The Modulor

le Corbusier

Tris Christina Liebelt
le Corbusier Background

• Born Charles Edouard Jeanneret on 06 October 1887, in LaChaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland
• Attended the École des Arts at La Chaux-de-Fonds. Which he later taught at.
• He traveled extensively through Europe
• In 1917, he settled in Paris and wrote Vers une Architecture (Towards a New Architecture)
• In 1947, he built Unite d’habitation
• In 1948, he published The Modulor
• In 1955, he published The Modulor 2
• Died 27 August 1965, Cap Martin, France
Influences

• **Vitruvius’ Vitruvian Man**: shows how the body is proportional using the geometry of a circle and square.
• **Fibonacci Series**: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34... the ratio between the numbers as the series continue they approach a limiting value of 1.618 or φ
• **Golden Section**: side lengths are the golden ratio: 1: φ, or 1:1.618.
Initial Inspiration

Came from the challenge of positioning the human form within three interconnected squares, The challenge came in the placement of the third square. Le Corbusier solved the problem by using the relationship of $\phi$ and the introduction of a right angle.
The Modulor

- The Modulor is a geometrical proportioning grid based on the human form.
- "Le Corbusier called the Fibonacci series arising from the relationship $\phi$ based on the unit 108 the red series, and that series based on the double unit 216 the blue series. I drew a man of a height of 1.75 m engaged at four points: zero, 108, 175, 216. Then the red strip on the left, the blue on the right, the series of $\phi$ going towards zero below, and that progressing towards infinity above" The Modulor, page 52.
The Modulor Tools
The Modulor Applied to the Human Form
The Modulor Applied to Building

Unite d’Habitation: Plans and Sections

Key (meters)

A = .065
B = .165
C = .20
D = .33
E = .43
F = .53
G = .70
H = .86
I = 1.13
J = 2.26
K = 2.98
L = 3.36
M = 4.19 = L+F
The Modulor Applied to Building

Unite d’Habitation: Facade

Key (meters)
A = .065
B = .165
C = .20
D = .33
E = .43
F = .53
G = .70
H = .86
I = 1.13
J = 2.26
K = 2.98
L = 3.36
M = 4.19 = L+F
The Modulor Applied to Building
Unite d’Habitation: Interiors

Key (meters)
A = .065
B = .165
C = .20
D = .33
E = .43
F = .53
G = .70
H = .86
I = 1.13
J = 2.26
K = 2.98
L = 3.36
M = 4.19 = L+F
Triad Applied

DELIGHT

FIRMNESS

COMMODITY

THE MODULOR
Work Cited

