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Foreword

This book project was originally conceived in the spring of 2017, on a study trip to Northern Italy with students from the MSA Münster School of Architecture. Experiencing Palladio's works first-hand, we realized that there was more to his architecture than that currently evidenced in historical research. It was while we were visiting the Redentore church in Venice that we decided to have a closer look. Inevitably, the discussions led us to ask what lies "behind" the surface and the ornamentation. Reflecting on spatial design, construction, and the use of materials, we wanted to learn about methodology.

Finally, after the restrictions of the pandemic were lifted, we were able to organize a symposium at the MSA. Architects and architectural historians from Italy, the Netherlands and Germany met on May 13 and 14, 2022. From the outset, the purpose of the conference (The Palladio Method) was to consider Palladio as a draughtsman and designer, mason and engineer, innovator and image maker. Participants were asked to explore what can be learnt in modern practice from the 16th century master. This volume collects the contributions from the symposium. Two papers have since been added by authors unable to attend the conference.

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