

Domes of Guarino Guarini in Turin: architectural signs of cultural identity in the XVIIth century.

Beatrice Maria Fracchia

Abstract Domes designed by Guarino Guarini in Turin in the second half of the XVIIth century are closely linked to Savoy client features conception about architectural, urban and socio-cultural aspects. The inclusion of these important buildings in the rigid and continuous skyline of Turin, that was determined by ducal licenses, shows a significant position of Guarini. Savoy asked to build religious buildings of high quality, able to express tangibly the power of the family. It is therefore crucial to analyze these structures in relation to the urban reality in which they are located. The area of command planned in Turin, includes both the dome of San Lorenzo, either the dome of the chapel of Holy Shroud. Next to a very strict front, that follows the skyline of the nearest buildings, Guarini produces a unique dome: a perfect combination of geometry and construction techniques, that are typical of his architecture.

Keywords urban domes, urban and socio-cultural aspects, domes and skyline, XVIIth century.