

# From Text to Theatre

An Architectural Reading of Heinrich Khunrath's *Amphitheatrum Sapiientiae Aeternae* (1595, 1609).



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Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL.

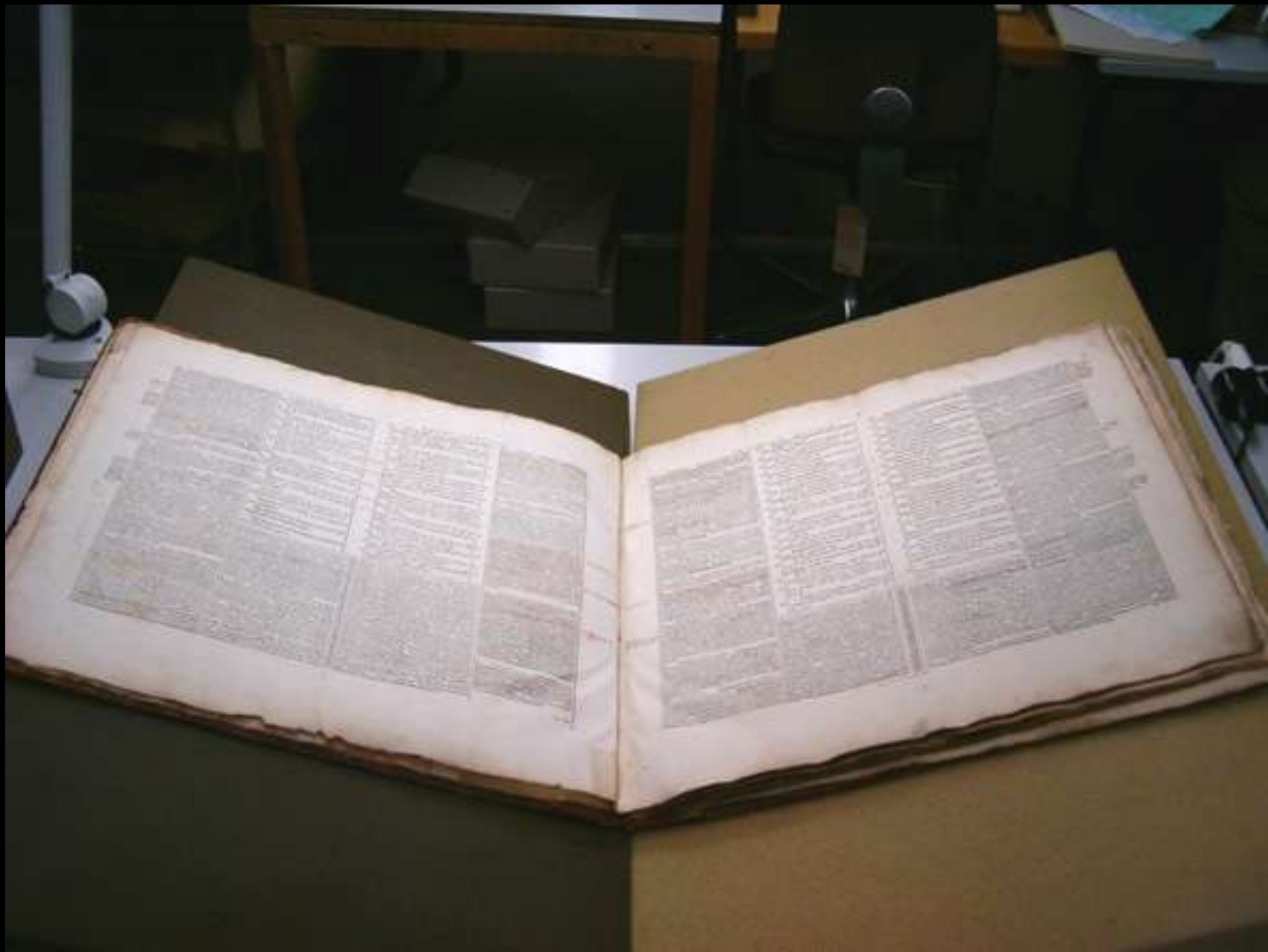


Heinrich Khunrath  
(1560-1605)

