

Contents

	Preface	7
1	Origins	9
2	Barbaric Splendour: the first civilizations, 4000 BC to fourth century AD	17
3	The Geometry of Immortality: Ancient Egypt, 3200 BC to first century AD	27
4	The Holy Mountain and the Sacred Womb: Southern Asia, 2500 BC to eighteenth century AD	41
5	Puzzles and Modules: China and Japan, third century BC to twentieth century AD	55
6	Ritual of Blood: Pre-Hispanic America, 1200 BC to sixteenth century AD	75
7	The Landscape of the Gods: Ancient Greece, fifth century BC to first century AD	85
8	The Authority of Competence: Rome, fourth century BC to fifth century AD	97
9	The Worshipping Community: early Christian and Byzantine, fourth to fifteenth century	111
10	The Order and the Sanctuary: Romanesque, ninth to twelfth century	125
11	The Flowering of the Desert: Islam, seventh to twentieth century	137
12	The Metaphysics of Light: Gothic, twelfth to sixteenth century	149
13	The Scale of Human Perfection: Renaissance Italy, fifteenth to sixteenth century	167
14	Urbanity crosses the Alps: spread of the Renaissance, fifteenth to seventeenth century	181
15	Drama: Baroque and Rococo, seventeenth to eighteenth century	195
16	The Prophets of Elegance: Romantic Classicism, eighteenth to nineteenth century	215
17	How the Pioneers became Self-reliant: Americas and beyond, seventeenth to eighteenth century	229
18	The Rise of the Iron Masters: the search for a style, nineteenth century to 1914	237
19	Expectancy: the turn of the century, c.1870 to 1920	247
20	Function and Anonymity: the International Style, c.1918 to 1970	259
21	Many Directions: the pluralistic world of personalism and technology, the present day	271
	Further Reading	282
	Acknowledgements	284
	Index	285