

PAVM

PATRONS OF THE ARTS IN
THE VATICAN MUSEUMS

ASIA CHAPTER

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Scan or
CLICK HERE
to Register

PAVM

PATRONS OF THE ARTS IN
THE VATICAN MUSEUMS

ASIA CHAPTER

CORDIALLY INVITES PATRONS & FRIENDS

to APAVM's latest online lecture series in Dec 2023

APAVM is most privileged to bring you this online lecture series where we feature the places Asian Patrons visited on our 5 previous trips, on our journey to Rome and the Vatican. We include Naples which we will visit in late Sept 2024. Please join us as we review these places again, in the company of three eminent and internationally acclaimed art historians, and discover the link between these destinations, the Church and Art.

Our first stop is Renaissance Florence with a history tied closely with the Medicis, the family who were bankers to the Pope, and which also produced four Popes. The Medicis were patrons of the arts extraordinaire, leaving us a great collection of priceless art to enjoy today.

Our next stop is Siena, the most beautiful city in Tuscany, the city of St Catherine, patron saint of Italy and Europe. Learn how papal families transformed Siena over the course of a century with their patronage. From there we will move south to Naples, Sicily and Malta, three regions that shaped Caravaggio's artistic career.

Guiding us will be three art historians of notable repute. Launching this series is Elaine Ruffolo, who took the Patrons on a walking tour in Rome in 2023, introducing them to Baroque treasures such as Bernini's sculpture of St Teresa of Avila, Borromini's design of San Carlino Church and Trevi fountain. Ms Ruffolo's depth of knowledge and engaging delivery promises to make her lecture on Florence one not to be missed.

The second lecture on Siena will be delivered by author and Siena expert, Professor Fabrizio Nevola from the University of Exeter. He has written an award-winning book on Siena and we are indeed privileged to have him share with us his insights on the city.

The final lecture in this series will focus on the works of Caravaggio, the troubled artist whose life took him to Naples, Sicily and Malta. One of the best persons to speak on Caravaggio is Smithsonian Expert Dr Ross King, an award-winning author of numerous books on Italian art and history, who will deliver this talk.

BEAUTY EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW: "Road to Rome & The Vatican" Online Lecture Series

THREE TUESDAYS AT 2030 HRS SGT

05 DEC 2023
Florence: Medici Bankers
to Medici Popes

12 DEC 2023
Renaissance Siena:
Art for a City

19 DEC 2023
In Search of Redemption:
Caravaggio in Naples,
Sicily and Malta



APAVM online lectures are only possible through your generous contributions. The suggested donation per lecture is USD20 although any amount is appreciated



Scan the QR Code or
CLICK HERE
to join as a Patron

ONLINE LECTURE
LOBBY OPENS
@ 2015 hrs SGT

LECTURE WILL
START PROMPTLY
@ 2030 hrs SGT

BEAUTY EVER ANCIENT, EVER NEW: "Road to Rome & The Vatican"

5 Dec 2023

Florence: Medici Bankers to Medici Popes



At its height, Renaissance Florence was a center of enormous wealth, power and influence. A republican city-state funded by trade and banking, its often bloody political scene was dominated by rich mercantile families, the most famous of which were the Medici. From relatively modest beginnings, the Medici became bankers to rich and powerful families in Europe and bankers to the Pope. But perhaps their most enduring legacy and for which the world owes the Medici a debt of gratitude is their patronage of the arts. Artists such as Brunelleschi, Donatello, Fra Angelico, Botticelli, and Michelangelo all thrived under Medici patronage. Join Renaissance art historian, Elaine Ruffolo as she charts the family's influence on the political, economic, and cultural history of Florence. Beginning in the early 1430s with the rise of the dynasty under the near-legendary Cosimo de Medici, to the golden era under Lorenzo il Magnifico, to the family's ultimate goal; a Papal tiara.



Elaine Ruffolo

Elaine Ruffolo has been teaching Renaissance art history in Florence for over 30 years and is a popular instructor for students and adults. Elaine holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin and Syracuse University and first came to Italy as a Florence Fellow in 1989. Ruffolo has lectured for many American programs in Italy including Syracuse, Stanford, and Vanderbilt Universities, and currently develops academic travel programs for small groups such as the Smithsonian Associates, Yale Alumni, College of William and Mary, the Clark at Williams College, and the Patrons of the Vatican. She is on the advisory board of the Friends of Florence and consults for CEO and YPO programs in Europe including Rome, Florence, Sicily, and Naples. Ruffolo recently began online art history presentations (Art History Encounters) as a way to bring the art and culture of Italy directly to people's homes.

12 Dec 2023

Renaissance Siena: Art for a City



Draped across three hills, Siena is perhaps the most beautiful city in Tuscany, a medieval ensemble of palaces and towers cast in the warm brown of burnt-Siena colored brick. Its soaring skyline is its pride, dominated by the blazing black and white banner of a cathedral and the taut needle of the Torre di Mangia. The Palazzo Pubblico, the very center of Siena is but four streets away from olive groves and orchards. The contrast is part of the city's charm: densely built-up brick urbanity, and round the corner a fine stretch of long Tuscan farmland. Here art went hand in hand with fierce civic pride to make Siena a world of its own. His talk reveals how Siena - a city familiar to many as the centre of the "gothic" - was also a major artistic centre during the Renaissance with close ties to Rome. Through the patronage of papal families such as the Piccolomini and wealthy bankers such as the Spannocchi and Chigi, the city was transformed over the course of a century, retaining a distinctive style that looked back to both the recent past and to alleged Roman origins. Local artists, such as Jacopo della Quercia and Francesco di Giorgio Martini, as well as famous "imports" like Donatello or Pinturicchio renewed the city and its major monuments.



Fabrizio Nevola

Fabrizio Nevola is a Professor of Art History and Visual Culture at the University of Exeter. His first book, *Siena: Constructing the Renaissance City* (Yale University Press, 2007) was awarded the Royal Institute of British Architects, Sir Nikolaus Pevsner International Book Award for Architecture. His most recent monograph is *Street Life in Renaissance Italy* (Yale University Press, 2020), which was shortlisted for the Renaissance Studies Biennial book prize (2022). More recently, through grant funded research projects, including the 'Hidden Cities' apps and the Florence 4D website, he has developed digital art history approaches using geodata, 3D modelling and GPS technologies.

19 Dec 2023

In Search of Redemption:
Caravaggio in Naples, Sicily and Malta



This lecture will provide a comprehensive understanding of Caravaggio's artistic journey through Naples, Sicily and Malta, highlighting the impact of his work in each location. We will look especially at his life and work in Naples, a vibrant city that was instrumental in shaping his artistic career and solidifying his reputation as a groundbreaking painter in masterpieces such as "The Flagellation of Christ," "The Seven Works of Mercy," and "Salome with the Head of St. John the Baptist." The lecture will examine the turbulent personal life whose circumstances brought him to Naples in the first place and then, inevitably, led to his subsequent flights and eventual death.



Dr Ross King

Dr Ross King is the award-winning author of numerous books on Italian art and history, including Brunelleschi's Dome, Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling, Leonardo and The Last Supper, and most recently *The Bookseller of Florence*. He is a fundraiser for the arts and a frequent lecturer in Europe and North America. He is a Smithsonian Expert, an accredited lecturer for the Arts Society, and has led study tours in cities such as Rome, Florence and Milan.