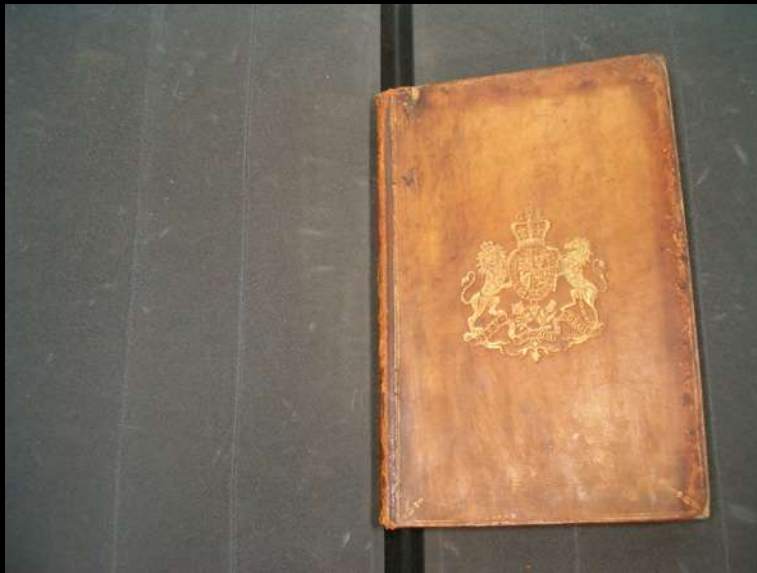








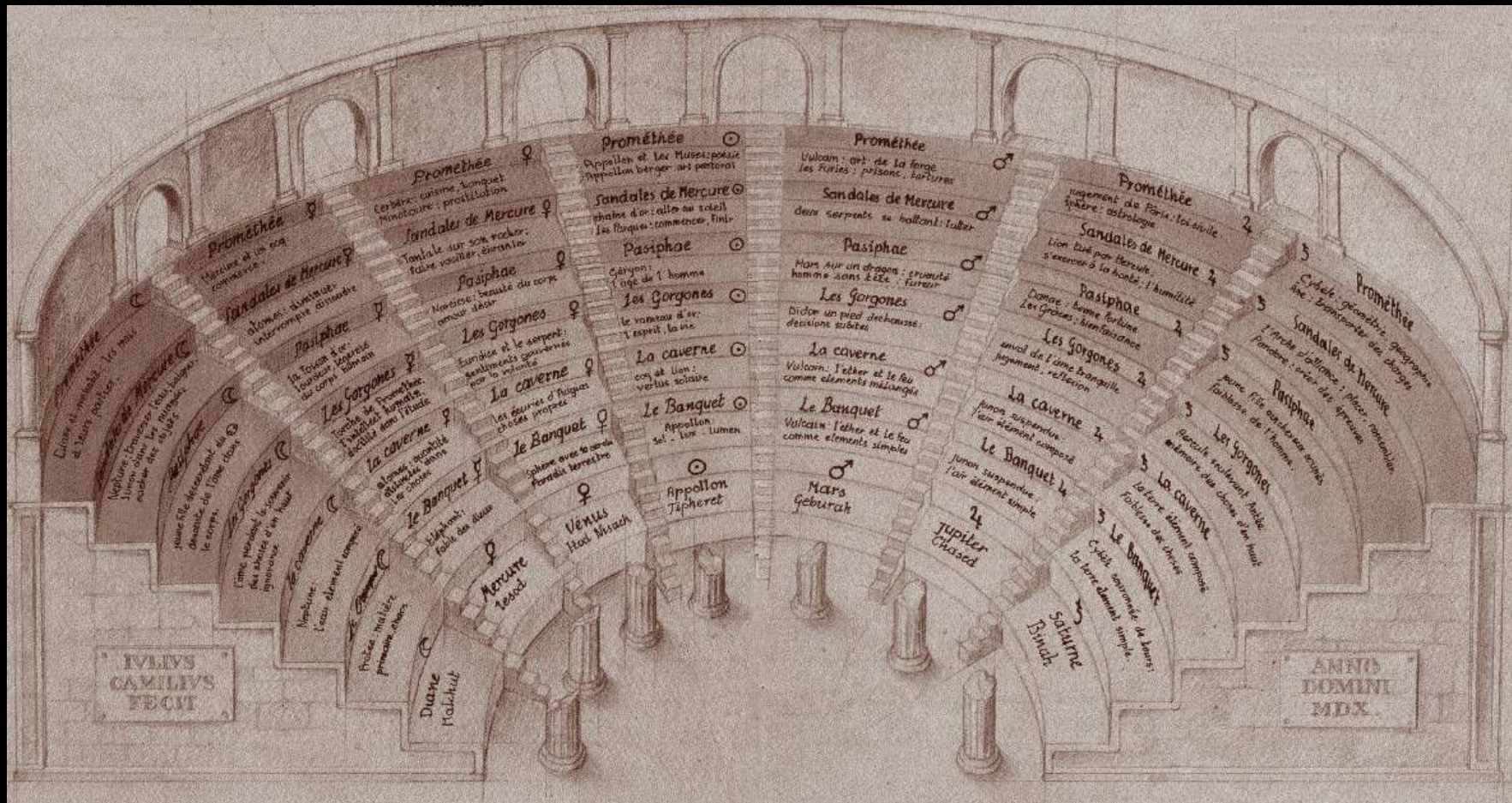




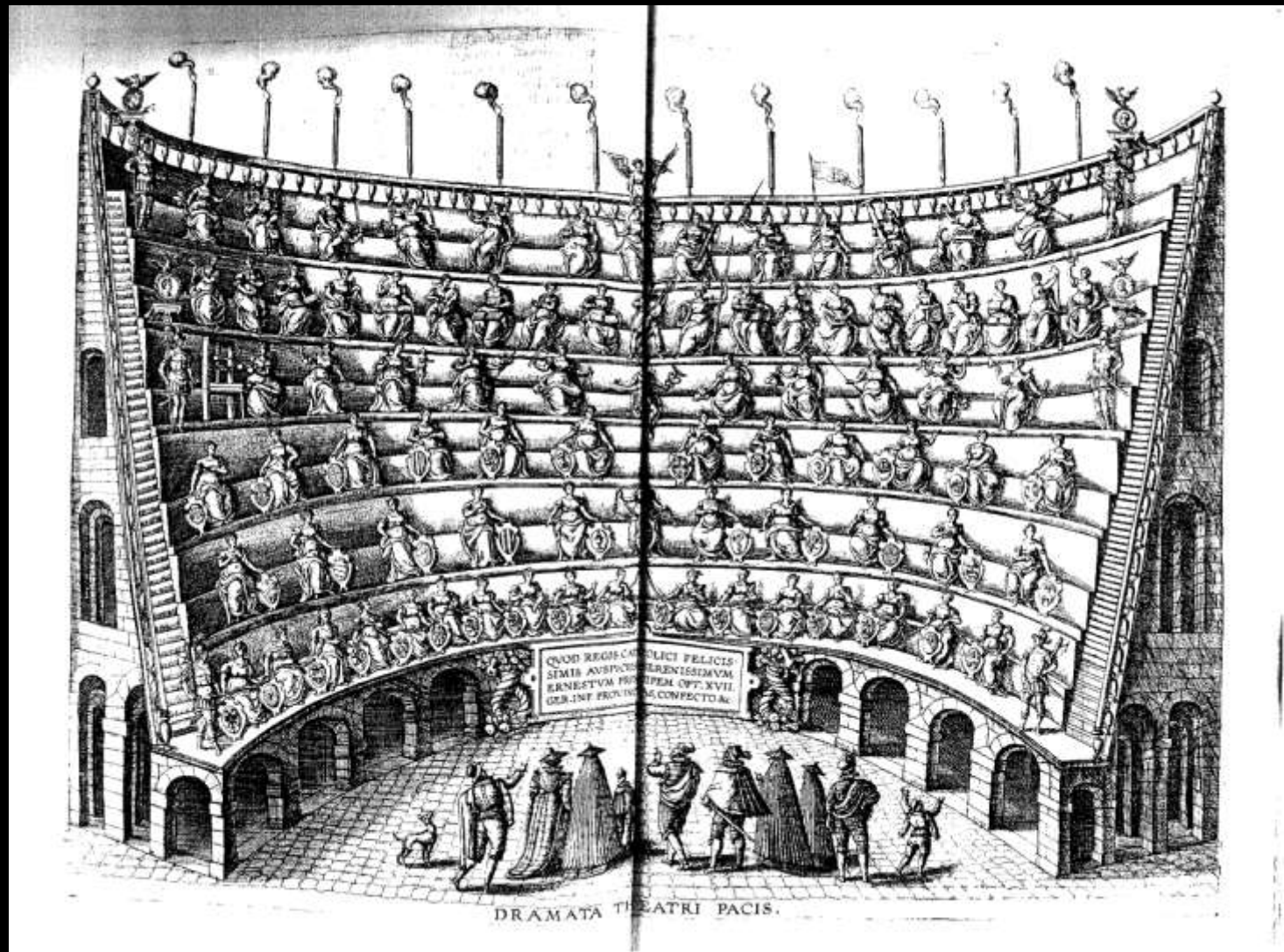
