

# *Finitio: Afore and Beyond Limit in the Binomial We and Others*

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## **Abstract**

The *finitio* (delimitation) is essential for the definition of a form in its proper distinction from other forms and is based on the space notion of the afore and beyond of limits, which establishes a horizon that is always a frontier. This paper raises the question of the role of delimitation in the relationship between *the-we* and *the-others*, and its relevance to architecture and human society.

According to Alberti, the edificatory harmony (*concinnitas*) consists of *numerus*, *finitio* and *collocatio* (number, delimitation and disposition) that can be embodied through specific essential characteristics. Passing the test of time, both in architecture and in the human dimension, the always-delimited harmony has revealed the ability to appear, with intersubjective and universal character.

By constructing an inside and an outside, the two sides of the boundary, which relates the parts to the whole, the delimitation (*finitio*) makes it possible to embrace an internal reality and, from an openness, to potentiate it to the external reality, firstly stranger, but gradually articulated in a inclusive manner.

The actual communication argues that in everything it is necessary to know the limits (frontiers) to be able to achieve the change. In conclusion, either we consent the controlled evolution regarding reforms, or we expose ourselves uncontrollably to revolutions, which are radically contrary to the established status quo.

**Keywords:** *Finitio* or limits, we and others, reform, revolution, architecture