

Franco Purini – Verba Volant Disegna Manent

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The Latin phrase "*verba volant, scripta manent*", translates to "spoken words fly away, written words remain." In the realm of drawing, this can be reinterpreted as "Verba volant disegna manent," meaning "spoken things fly away, drawn things remain."

This phrase encapsulates the essence of Franco Purini, who has made drawing a pivotal part of his professional and intellectual journey. Purini's drawings serve as a manifestation of an unseen world conceived by the artist. This world, while non-existent in reality, materializes through the act of drawing. It emerges from the artist's mind, akin to the goddess of wisdom, Athena, springing from the mind of Zeus. In this light, all architects who draw, especially Franco Purini, are creators of new, unimagined worlds. These worlds may not exist yet, but they hold the potential to shape reality, much like all human thoughts.

Purini's drawings are not merely an externalization of the creator's inner world; they are also construction. They construct an architectural form, a well-crafted architecture. Purini's drawings are a declaration and an order of the world we inhabit. They are precise because the act of drawing leaves no room for misunderstanding. The drawing exists because it is manifested on a sheet, and its expression eliminates any potential confusion. It is as it is because it is drawn that way.

Drawing is a form of construction as it exists in its nascent form, but it also serves to construct an analogous world. Numerous architectural treatises, such as those by Vitruvius, Alberti, and Serlio, despite their intellectual richness, have not left as significant a mark on the world as Palladio's drawings in his four books. As a result, just as we are "Palladio's children" today, future architects will also be "Purini's children." All thanks to the power of drawing.

Drawing. Franco Purini, *Nel pensiero dei maestri*, 2022.

