention in mainstream economic studies. Focusing on the market for stone and its supply, the administration, distribution and chronology of quarrying and the practicalities of stone transport, Russell offers a detailed assessment of the Roman stone trade and how the relationship between producer and customer functioned even over considerable distances.

The Folklorist in the Marketplace Willow G. Mullins, Puja Batra-Wells, 2019-11-08. The *Folklorist in the Marketplace* brings together voices from multiple disciplines to consider how economics shape and are shaped by folk groups and academic disciplines. The authors ask how folk and folklorists can productively comment on the economic structures they inhabit. As trade technology and geopolitics have led to a rapid increase in the global spread of cultural products like media, knowledge objects and folkways, there has been a concomitant rise in fear and anxiety about globalization's dark other side: economic nativism, neocolonialism, cultural appropriation and loss. Culture has become a resource and a currency in the global marketplace. This movement of people and forms necessitates a new textual consideration of how folklore and economics interweave. In *The Folklorist in the Marketplace*, contributors explore how the marketplace and folklore have always been integrally linked and what that means at this cultural and economic moment. Covering a variety of topics from creel boats to the history of a commune that makes hammocks, *The Folklorist in the Marketplace* goes far beyond the well-trodden examinations of material culture to look closely at the historical and contemporary intersections of these two disciplines and to provoke cross-disciplinary conversation and collaboration. Contributors: William A. Ashton, Halle M. Butvin, James I. Deutsch, Christofer Johnson, Michael Lange, John Laudun, Julie M. A. LeBlanc, Cassie Patterson, Rahima Schwenkbeck, Amy Shuman, Irene Sotiropoulou, Yuanhao Zhao. [From Memory to Marble](#) Elizabeth Rankin, Rolf Michael Schneider, 2020-02-10. For the first time, the 92-metre frieze of the Voortrekker Monument in Pretoria, one of the largest historical narratives in marble, has been made the subject of a book. The pictorial narrative of the Boer pioneers who conquered South Africa's interior during the Great Trek 1835-52 represents a crucial period of South Africa's past. Conceptualising the frieze both reflected on and contributed to the country's socio-political debates in the 1930s and 1940s when it was made. The book considers the active role the Monument played in the rise of Afrikaner nationalism and the development of apartheid, as well as its place in post-apartheid heritage. The frieze is unique in that it provides rare evidence of the complex processes followed in creating a major monument. Based on unpublished documents, drawings and models, these processes are unfolded step by step, from the earliest discussions of the purpose and content of the frieze through all the stages of its design to its shipping to post-war Italy to be copied into marble from Monte Altissimo up to its final installation in the Monument. The book examines how visual representation transforms historical memory in what it chooses to recount and the forms in which it is depicted. The second volume expands on the first by

investigating each of the twenty seven scenes of the frieze in depth providing new insights into not only the frieze but also South Africa s history Fran ois van Schalkwyk of African Minds co publisher with De Gruyter writes From Memory to Marble is an open access monograph in the true sense of the word Both volumes of the digital version of the book are available in full and free of charge from the date of publication This approach to publishing democratises access to the latest scholarly publications across the globe At the same time a book such as From Memory to Marble with its unique and exquisite photographs of the frieze as well as its wealth of reproduced archival materials demands reception of a more traditional kind that is on the printed page For this reason the book is likewise available in print as two separate volumes The printed and digital books should not be seen as separate incarnations each brings its own advantages working together to extend the reach and utility of From Memory to Marble to a range of interested readers For more material you can browse at Stanford s database Voortrekker Monumentality a digital archive **Supports in Roman Marble Sculpture** Anna

Anguissola,2018-02-15 The first study of a crucial aspect of Roman stone sculpture exploring the functions and aesthetics of non figural supports **Historical Dictionary of Renaissance Art** Lilian H. Zirpolo,2016-08-19 The art of the Renaissance is usually the most familiar to non specialists and for good reason This was the era that produced some of the icons of civilization including Leonardo da Vinci s Mona Lisa and Last Supper and Michelangelo s Sistine Ceiling Piet and David Marked as one of the greatest moments in history the outburst of creativity of the era resulted in the most influential artistic revolution ever to have taken place The period produced a substantial number of notable masters among them Donatello Filippo Brunelleschi Masaccio Sandro Botticelli Raphael Titian and Tintoretto This second edition of Historical Dictionary of Renaissance Art contains a chronology an introduction and an extensive bibliography The dictionary section has over 700 cross referenced entries on artists from Italy Flanders the Netherlands Germany Spain and Portugal historical figures and events that impacted the production of Renaissance art This book is an excellent access point for students researchers and anyone wanting to know more about the Renaissance art Know Thyself Ingrid Rossellini,2018-05-22 A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2018 A lively and timely introduction to the roots of self understanding who we are and how we should act in the cultures of ancient Greece the Roman Empire and Middle Ages and the Renaissance Know thyself this fundamental imperative appeared for the first time in ancient Greece specifically in Delphi the temple of the god Apollo who represented the enlightened power of reason For the Greeks self knowledge and identity were the basics of their civilization and their sources were to be found in where one was born and into which social group These determined who you were and what your duties were In this book the independent scholar Ingrid Rossellini surveys the major ideas that from Greek and Roman antiquity through the Christian medieval era up to the dawn of modernity in the Renaissance have guided the Western project of self knowledge Addressing the curious lay reader with an interdisciplinary approach that includes numerous references to the visual arts Know Thyself will reintroduce readers to the most profound and enduring ways our civilization