*Amphitheatrum (Hanau, 1609)*



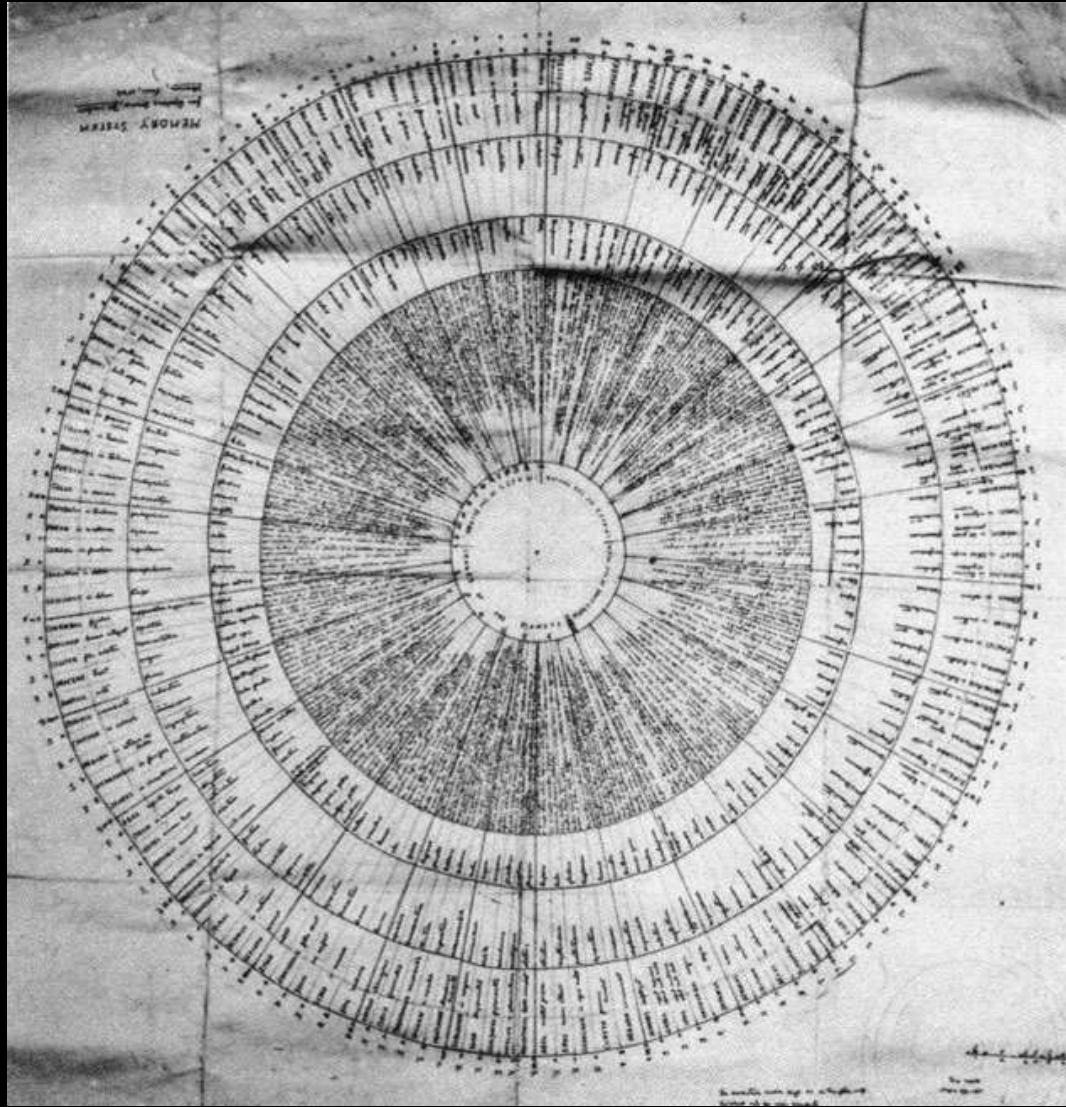




Giulio Camillo's *Memory Theatre* according to Athanasius Kircher (17th century).



