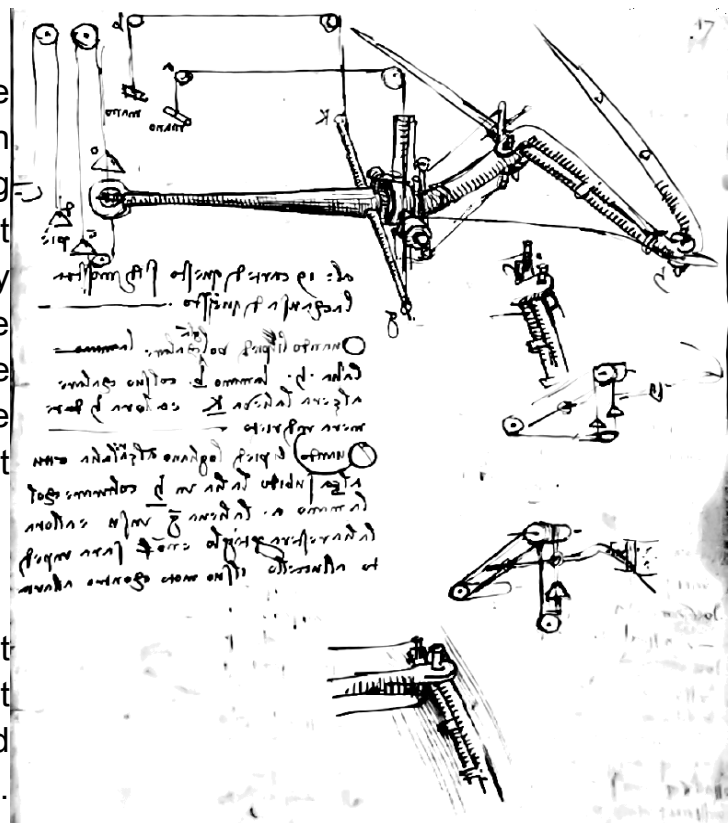



 IN LEONARDO

The final goal of the engineer Leonardo is to fly, the realisation of the bird, “*the big bird*”, which he takes into a high consideration. At the same time, he is aware of the great mockery of the public opinion in the case of failure. The basis from which he moves, as always, stay into nature: birds and bats demonstrate that flying is possible and that they have useful instruments for this goal. Leonardo doesn't want to make the same mistake done by Dedalo (connecting bird feathers to his arms) because he perfectly know that the weight/force ratio is a real problem.

During the first, intense, attempts he imagine a wing made of a skeleton, which is similar to that of flying creatures, even if he tries to exploit at its best the human musculature, mainly that of legs. The wings had to be assembled with wooden bones, rope tendons and leather ligaments to be able to obtain the sinuous movement created by the “*hand*”, by a bird wing.



The imagine is beautiful itself, but Leonardo anyway understands that none of his beloved drawings would have ever worked in the right way. When he decided to go back to the

problem, at the return in Florence, he takes a different way: still inspired by nature he paid attention to gliding birds. This is where the glider came from!

“... *The one who tried flying will walk watching the sky, he was there and there is where he want to came back...*”