



After the Middle Ages (Reception, Remnants, Revival): Architecture and Medievalism

Conference: 18–19 November 2024

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BIBLIOTHECA HERTZIANA
MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR ART HISTORY

After the Middle Ages (Reception, Remnants, Revival): Architecture and Medievalism

“After the Middle Ages” implies both a temporal horizon, extending from the early modern period to the present day and beyond, and responses to the Middle Ages (medievalism). The conference aims to navigate the historical interactions between these responses and architecture, fostering critical discussions surrounding an “architectural history of medievalism”.

An “architectural history of medievalism” presents the conundrum of grappling with responses to the Middle Ages while diverting emphasis away from the historical medieval era. By taking the medieval as a lens of refraction through which to delve into the post-medieval, this subject matter demands acceptance of its variety, complexity, and contradictions. Acknowledging tensions and uncomfortable friction with classicism, alongside intimate connections to broader histories and historiographies, the conference deals with:

- Reception: how the medieval has been received within architectural theory and historiography, and how medieval architecture has been received in related fields;
- Remnants: the afterlives of the medieval built environment;
- Revival: architecture’s distinct capacity to imbue spatial qualities into the resurgence of the medieval.

What are the stakes, modes, and attitudes surrounding the entanglements of architecture and medievalism? What responsibilities does architectural history bear in advancing knowledge on responses to the Middle Ages, including their topical resurgence and interaction with the great challenges of our time?

Scientific Organization:

Tommaso Zerbi (Deutsches Historisches Institut in Rom)

Tanja Michalsky (Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max-Planck-Institut für Kunstgeschichte)



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Monday, 18.11.2024

09:30 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Tanja Michalsky, Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max-Planck-Institut für Kunstgeschichte

Tommaso Zerbi, Deutsches Historisches Institut in Rom

SESSION 1 | RECEPTION

Chair: **Elisabetta Scirocco**, Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max-Planck-Institut für Kunstgeschichte

10:00 Maximilian Sternberg, University of Cambridge

Heitere Baukunst: Hans Döllgast's Dialogical Reception of Classical and Medieval in Post-War Germany

10:45 Dominik Müller, ETH Zurich

Mapping Change: The 'Character' of Norman Architecture in Sicily, 1780–1840

11:30 COFFEE BREAK

12:00 Guido Vittorio Zucconi, Università di Padova

The Venetian Search for Medieval Roots

12:45 Daniela Roberts, University of Würzburg

Castellar Stronghold versus Monastic Splendor:

Gothic Revival Interpretations of the Middle Ages in England around 1800

13:30 LUNCH

SESSION 2 | REVIVAL (PART I/II)

Chair: **Adrian Bremenkamp**, Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max-Planck-Institut für Kunstgeschichte

14:30 Tancredi Bella, Università di Catania

Luis Javier Cuesta Hernández, Universidad Iberoamericana

Alison Locke Perchuk, California State University Channel Islands

Medieval Italian Architecture in the Lands of New Spain: Reception, Transmission and Revival in California and Mexico

15:15 Tonje Haugland Sørensen, University of Bergen

A Discovery of Dragons: The Case of Norse Revival Architecture in Nineteenth-Century Scandinavia

16:00 Tommaso Zerbi, Deutsches Historisches Institut in Rom

The Empire(s) at Rome: Architecture and the Cultural Politics of Medievalism

16:45 COFFEE BREAK

17:15–18:30 KEYNOTE LECTURE

Alex Bremner, University of Edinburgh

Carboniferous Creations: Victorian Gothic Revivalism and the Ecocritical Turn



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Tuesday, 19.11.2024

SESSION 3 | REMNANTS

Chair: **Tanja Michalsky**, Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max-Planck-Institut für Kunstgeschichte

09:30 Marcus van der Meulen, RWTH University Aachen

Recovery and Reconstruction: The Nexus of Medievalism and Post-War Rebuilding of Churches in Twentieth-Century Belgium

10:15 Alexandrina Buchanan, University of Liverpool

The 'Monastic Oeconomy' and Historical Reconstruction, 1750-c.1900

11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 Giulia Pollini, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin | **Kai Kappel**, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Antichità e Medioevo: Mettere in scena storia e tradizione nell'Italia meridionale della prima età moderna

12:15 Irene Ruiz Bazán, Politecnico di Torino

Aragón tu Reino: Aspects of Architectural Restoration from Francoism to Present Days in Aragon, Spain

13:00 LUNCH

SESSION 4 | REVIVAL (PART II/II)

Chair: **Tommaso Zerbi**, Deutsches Historisches Institut in Rom

14:00 Umberto Longo, Sapienza Università di Roma | **Geraldine Leardi**, Galleria Borghese
Medioevo Coppedè

14:45 Jan Galeta, Masaryk University | **Adrien Palladino**, Masaryk University

Eclectic in Form and Meaning? Contrasting Theories and Practices of 'Neo-Byzantine' Architecture in Austria-Hungary and France in the Second Half of the Nineteenth Century

15:30 COFFEE BREAK

16:00 Barbara Borngässer, independent scholar | **Bruno Klein**, Technische Universität Dresden
Memorie costruite, modificate e distrutte: Chiese neo-medievali nel mondo coloniale e postcoloniale

16:45 Stephen Gage, University of Reading

American Collegiate Gothic Universities and the Democratisation of the Middle Ages

17:30–18:00 FINAL DISCUSSION