

**SAPERE AUDE**

**Dare to know! Horacio**

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Dare to know! Horacio

A marvel at your fingertips.

If writing is sometimes like starting over, rewriting is always like starting over again.

Not long ago *Rewriting about Architecture*, was published first in English and then in Spanish. I chose seven, quite a comprehensive number, out of the countless texts I have written over the course of my long life. They are the ones I consider to be fundamental. And now they are begging me to write, to rewrite, more texts along the same lines. This would be a selection of already published texts deserving of revision and amendment – once again! – with that marvelous tool which is the computer.

I have written many times about rereading and remembering: how rereading leads to much greater enjoyment, like squeezing a lemon to the core, and how remembering is like putting one's heart once again into what is being recalled.

In the past, it wasn't that easy to muster up the courage to rewrite anything. Mostly, it seemed like too much hard work to have to pick up your pen once again and, faced with the original script, to dare to make changes to it, removing or adding something to what you had already written. Now, however, all that is a thing of the past and with the computer at our fingertips we feel encouraged to embark on the adventure of rewriting.

It is said that Aristotle never managed to finalize the text of his marvelous *Protrepticus*. Can you imagine if Aristotle had had a computer at his disposal? Although now, thanks to Ingemar Düring and Carlos Megino, we are lucky enough to have Aristotle's text to hand. As Cicero had it in his day to write his *Hortensius*, and later St. Augustine too. A real gift.

Sapere aude! Horace, *Epistola II, Epistolarium liber primus*.

Immanuel Kant, *Was ist Aufklärung?*

Although Horace's dictum "Dimidium facti, qui coepit, habet: sapere aude, incipe" (He who has begun is half done; dare to know; begin!), which Immanuel Kant used in his essay, is very beautiful, it would be presumptuous of me to say that it is easy to put it into practice, even if I have been trying to do so for many years. We are always beginning to begin, as the poet would say. I always consider myself, even now, at 74, to be just beginning to begin.

Because knowledge, wisdom, is something very serious. The saying that "All I know is that I know nothing" is clearer to me every day. And that's why I keep on studying. And I can assure you that I enjoy studying a lot. Just as I always saw my father do, who at the age of 104 never stopped reading, never stopped studying for a single day. And studying is a gift.

And now, once again, the publication of a book, bringing to light a collection of texts where, once again, one's soul is laid bare and which will be titled Sapere Aude!