

Perception and Architecture

--- Claude Perrault's "*Ordonnance des cinq espèces de colonnes...*" and its Reading History

Yoshitake DOI

This book is a hybrid literature spatially and historically constructed with translation, documentation, literature, and problem raising. It begins with the translation of the classic architecture book, "*Ordonnance des cinq espèces de colonnes selon la méthode des anciens*"(1683) written by Claude Perrault, a French medical scientist of the 17th century, a member of the French *Académie Royale d'Architecture*.

Furthermore, the understandings and critics given by the architects and researchers from 18th up to the 20th century are interpreted as a kind of reading history. Especially it summarizes some important views offered by the post-war architectural historians such as Wolfgang Hermann, Joseph Rykwert, Alberto Pérez-Gomez, and Antoine Picon, so that it points out that the controversy among them is one of the most meaningful after the war. It is the history of reading comprehension about how the architectural book was read.

Pointing out the importance of Perrault's reinterpretation of architecture as perception not as *techne*, the author finally states his own view about Perrault. With some Japanese philosophers' concepts such as Shozo Omori's visual theory and Toru Funaki's mirror image theory as clues, Perrault's redefinition of architecture as a perceptual question may be able to offer a possibility to reinterpret architecture as a resonance between human beings and the world. It seems there is an architectural horizon in the 21st century.