*Dramata Theatri Pacis (Antwerp, 1595)*

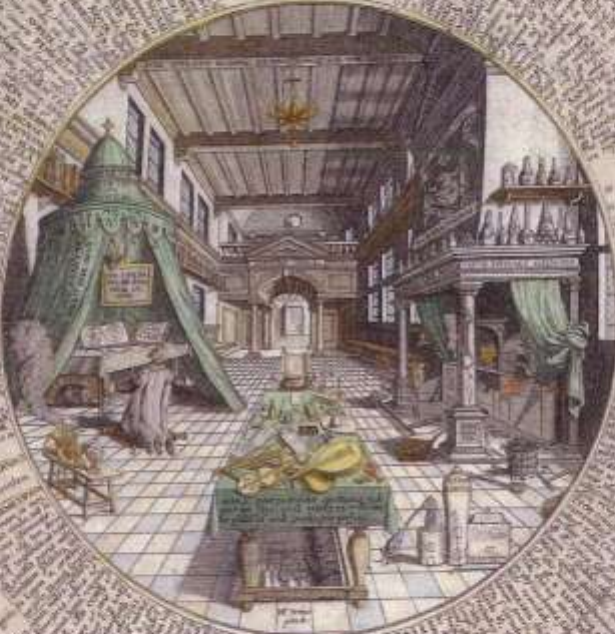


Memory system based on Giordano Bruno's *De umbris idearum* (Paris, 1582)

HOMO  
 TOTO CORDE, TOTA ANIMA  
 OMNIBUS VIRIBUS, ET OMNI MENTE  
 DIVINA GRATIA

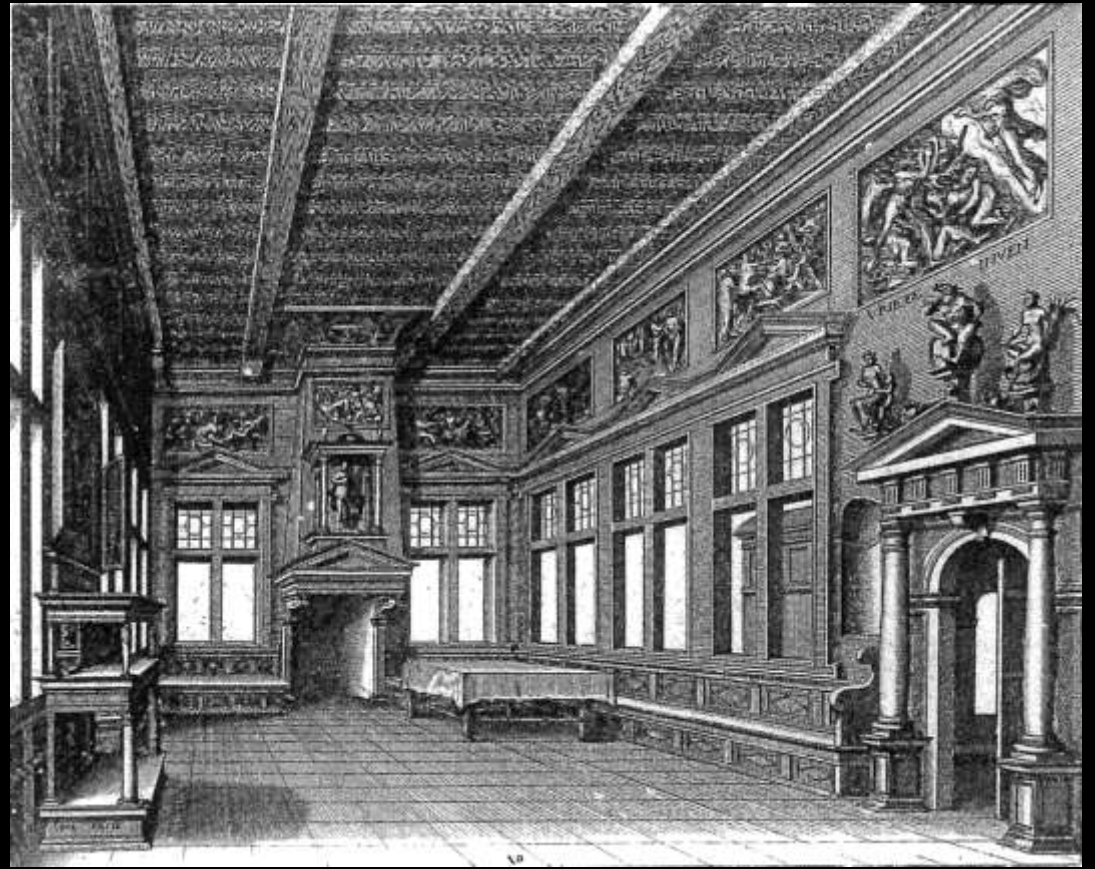
STIMULANTE ET MOVENTE,  
 (in partem dei memoriam dantis)

SIVENS  
 AGNOSCERE,  
 RESPICERE, et ABNEGARE  
 ET MYNDUM  
 (quod est per hunc mundum  
 CONTEMPTIBILE DOMINUM)



OPUS  
 ET  
 PONTIFICIS DEI  
 OPT. MAX. S. C. S. S. S.  
 BENEDICTI LANTINI  
 AC CLERICI  
 FORTISSIMO, S. S. S.  
 ET S. S. S. S. S.  
 PONTIFICIS DEI  
 OPT. MAX. S. C. S. S. S.  
 BENEDICTI LANTINI  
 AC CLERICI  
 FORTISSIMO, S. S. S.  
 ET S. S. S. S. S.  
 PONTIFICIS DEI  
 OPT. MAX. S. C. S. S. S.  
 BENEDICTI LANTINI  
 AC CLERICI  
 FORTISSIMO, S. S. S.  
 ET S. S. S. S. S.

The circular page is filled with dense Latin text arranged in concentric rings around the central image. The text is written in a small, uniform script, likely a Gothic or similar historical typeface. The text appears to be a collection of prayers, liturgical instructions, or a commentary related to the central scene of the church interior. The arrangement is highly organized, with the text filling the space between the outer border and the inner circle of the image.



