

Romanesque Renaissance.

Early medieval architecture as a source for new *all'antica* architecture in the 15th and 16th centuries



International conference

Organized by

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NIKI ISTITUTO
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The revival of antique forms in 15th- and 16th-century architecture was, as is well known, above all a European phenomenon. This movement originated in Central Italy, but from the late 15th century onward, it spread to other centres in and outside of Italy. Sources of inspiration were not only the iconic Roman remains, which were catalogued in Serlio's *Book Three* (1540) and Palladio's *Book Four* (1570), but also local ruins and historic buildings in other parts of Europe. Some of these were of genuine antique origin (or even more ancient) others were in fact of late antique or even medieval date.

For early modern humanists and artists it must have been difficult to distinguish Byzantine and Romanesque architecture from that of Roman antiquity. The scholarly concept of 'Romanesque' architecture and the stylistic tools enabling one to distinguish it from antique Roman architecture, date from the early 19th-century, not earlier. Traditional 20th-century art history mostly ignored buildings that were inspired by medieval sources.

The present conference invites speakers to determine to what extent renaissance architecture inspired by medieval sources reflects an intellectual endeavour to produce *all'antica* architecture based on local sources. Questions that will be addressed include why patrons and architects preferred references to medieval sources above those antique, what did they know (or think they knew) of the history of these ancient buildings and what determined their choices?

Friday 22 September

- 9:30 *Coffee/Tea 1*
- 10:00 **Michael Kwakkelstein**, *Director's Welcome*
- 10:15 **Konrad Ottenheim** (University of Utrecht): *Introduction*
- 10:45 **Emanuela Ferretti** (University of Florence) and **Eliana Carrara** (University of Molise): "Il Battistero di Firenze nella committenza dei primi granduchi di Toscana"
- 11:30 **Stephan Hoppe** (Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich): "Translating the Past. Local Romanesque architecture in Germany and its reinterpretation in the 15th century"
- 12:15 *Lunch*
- 13:30 **Ian Campbell** (University of Edinburgh), "Scottish Royal Residences 1400-1600"
- 14:15 **Bianca de Divitiis** (University of Naples Federico II), "Memory of the Romanesque in southern Renaissance architecture: Documents and monuments"
- 15:00 *Coffee/Tea*
- 15:30 **Stefaan Grieten** (University of Leuven), 'The 16th-century Palace of the Prince-Bishop at Liège'
- 16:15 **Krista De Jonge** (University of Leuven), 'Matters of representation. On the revival of the early mediaeval keep in Flanders and Brabant (16th-17th centuries)'
- 17:00 *Reception*

Saturday 23 September

- 9:30 *Coffee/Tea*
- 10:00 **Stefano Piazza** (University of Palermo): "Il ruolo della memoria normanna nella cultura architettonica siciliana della prima età moderna"
- 10:45 **Emanuela Garofalo** (University of Palermo): "Tra mito e modello. Le cattedrali normanne nell'architettura religiosa del Cinquecento in Italia meridionale"
- 11:30 **Marco Nobile** (University of Palermo): "Le cupole in pietra a vista nel primo '500 in Sicilia"
- 12:15 *Lunch*
- 13:30 **Hubertus Günther** (University of Zurich): "Byzantine cupolas and the myth of the 'antique origin' of Venice"
- 14:15 **Kristoffer J. Neville** (UC Riverside): "Text and form: The beginnings of architectural history and architectural aesthetics in the far North"
- 15:00 **Barbara Arciszewska** (University of Warsaw): "Polish *all'antica* architecture: the Sarmatian myth"
- 15:45 **Konrad Ottenheim** (University of Utrecht): "Notions of centralised churches and pagan temples 1400-1600"
- 16:30 Discussion and concluding remarks