

# INFLUENCE OF ANCIENT WORLD MYTHOLOGY ON CONTEMPORARY

## ARCHITECTURE

### CASE STUDY:

#### PROJECTION OF MAYAN MYTHOLOGY ON ARCHITECTURE OF ERIC OWEN

##### MOSS

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##### **ملخص البحث (بلغته المنشور):**

Throughout History, Mankind produced an enormous legacy of human believes and myths. Man learned how to record this legacy which had been known as the Science of Mythology. It concerns with collecting and studying the Ancient World Mythologies. This science was settled at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Generations recognized this legacy of ancient nations by various shapes. It can be reached to us orally as stories or physically as written plates or scripts on temple walls or epigraphy inside tombs or even as monuments and fossils. This paper assumed that the contemporary architecture influenced by branches of this science. It focused on the architects who chose these mythical sources to be their guidelines leading them to create a new phase of architecture. It analyzed the architectural language of the American architect, Eric Owen Moss, selected as a case study. The paper researcher assumed that this architect inspired his conceptual ideas from the ancient Mayan Mythology.

The paper used methodology to explain the contents in four steps as follows:

**Step 1:** Vision on an Ancient Age - Recognizing meaning of the Ancient World & its components, producing a scientific definition of Mythology and its branches, knowing the most well-known Ancient World Mythologies and clarifying the sensitive relation between mythology and architecture.

**Step 2:** Landing on the Mayan Civilization - Presenting excerpts from the ancient Mayan Mythology and classifying its important buildings.

**Step 3:** What is the architectural metaphor? – Explanations of Chris Abel.

**Step 4:** Breaking Codes of Smart Architect - Making journey into the cultural background of Eric Owen Moss to know his own motives for inspiration, interpreting his architectural language influenced by Mayan Mythology, holding an analytical comparison between his projects to know every chosen inspiration source and finally reaching set of conclusions.