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DECODING LEONARDO'S CODICES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
FLORENCE, 10-12 OCTOBER 2019

The aim of this international conference is to evaluate the current state of research regarding how Leonardo's manuscripts were compiled, and the complexity of their dispersion after the artist's death. Furthermore, the conference will investigate the pioneering initiatives starting in the last decades of the 19th century for facsimile reproduction and text transcription of Leonardo's codices and loose sheets thanks to the rapid evolution of printing techniques: photography, lithography, heliophotography. Finally, the conference will discuss how to make use of new digital methods for publishing and disseminating through the internet the indispensable resources for the responsible use of Da Vinci's manuscripts such as bibliographic resources, watermark archives, glossaries, lexica, and chronologies.

The conference is organized by the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut and the Museo Galileo, under the patronage of the Comitato Nazionale per la celebrazione dei 500 anni dalla morte di Leonardo da Vinci.

VENUES

Teatro Niccolini
Via Ricasoli 3

**Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz
Max-Planck-Institut**
Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai
Via dei Servi 51

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**Kunsthistorisches
Institut
in
Florenz**

Max-Planck-Institut



**museo
galileo** ⁺
Istituto
e Museo
di Storia
della Scienza



**Scienza
Storia
Società in Italia**



Free admission until capacity is reached

THURSDAY, 10 OCTOBER

Venue: Teatro Niccolini

17:30 **Opening Lecture**

Leonardo Self-Taught Author and His Manuscripts

Carmen Bambach (The Metropolitan Museum of Arts, New York)

FRIDAY, 11 OCTOBER

Venue: Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai

SESSION 1

THE COMPILATION OF LEONARDO'S MANUSCRIPTS

Chair: Alessandro Nova (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz)

9:00 *Welcome address*

Alessandro Nova (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz)

9:15 *Come lavorava Leonardo: un percorso nel labirinto delle sue carte*

Fabio Frosini (Università di Urbino)

9:45 *La compilazione del Codice Leicester*

Domenico Laurenza (Schroeder Arts, New York/Museo Galileo, Firenze)

10:15 *Dalla parte di Melzi*

Carlo Vecce (Università degli Studi di Napoli "L'Orientale")

10:45 *Discussion*

11:00 *Coffee break*

11:30 *Da sinistra a destra. Leonardo cambia direzione*

Francesca Borgo (University of St. Andrews)

12:00 *Trasgressioni*

Frank Fehrenbach (Universität Hamburg)

12:30 *Leonardo's Preparations for Presentation Drawings and Books*
Matthew Landrus (University of Oxford)

13:00 *Discussion*

SESSION 2

THE HISTORY AND DISPERSAL OF LEONARDO'S MANUSCRIPTS

Chair: Carmen Bambach (The Metropolitan Museum of Arts, New York)

15:00 *Unfinished Business: Leonardo's Artful Art and Its Written Legacy*
Claire Farago (University of Colorado Boulder)

15:30 *Deconstructing the Forster Codices: An Artefactual History*
Nicholas Pickwood (University of the Arts London)

16:00 *Tracing the Forster Codices. A Cold Case between "Historiographie Romancée" and Chinese Whispers*
Antonio Becchi (Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin)

16:30 *Discussion*

16:45 *Coffee break*

17:15 *Giovanni Ambrogio Mazenta's "Alcune Memorie": Document or Deception?*
Janis Bell (Independent Leonardo Scholar)

17:45 *Fortuna de los manuscritos vincianos madrileños*
Elisa Ruiz García (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

18:15 *Discussion*

19:00 *Site visit: Exhibition "Leonardo da Vinci and Perpetual Motion", Museo Galileo (for speakers only)*

SATURDAY, 12 OCTOBER

Venue: Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai

SESSION 3

PUBLISHING AND REPRODUCING LEONARDO'S MANUSCRIPTS

Chair: Costanza Caraffa (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz)

9:30 *Trascrivere, pubblicare, catalogare il Codice Atlantico: un bilancio degli ultimi cento anni*

Pietro C. Marani (Politecnico di Milano)

10:00 *Filigrane dal Codice Atlantico. Proposta per una loro valorizzazione "design oriented"*

Claudio Cali (Politecnico di Milano)

10:30 *Discussion*

10:45 *Coffee break*

11:15 *Le lastre fotografiche del Codice Atlantico*

Andrea Bernardoni (Università di Siena/Museo Galileo, Firenze)

11:45 *Leonardo's Manuscripts as Facsimile? Observations on the Commissione Nazionale Vinciana Glass Plates*

Dorothea Peters (Freelance Photohistorian)

12:15 *Discussion*

SESSION 4

DIGITAL TOOLS FOR RESEARCH

Chair: Francesco P. Di Teodoro (Politecnico di Torino)

13:30 *Leonardo//thek@ 1.0: un'infrastruttura digitale per evitare il naufragio nell'oceano di dati del Codice Atlantico*

Paolo Galluzzi (Museo Galileo, Firenze)

- 14:00 *Dai Glossari alla Leonardo//the@: nuovi strumenti e nuove prospettive d'indagine per il lessico vinciano*
Barbara Fanini (Accademia della Crusca/Università di Firenze)
- 14:30 *Discussion*
- 14:45 *Coffee break*
- 15:15 *Codex Madrid I: Internet Edition and Print Edition in Comparison*
Thomas Kreft (RWTH Aachen University)
Dietrich Lohrmann (RWTH Aachen University)
- 15:45 *Computational Characterization of Leonardo's Papers*
Margaret H. Ellis (New York University)
C. Richard Johnson Jr. (Cornell University, Ithaca)
William A. Sethares (University of Wisconsin–Madison)
- 16:15 *Discussion*
- 16:30 *Concluding Remarks*