

Conference Organizers

Sergio Cortesini, Università di Pisa
Melissa Dabakis, Kenyon College
Daniele Fiorentino, Università degli Studi Roma Tre
Amelia Goerlitz, Smithsonian American Art Museum
Paul Kaplan, Purchase College, SUNY
Karen Lemmey, Smithsonian American Art Museum

"The Course of Empires" is the companion conference to "Hybrid Republicanism: Italy and American Art, 1840-1918," held at the American Academy in Rome in October 2016. Both events are made possible by the Terra Foundation for American Art, which is dedicated to fostering exploration, understanding, and enjoyment of the visual arts of the United States for national and international audiences. SAAM is pleased to present this program in collaboration with the Embassy of Italy in Washington, DC, and the Italian Cultural Institute. We are especially His Excellency Armando Varricchio, the Italian Ambassador to the United States, for serving as the honorary patron for this conference.

Additional support is provided by Purchase College, SUNY; Kenyon College; Università degli Studi Roma Tre; Università di Pisa; and the American Academy in Rome.



Kenyon College



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

AMERICAN ACADEMY
IN ROME



Cover: Robert S. Duncanson,
Vesuvius and Pompeii, 1870, oil on
canvas, Smithsonian American Art
Museum, Gift of Joseph Agostinelli

FIRST CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE AND FEES
PAID
SMITHSONIAN INST
G-94



MRC 970 PO Box 37012
Washington DC 20013-7012

Official Business

Penalty for Private Use \$300

THE COURSE OF EMPIRES

American-Italian Cultural Relations, 1770-1980



Thursday, October 19, 2017 ■ Keynote, Embassy of Italy

Friday, October 20, 2017
Symposium, Smithsonian American Art Museum

THE COURSE OF EMPIRES

American-Italian Cultural Relations, 1770-1980

This two-day symposium will examine the persistent fascination of American and Italian artists with the cultural achievements of ancient Rome and the Renaissance. Scholars seek to update and broaden our understanding of American-Italian cultural relations from the Revolutionary Era through the Cold War by encompassing diverse international voices and approaches.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19
Embassy of Italy
3000 Whitehaven Street NW

- 6:00 PM Introduction**
Renato Miracco, Cultural Attaché, Embassy of Italy
- 6:30 PM Keynote Address**
Ester Coen, Professor of Art History, Università degli Studi dell'Aquila
"American-Italian Artistic Exchange after World War II"
- 7:30 PM Reception**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20
Smithsonian American Art Museum
McEvoy Auditorium, 8th & G Streets NW

- 9:00 AM Registration and Coffee**
- 9:30 AM Welcome**
Stephanie Stebich, The Margaret and Terry Stent Director, Smithsonian American Art Museum

- 9:45 AM Introduction**
Melissa Dabakis, Professor and Chair of Art History, Kenyon College
- 10:00 AM Elizabeth Mankin Kornhauser**, Alice Pratt Brown Curator of American Paintings and Sculpture, The Metropolitan Museum of Art
"Thomas Cole's Travels from Rome to Catskill: Republican Ideals"
- 10:30 AM Caitlin Beach**, PhD Candidate, Columbia University, and Wyeth Fellow, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art
"Francesco Pezzicar's *L'Abolizione della schiavitù in America* across Empires"
- 11:00 AM Jane Dini**, Independent Scholar
"Sargent's and Duveneck's Working-Class Venetian Muses"
- 11:30 AM Daniele Fiorentino**, Professor of U.S. History and Political Science, Università degli Studi Roma Tre
"A Transatlantic Cultural Landscape: America in Rome at the Beginning of the Twentieth Century"
- 12:00 PM Question and Answer Session**
Moderator: **Paul Kaplan**, Professor of Art History, Purchase College, SUNY
- 12:30 PM Break**
- 2:00 PM Introduction**
Amelia Goerlitz, Fellowship and Academic Programs Manager, Smithsonian American Art Museum
Karen Lemmey, Curator of Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum
- 2:30 PM Sergio Cortesini**, Assistant Professor of Art History, Università di Pisa
"The Myth of the Italian Renaissance in New Deal Murals"

- 3:00 PM Peter Benson Miller**, Andrew Heiskell Arts Director, American Academy in Rome
"Painting in the Contact Zone: American Artists in Postwar Rome"
- 3:30 PM Marin R. Sullivan**, Assistant Professor of Art History, Keene State College, and George Gurney Postdoctoral Fellow, Smithsonian American Art Museum
"Sculpture in the (Ancient) City: Calder, Smith, and Smithson in Italy"
- 4:00 PM Coffee Break**
- 4:30 PM Raffaele Bedarida**, Assistant Professor of Art History, The Cooper Union
"*Eterna Primavera*: When Hollywood Fell in Love with Modern Italian Art, 1954-1960"
- 5:00 PM Erika Doss**, Professor of American Studies, University of Notre Dame
"Death, Decay, and Ruination: Paul Thek's *Technological Reliquaries* and the Muses of Italy"
- 5:30 PM Question and Answer Session**
Moderator: **Paul Kaplan**, Professor of Art History, Purchase College, SUNY

Registration & Webcast

The conference is free, but registration is required at empires.eventbrite.com. The conference will be available through a simultaneous webcast; an archived version will remain online indefinitely. For the webcast and speakers' abstracts, visit s.si.edu/empires. For all other inquiries, e-mail SAAMSymposium@si.edu. To request accessibility services for the event, please contact museum staff two weeks in advance of the program.