Hans Vredeman de Vries  
(1527-c.1606)

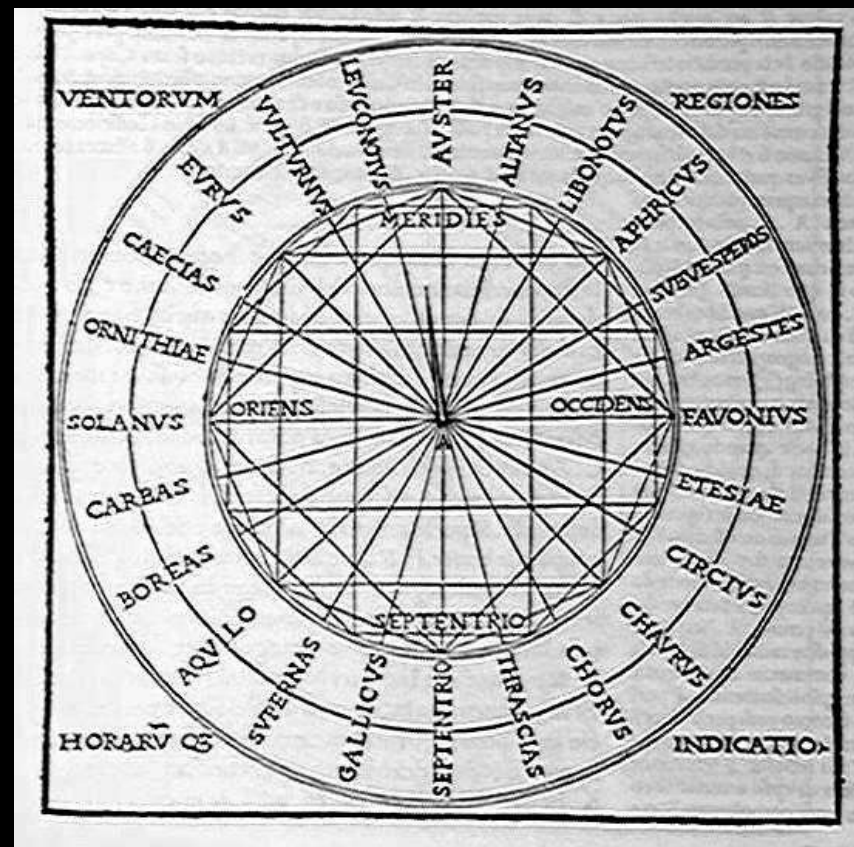
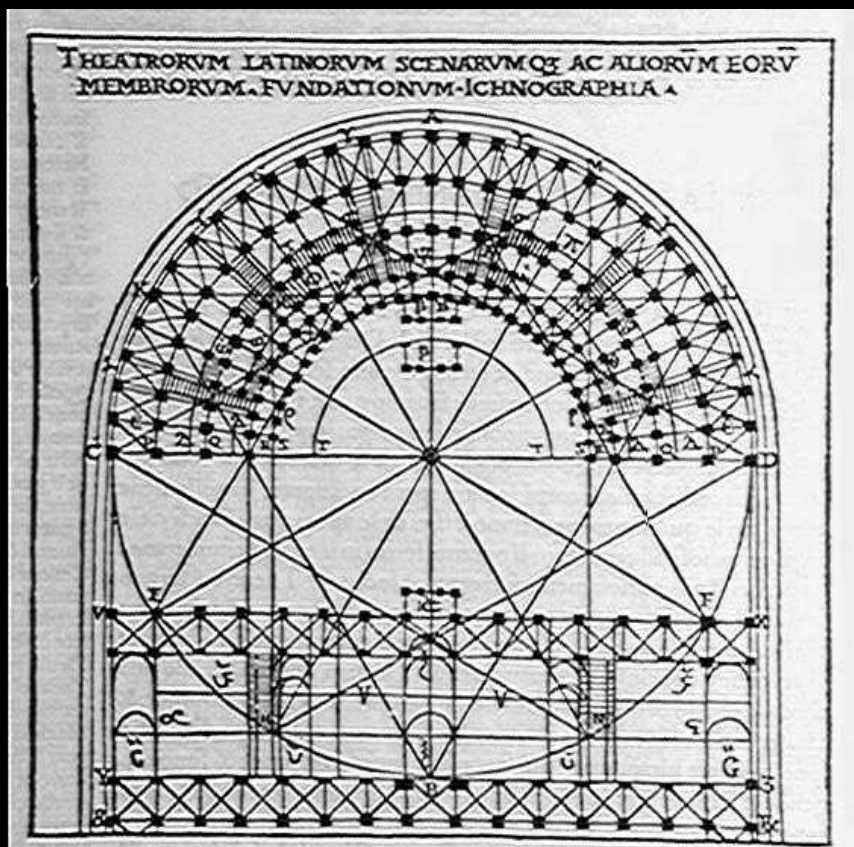








ALIA SANCTA DEUS APTORUM VALLI  
DEPOM SUGU APUS VIVITVA - G. G.  
SULLA NI VARD GANHE PIA PEFIA



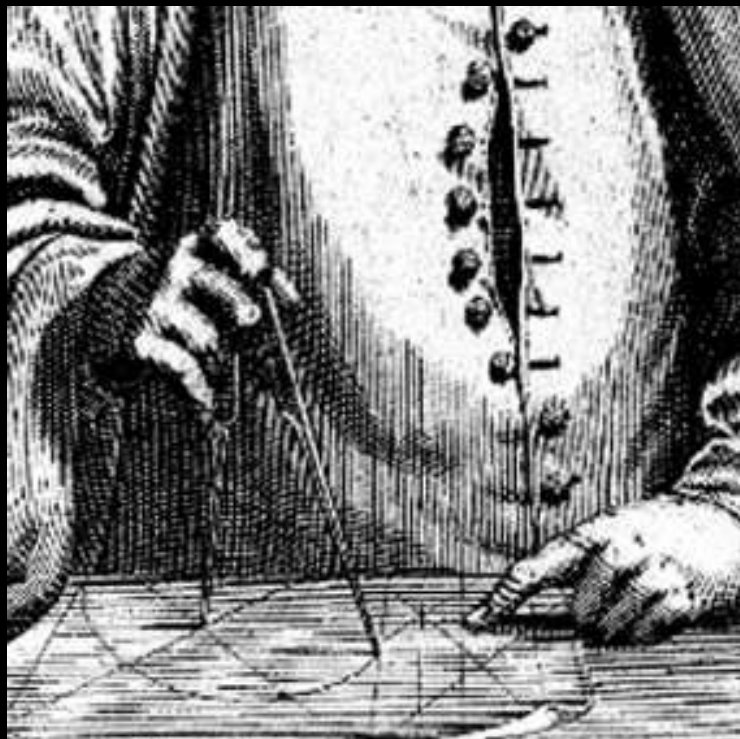
The design of the Roman theatre  
From Cesare Cesariano's edition of  
Vitruvius, *De architectura libri dece*  
(Como, 1521).

