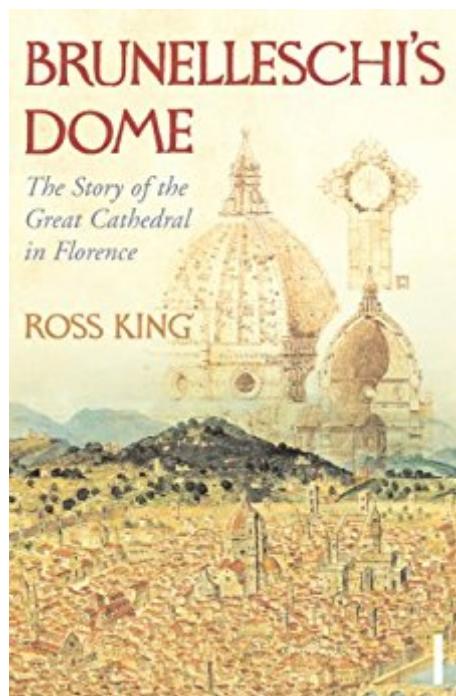


The book was found

# Brunelleschi's Dome: The Story Of The Great Cathedral In Florence



## **Synopsis**

Even in an age of soaring skyscrapers and cavernous sports stadiums, the cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence still retains a rare power to astonish. Yet the elegance of the building belies the tremendous labour, technical ingenuity and bitter personal strife involved in its creation. For over a century after work on the cathedral began in 1296, the proposed dome was regarded as all but impossible to build because of its enormous size. The greatest architectural puzzle of its age, when finally completed in 1436 the dome was hailed as one of the great wonders of the world. It has gone down in history as a masterpiece of Renaissance architecture. This book tells the extraordinary story of how the cupola was raised and of the dome's architect, the brilliant and volatile Filippo Brunelleschi. Denounced as a madman at the start of his labours, he was celebrated at their end as a great genius. His life was one of ambition, ingenuity, rivalry and intrigue - a human drama set against the plagues, wars, political feuds and intellectual ferment of Renaissance Florence, the glorious era for which the dome remains the most compelling symbol. Brunelleschi's Dome was voted Non-Fiction Book of the Year by American Independent Booksellers.

## **Book Information**

File Size: 3746 KB

Print Length: 192 pages

Publisher: Vintage Digital (January 19, 2010)

Publication Date: January 26, 2010

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00351YF4I

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #522,649 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #22

in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Building Types & Styles > Religious Buildings #33 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Architects, A-Z #178 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings > Religious Buildings

## Customer Reviews

The title of a non-fiction book should be a contract: here, the terms of Ross King's deal are, "I will tell you all you ever wanted to know about the great dome of Santa Maria del Fiore, and, as specified in the subtitle, I will leave you feeling you know how Brunelleschi 'reinvented architecture.'" I enjoyed this book immensely, but King delivered on neither clause. I found myself puzzling over his technical explanations, rummaging through my library for a superior cutaway of the dome to better visualize his wordy exegesis. Oddly, each of the three well-known books I turned to - Murray's *Architecture of the Italian Renaissance*, Kostof's *History of Architecture*, and Hartt's *History of Italian Renaissance Art* - had precisely the same superb cutaway of the dome within a dome, showing Brunelleschi's Gothic vaulting underneath the classically inspired outer dome. "Mirabile dictu, so that's it!" This is only one of many instances where King created confusion where he might have parted the technical mists, with clearer text or with a better mating of text to illustration. A corollary to this concern: for a book that has a fair number of illustrations, I found these, for the most part, woefully chosen. I appreciated the reproductions of period etchings and drawings, but these should have been supplemented with additional helps for the text. And at the very close, as a veritable punchline to the short book, King provides one small photograph of the dome in middle distance - no angles, no details, no close-up of the lantern, no full-page, no color. For readers who have neither been to Florence and seen the magnificent Santa Maria del Fiore in its urban context nor seen many illustrations or aspects of the dome, these are galling omissions.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Brunelleschi's Dome: The Story of the Great Cathedral in Florence  
Brunelleschi's Dome: How a Renaissance Genius Reinvented Architecture  
Visions of Heaven: The Dome in European Architecture  
Millennium Dome Pop-up Book (DK millennium range)  
Under the Dome: A Novel  
Florence Griffith Joyner: Olympic Runner (Great Record Breakers in Sports)  
Cathedral: The Story of Its Construction  
Yours Faithfully, Florence Burke: An Irish Immigrant Story  
Un Viaggetto a Firenze / A Little Trip to Florence (An Italian/English Dual Language Story) (Italian Edition)  
St Paul's Cathedral: 1,400 Years at the Heart of London  
Dynamic Splendor: The Wall Mosaics in the Cathedral of Eufrasius at Porec (2 Vols.)  
The Gothic Cathedral Universe of Stone: A Biography of Chartres Cathedral  
The Gothic Enterprise: A Guide to Understanding the Medieval Cathedral  
Chartres Cathedral  
Make This Model: Cathedral (Usborne Cut-Out Models Series)  
The Cathedral & the Bazaar: Musings on Linux and Open Source by an Accidental Revolutionary  
Cathedral of the Black Madonna: The Druids and the Mysteries of Chartres  
Cathedral of the Wild: An African

Journey Home Best Pictures of Paris: Top Tourist Attractions Including the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, Notre Dame Cathedral, Sacre-Coeur Basilica, Arc de Triomphe, the Pantheon, Orsay Museum, City Hall and More.

[Dmca](#)