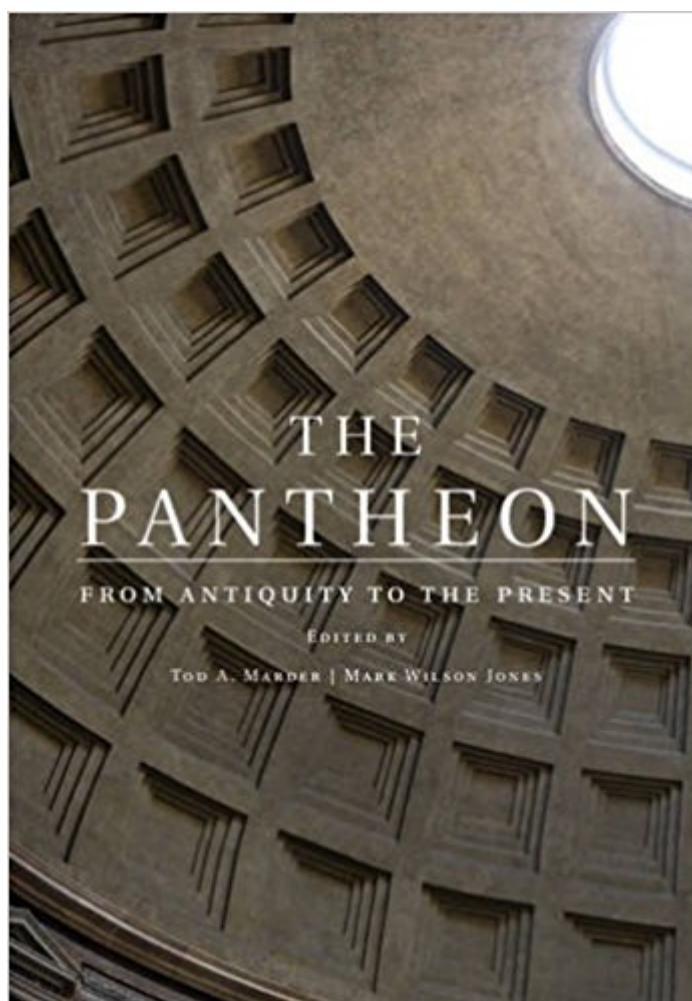


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The Pantheon: From Antiquity To The Present



Synopsis

The Pantheon is one of the most important architectural monuments of all time. Thought to have been built by Emperor Hadrian in approximately 125 AD on the site of an earlier, Agrippan-era monument, it brilliantly displays the spatial pyrotechnics emblematic of Roman architecture and engineering. The Pantheon gives an up-to-date account of recent research on the best preserved building in the corpus of ancient Roman architecture from the time of its construction to the twenty-first century. Each chapter addresses a specific fundamental issue or period pertaining to the building; together, the essays in this volume shed light on all aspects of the Pantheon's creation, and establish the importance of the history of the building to an understanding of its ancient fabric and heritage, its present state, and its special role in the survival and evolution of ancient architecture in modern Rome.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The contributors provide a valuable synthesis of recent research on the Pantheon, the paradigm of Roman architectural and engineering prowess. They also identify new and productive directions for subsequent research on the ancient edifice and on its extended legacy." John Pinto, Princeton University, New Jersey

"For two thousand years, the Pantheon has stood watch in the center of Rome, a marvel of engineering and an unfailingly mysterious symbol. Both the marvel and the mystery shine forth from this definitive book, with its impeccable scholarship, new ideas, and long international perspective." Ingrid Rowland, University of Notre Dame, Indiana

"Focused on the Pantheon, arguably the most iconic building of western architecture, this magisterial volume brings

together a distinguished group of international scholars who tell a gripping story. New answers to unsolved questions of who built it and why, how, and when succeed each other and connect to lively accounts of the fascination it held for countless generations from the early Middle Ages to modern times." Alina Payne, Harvard University, Massachusetts

This book treats the Pantheon from the unique perspective of its construction history, survival, and reception through history. Each chapter is a self-standing investigation of a particular architectural aspect of the building or a historical period during its survival to explain how the Pantheon has been understood over the centuries, why it looks as it does today, and why it has endured as an architectural model.

Excellent book in all aspects with detailed scholarship and images throughout.

Very interesting and insightful! Fantastic images throughout!!

Most detail book on the Pantheon.

This book is a must for everyone who is interested in roman history and architecture. It has loads of information, its a good read, also lots of picture, some in color. Great quality of print also. I can say its one of the most interesting books i bought lately about the roman history. I highly recommend it. I love the building itself and now i have a beautiful book about it!

Why aren't there more reviews of this outstanding book? Maybe because it is serious scholarship rather than a more popular style of writing. In fact, it might not appeal to those who are not specialists in some kind of architectural history or archaeology. But for those in the field(s) it is kind of amazing. This might be the best known building in the Western world, yet here is a volume that shows how little we have really known about it over the years. There has been a presumption that Emperor Hadrian was the patron if not indeed the architect of the building, yet scholarship and on-site investigation provide us with a convincing reattribution. Likewise, it has been accepted wisdom that whatever building preceded this one on the site necessarily had to pale in significance. In fact, the preceding building, so the scholarship suggests, was important, beloved, and probably utterly influential in determining the current building's shape. Finally, Those front columns, such an iconic part of the building's lauded geometry and proportions, are actually almost certainly shorter

than the first designers originally intended. There is a remarkable quality to this book as it meticulously adjusts and reframes some longtime accepted knowledge about the great monument. If anyone is worried, the Pantheon is in no way diminished by these new discoveries. Neither are the scholarly disciplines that have been incorrect about some its basic facts for so long. The lesson here is that diligent investigation and study can shed new light and uncover new discoveries relating to even the seemingly best-known and most broadly understood of buildings.

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