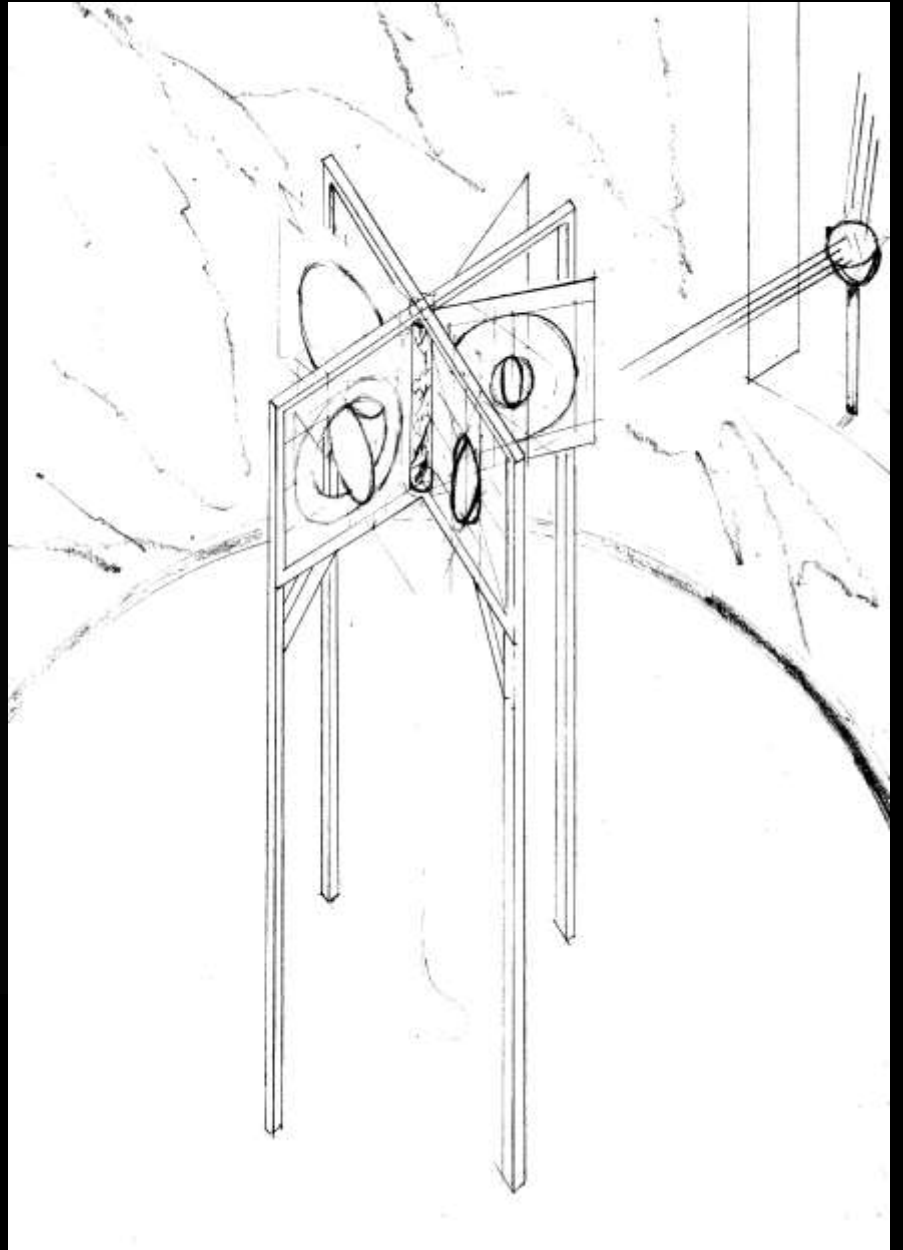
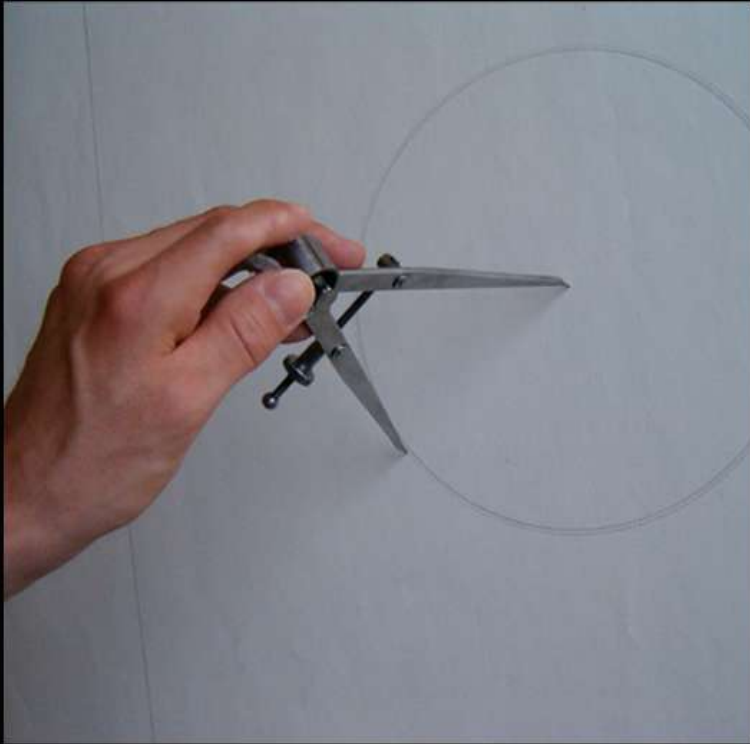


