Influence of Leonardo da Vinci

Dan Riffell, Scholar in Residence



Agenda

- Introduction
- Leonardo in historical context
- Current influence

Renaissance Timeline





Rebirth of Europe

- Break away from Dark Ages
- Started in Northern Italy where Muslim trade routes and ports encouraged exchange of ideas
- Changes in art, architecture, literature, science, technology, politics, and religion
- Materialistic rather than spiritual separation from church
- Shift to studying mathematics, astronomy, and anatomy





















What was he really?

ARTIST? INVENTOR? SCIENTIST?

ENGINEER?

ARCHITECT? MUSICIAN?

GENIUS?

Codices



- Estimates of over 15k pages
- Only 5k remain







Flight







Civil Engineering









Anatomy



"We shall describe this mechanical structure of man by means of diagrams"



Hydraulics





Physics and Mechanics







Military Engineering







Sculpture









Music







Vitruvian Man







Age of Enlightenment

- Defeat of Italy by Napoleon led to removal in <u>1796</u> of Leonardo's manuscripts from the Ambrosiana Library in Milan to Paris
- Began to be studied by scholars in Paris
- Giovani Venturi wrote work entitled, 'Essai sur la ouvrages physicomathematiques de Leonard de Vinci'
- Brought attention to Leonardo's studies that inspired other scholars in 19th century to examine manuscripts long neglected in Milan

Franz Reuleaux (1829-1905)







Kinematic Elements in Machine Design





Reuleaux's 'Constructive Elements' Kinematics of Machinery, 1876		Leonardo's 'Elementi Macchinali'
Screws	Section 107	Folio 26r
Kevs	Section 108	Folio 46v
Rivets	Section 109	_
Bearings	Section 112	Folio 101r
Pins, Axles and Shafts	Section 110	Folio 10v
Couplings	Section 111	Folio 62r
Ropes, Belts and Chains	Section 113	Folios 9r, 23r, 10r
Friction Wheels	Section 114	Folio 102r
Toothed Wheels	Section 115	Folio 15v
Flywheels	Section 116	Folio 35r
Levers, Connecting Rods	Section 117	Folio 1r
Click Wheels	Section 119	Folio 117r
Ratchets	Section 121	Folio 12r
Brakes	Section 122	Folio 10r
Engaging Gear	Section 123	Folio 2r
Pipes	Section 125	Folio 25v
Pump Cylinders, Pistons	Section 125	Folio 5r-b (<i>Cod. Atlanticus</i>)
Valves	Section 126	Folio 115r
Springs	Section 127	Folio 85r
Cranks and Rods	Section 117	Folio 28v
Cams	Section 145	Folio 6v
Pulleys	Section 158	Folio 155r

LDV – A Draftsman

Believed there were rational principles to art based on mathematical philosophies of perspective and proportion

Modern drafting codes still follow these practices







da Vinci in Your Toothbrush









Gear and pinion



Slider-crank mechanism

da Vinci in Your Toothbrush





Double slider-crank mechanism and worm gear drive



Crown wheel gear and lantern pinion

Before Leonardo





"Leonardo da Vinci was like a man who awoke too early in the darkness, while the others were all still asleep" -Sigmund Freud

A Lasting Impact





Any Questions?





Mechanical Engineering UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER