

**PALACE OF FINE ARTS
AND LAGOON, PANAMA-
PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL
EXPOSITION, 1915**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649193523

Palace of Fine Arts and lagoon, Panama-Pacific International Exposition, 1915 by Bernard R. Maybeck & Frank Morton Todd

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BERNARD R. MAYBECK & FRANK MORTON TODD

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AND LAGOON**

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EXPOSITION, 1915**

By **BERNARD R. MAYBECK**

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

FRANK MORTON TODD



**PAUL ELDER AND COMPANY
PUBLISHER · SAN FRANCISCO**

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Arch. Libr.
Mr. Bernard R. Maybeck
NY
9-1-1927

*I am deeply grateful
to the two men who made possible the
Fine Arts Palace, as it is:
Willis Polk and
Harris D. H. Connick*



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INTRODUCTION

After the little, breathless shock that follows the first vision of perfect loveliness, half the world and his wife looking across the Fine Arts Lagoon in San Francisco, ask:

"Who did it? Where did he get his inspiration? Why have we had to come here to see the most divinely beautiful building ever reared in America?"

The following pages tell. They are the frank, direct answer of the man who had that glory and grandeur in his brain, and has gone about among us all these years a simple good friend and neighbor. And his neighbors, by the way, knew it was there.

Naively as a little child Maybeck explains, and thereby reveals unconsciously his marvelous power of over-leaping time and space and translating himself mentally into another age—any age you like, apparently.

There seems to be nothing difficult about it to him. It is just his method of attacking the problem; and in feeling and understanding, he steps back twenty centuries as easily as you or I would cross a room.

He built us a club-house in our hometown of Berkeley. "Now," he said, "this is an organization of neighbors who like one another and wish to have a sort of common home for the hours of their meeting together.