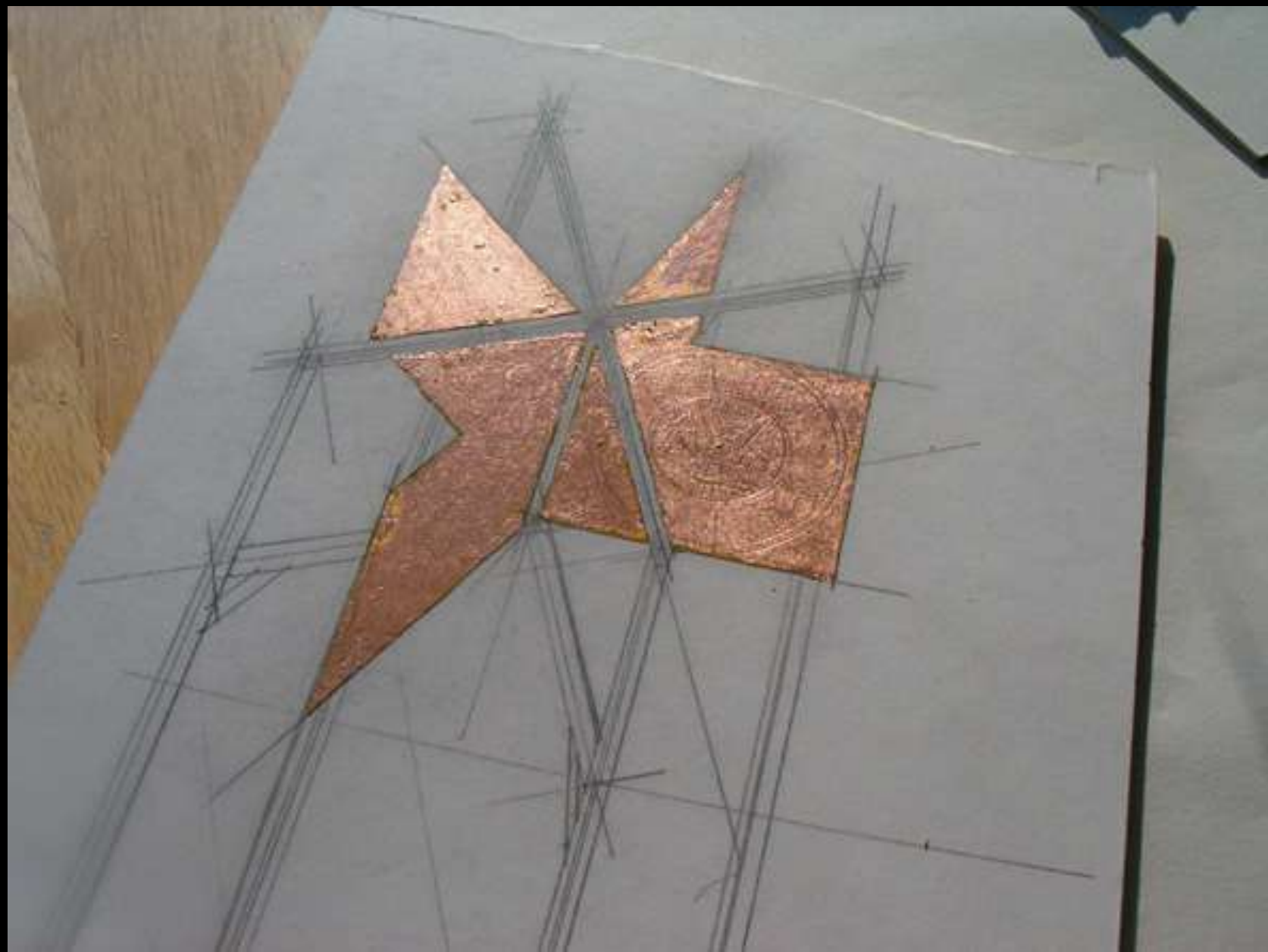
Hans Vredeman de Vries - 'architect'



