



## **History and the Configuration of the Architectural Repertoire from Brazilian Architects Travelling To Europe in the Early XX Century**

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The installation of the Polytechnic School of São Paulo, in 1984, has made possible a significant public care investment on the capacitation of professionals to work in the construction of infrastructure and buildings, especially in the city and state of Sao Paulo. Brazil's second Polytechnic School, next to the Polytechnic of Rio de Janeiro, the institution gradually assumed a leading role in training the engineers in the country (including civil engineers, mechanical engineers, industrial engineers, geographer engineers, agronomist engineers and engineers-architects). The training of architects was encouraged by the School since the early years, through the course of engineer-architect, which annually rewarded its best student with a few months trip to Europe. Besides the prize, the trip was intended to complement the training of young architects.

The second engineer-architect to receive the prize was Alexandre Albuquerque, graduated in 1905 and later teacher at the same Polytechnic School, in the Arts Section and Chair of History of Architecture. On the trip to Europe in 1906, Albuquerque makes records about the urban transformations and architectural forms observed in countries like France, Belgium, Austria, Germany, England and Italy, and when returns to Brazil publishes studies on the trip: Impressions of Europe (conferences in 1907 at the Grêmio Politécnico, a Polytechnic School Student Society at Sao Paulo) and Study of the Italian Renaissance and its Development (published as a monograph in 1909, and also in the form of articles in 1929 and 1930). His early writings on architecture discuss the privileged place of the Renaissance-styled buildings in Europe. Considers that the constant homage to the Renaissance, in an era with different aspirations, contributed to the formation of the eclectic architecture that he observed in Europe. For the young architect, the Renaissance was no longer satisfactory, as he stated in 1909: "a new era of universal architecture will come where the style of iron and concrete will have a victorious preference."

"The architect's reflections from his observations in European cities had repercussions in various areas of his professional field, in addition to his writings on architectural and urban forms. In this paper I present and discuss the impact of the travel notes in these various fields (professional practice among architects in Sao Paulo, the construction projects for buildings and urban plans, acting as a teacher of History of Architecture and Arts, and also in the writings about architecture itself). Thus, this study aims to contribute to understanding the role of the history of European architecture in the choice and composition of architectural repertoires in the urban space in early twentieth century.

**KEY WORDS:** Architectural form, history of architecture, travelling, urban space.