

ROME IN THE NORDIC COUNTRIES
Images of ancient and modern architecture, 17th-19th century

International Conference
Rome, late November/early December 2025

CALL FOR PAPERS

PRIN 2022-2025 European Community-Italian Ministry of University and Research

P.I. Mario Bevilacqua, Sapienza Università di Roma
Antonello Alici, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona
Saverio Sturm, Università Roma Tre

In partnership with

Centro di Studi sulla Cultura e l'Immagine di Roma
Norwegian Institute in Rome
Danish Academy in Rome
Swedish Institute of Classical Studies
Institutum Romanum Finlandiae

Scientific Committee

Antonello Alici, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona
Kristin Bliksrud Aavitsland, Universitetet i Oslo
Mario Bevilacqua, Sapienza Università di Roma; Centro Studi sulla Cultura e l'Immagine di Roma
Kristoffer Neville, University of California, Riverside
Sabrina Norrlander Eliasson, Stockholms universitet; Istituto svedese di Studi classici a Roma
Saverio Sturm, Università Roma Tre; Centro Studi sulla Cultura e l'Immagine di Roma
Victor Plahte Tschudi, Arkitektur- og designhøgskolen i Oslo

This conference will draw attention to the artistic and architectural exchanges between Rome and the Nordic countries from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century, focusing on the production, marketing, use and conservation of images, including drawings and engravings, illustrated books, and suites of prints. These works found massive transnational circulation, and their adaptability made them indispensable tools in the history of the arts, and more generally in the broader European cultural expansion.

The conference focuses on the artistic-architectural relations between the Nordic countries (essentially Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Finland, but with openness to the entire transalpine world), and the Italian peninsula. The pivot is ancient and modern Rome, the recognized crossroads of cultural elaboration and the centre of a massive and varied publishing production, through which the foundations were laid for the construction of a shared European artistic-architectural language based on Classicism.

Proposals should address issues of cross-cultural exchange, among which we suggest:

TRAVELLING ACROSS EUROPE

- travelling South (Renaissance to early 19th century: artists/architects, patrons, sketchbooks, diaries)
- travelling North (migration of Italian artists/architects from South to North)

BOOKS AND PRINTS

- producing and marketing images of architecture: Rome and the Nordic countries in the European context
- using and collecting architectural prints
- Vitruvius and Palladio: architectural books in the North
- architectural libraries

ROME IN THE NORTH: FUNCTIONS, TECHNIQUES, STYLES

- issues of style: Classicism, Baroque, post-Baroque and Neo-classicism in the architecture of the Nordic countries
- festive, funerary, and military architecture
- urban planning and infrastructures: monuments and places
- models and monuments

NORDIC ROME

- the reception of Nordic architectural culture in early modern Rome and Italy

We will welcome proposals on other major aspects of the cultural and artistic/architectural exchange between early modern Scandinavia and the Mediterranean, in particular from PhD students.

All proposals (max 1200 words) can be written in English, French or Italian.

The proposals should be addressed to: nordicromeconference@gmail.com by 31st January 2025

The conference will be in Rome, in person and hybrid. Travel expenses will be met.

Participants will be expected to submit revised and expanded versions of their papers about six months after the conference for publication as an edited volume.

Progetti di Ricerca di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale (PRIN) 2022

TITOLO PROGETTO: Rome in the Nordic Countries. Images of ancient and modern architecture, 17th-19th century: diffusion, collections and functions in the development of a shared European language of Classicism.

CODICE PROGETTO: 2022ZAKMJH



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