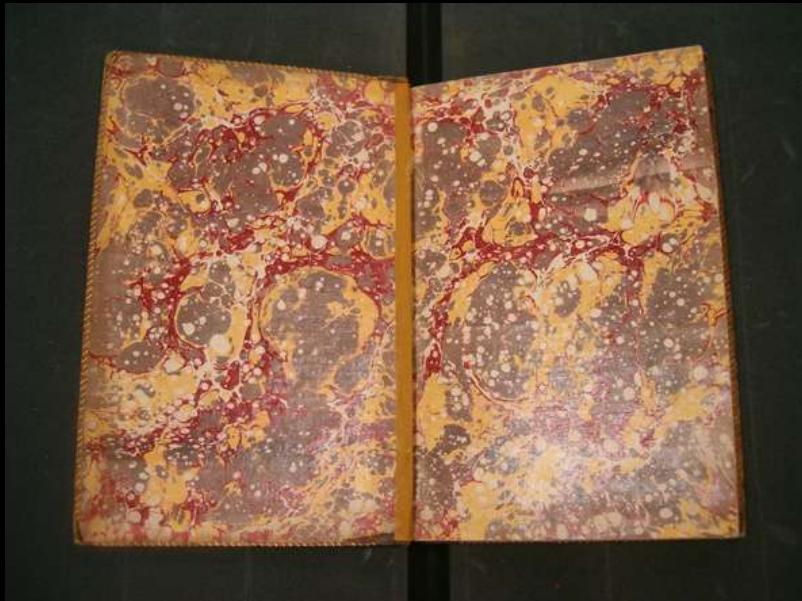
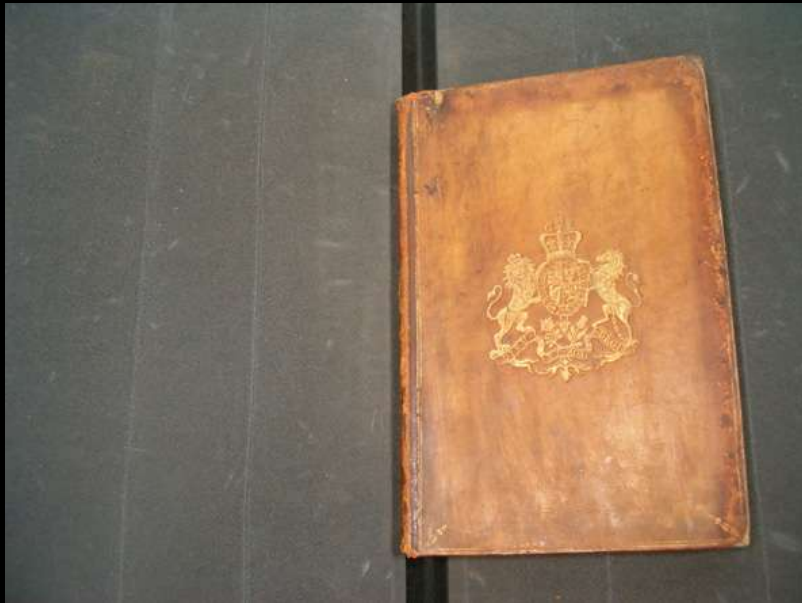
Dr. Heinrich Khunrath - 'alchemist'





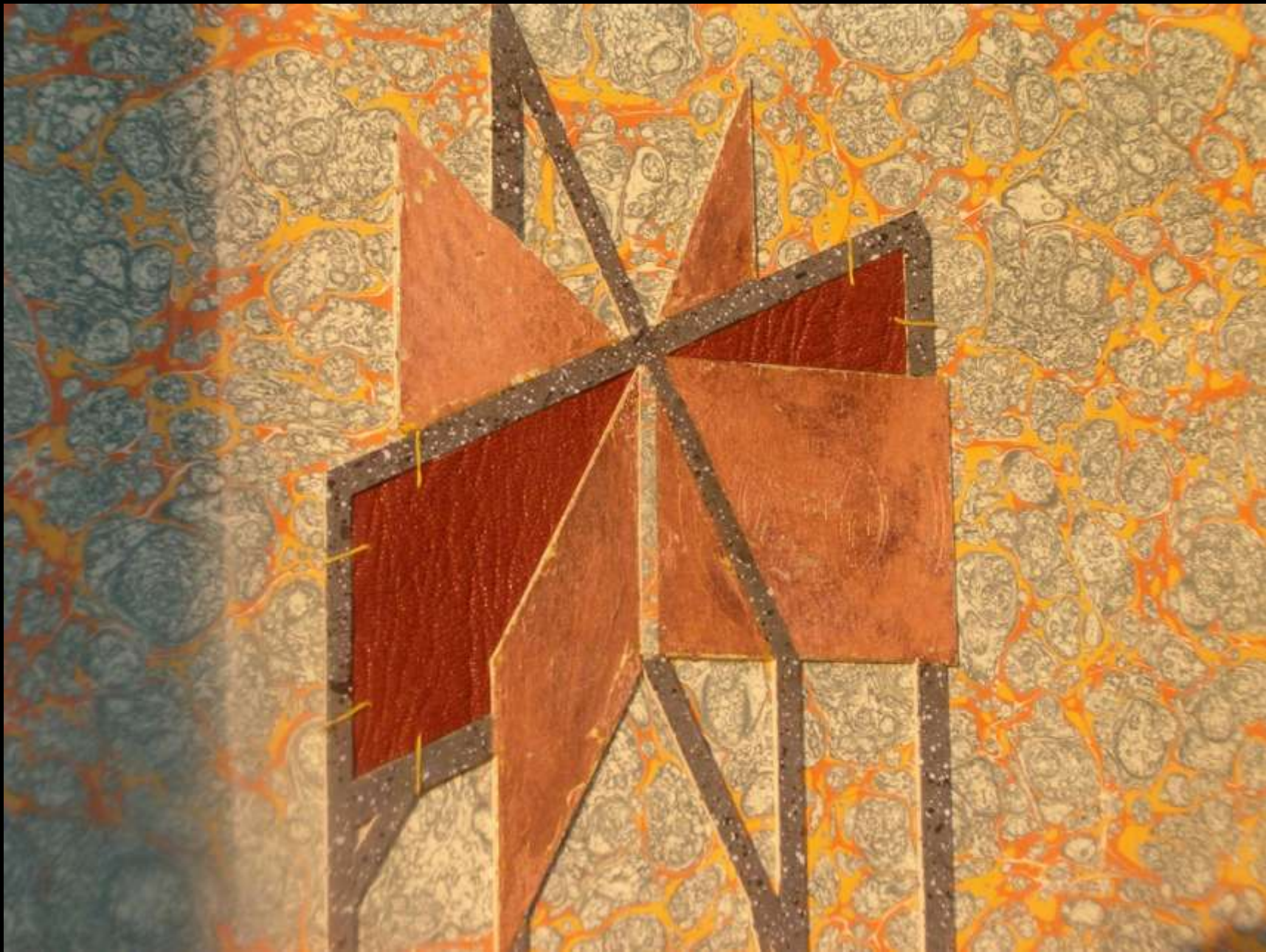






Hans Vredeman de Vries,  
*Architectural fantasy* (oil on panel).









Reconstruction of the anatomical amphitheatre at the Gustavianum, Uppsala. (originally built in the mid-17th century).