has framed the issues of self and society in the process helping us rediscover the very building blocks of our personality

Gothic Pride Brian Regan, 2012-08-02 Newark's Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart is one of the United States' greatest cathedrals and most exceptional Gothic Revival buildings. Rising from Newark's highest ground and visible for miles, it spectacularly evokes its historic models. Gothic Pride sets Sacred Heart in the context of American cathedral building and blending diverse fields accounts for the complex circumstances that produced it. Calling upon a wealth of primary sources, Brian Regan describes in a compelling narrative the cathedral's almost century-long history. He traces the project to its origins in the late 1850s and the great expectations held by the project's prime movers, all passionate about Gothic architecture and immensely proud of Newark that never wavered despite numerous setbacks and challenges. Construction did not begin until 1898 and when completed in 1954, the cathedral became New Jersey's largest church and the most expensive Catholic church ever built in America. During Pope John Paul II's visit to the United States in 1995, he celebrated evening prayer at the Cathedral. On that occasion, the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart was elevated to a basilica to become the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Meticulously researched, Gothic Pride brings to life the people who built, contributed to, and worshipped in Sacred Heart, recalling such remarkable personalities as George Hobart Doane, Jeremiah O'Rourke, Gonippo Raggi, and Archbishop Thomas Walsh. In many ways, the cathedral's story is a lens that lets us look at the history of Newark itself, its rise as an industrial city and its urban culture in the nineteenth century, its transformation in the twentieth century, its immigrants, and the profound effects of their cultures, especially their religion, on American life and the power of architecture to serve as a symbol of community values and pride.

Books, People, and Military Thought

Andrea Guidi, 2020-06-22 How did the evolution of new gunpowder weapons change the nature, structure, and composition of the Florentine militias during the first decades of the sixteenth century? Through an examination of little-known and unpublished sources, this book provides a comparative exploration of two Florentine republican experiments with a peasant militia: one promoted and created by Niccolò Machiavelli in 1506-12 and a later one in 1527-30. Using this comparison as the basis for a new reading of Machiavelli's *Art of War*, which drew on the author's experience with the militia, the book then investigates the relationship between the circulation and reception of Machiavelli's influential work, changing conceptions of militia, and the formation of new cultures of warfare in Europe in the sixteenth century.

Fasting and Feasting

Adam Federman, 2018-09-14 For more than 30 years, Patience Gray, author of the celebrated cookbook *Honey from a Weed*, lived in a remote area of Puglia in southernmost Italy. She lived without electricity, modern plumbing, or a telephone; grew much of her own food; and gathered and ate wild plants alongside her neighbors in this economically impoverished region. She was fond of saying that she wrote only for herself and her friends, yet her growing reputation brought a steady stream of international visitors to her door. This simple and isolated life she chose for herself may help explain her relative obscurity when compared to the other great food writers of her time: M.F.K. Fisher, Elizabeth David, and Julia Child. So it is not surprising that when Gray

died in 2005 the BBC described her as an almost forgotten culinary star Yet her influence particularly among chefs and other food writers has had a lasting and profound effect on the way we view and celebrate good food and regional cuisines Gray's prescience was unrivaled She wrote about what today we would call the Mediterranean diet and Slow Food from foraging to eating locally long before they became part of the cultural mainstream Imagine if Michael Pollan or Barbara Kingsolver had spent several decades living among Italian Greek and Catalan peasants recording their recipes and the significance of food and food gathering to their way of life In *Fasting and Feasting* biographer Adam Federman tells the remarkable and until now untold life story of Patience Gray from her privileged and intellectual upbringing in England to her trials as a single mother during World War II to her career working as a designer editor translator and author and describing her travels and culinary adventures in later years A fascinating and spirited woman Patience Gray was very much a part of her times but very clearly ahead of them

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