

From Abacus To Zeus A Handbook Of Art History

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this study discusses the evolution of the corinthian capital in antiquity and how this centred around alexandria rather than mainland greece it tackles the rise of the corinthian capital in classical greece and its adaptation on in hellenistic alexandria

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the enduring influence of the architect gottfried semper 1803 1879 derives primarily from his monumental theoretical foray *Der Stil in der technischen und tektonischen Künsten* 1860 62 here translated into english for the first time a richly illustrated survey of the technical arts textiles ceramics carpentry masonry semper s analysis of the preconditions of style forever changed the interpretative context for aesthetics architecture and art history style semper believed should be governed by historical function cultural affinities creative free will and the innate properties of each medium thus in an ambitious attempt to turn nineteenth century artistic discussion away from historicism aestheticism and materialism semper developed in *Der Stil* a complex picture of stylistic change based on scrutiny of specific objects and a remarkable grasp of cultural variety harry francis mallgrave s introductory essay offers an account of semper s life and work a survey of *Der Stil* and a fresh consideration of semper s landmark study and its lasting significance

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