

PhD positions in early modern history of art/visual culture, LMU Munich

LMU München, Institut für Kunstgeschichte, Nov 01, 2017

Application deadline: Aug 10, 2017

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The ERC funded research project SACRIMA "The Normativity of Sacred Images in Early Modern Europe" coordinated by Prof. Chiara Franceschini at the Institute for Art History of the LMU in Munich is now inviting applications for up to 2 PhD positions. The envisioned start date for these positions is 1 November 2017. The starting salary is in accordance with the requirements of the LMU and depends on relevant research experience.

Besetzungsdatum: 01.11.2017

Ende der Bewerbungsfrist: 10.08.2017

Entgeltgruppe: 13 TV-L (65%)

Befristung: Up to 3 Years

Project description

The SACRIMA project studies the normativity and the autonomy of art in particular in the religious field in Early Modern Europe (circa 1450-1650). Bringing together researchers trained in the history of art of different European areas as well as historians of religion, law and cultural transfer, this interdisciplinary project intends to break ground in two main ways. First, by questioning and developing the notion of 'visual norm' in a double sense: institutional norms imposed on images and autonomous visual norms. Second, by adopting a comparative approach at the crossroads of the history of art, the history of religion and law, and cultural geography. Focusing on a comparison between five major areas that, remaining inside Catholicism, responded differently to the challenge imposed by the Reformation, the project has the following stated objectives: 1) A comparative survey of cases of contested images in the Italian peninsula and islands, France, Iberia, the Low Countries and Southern Germany. 2) An investigation of the notion of 'visual norm' (focusing on aspects such as style, iconography, materiality, reproduction, reframing) and a study of the status and autonomy of art in religious contexts. 3) An exploration of the geography of sacred images and of reactions to art transfer aiming at reconstructing a cross-border cartography of visual norms in Europe and the Mediterranean.

Job Description

You will be expected to work on and complete a PhD dissertation in connection with the stated themes and objectives of the project (see description above). The Principal Investigator has individuated some possible areas of research, with which your project might be connected, but

you are encouraged to propose for this application your own sub-project and connections with the overall SACRIMA concept:

- Conflicts regarding the form, the materiality, the iconography and/or the spatial relationships of religious images in early modern Europe;
- The specific role of artists in devising the setting, the form and the spatial organization of sacred images in Europe;
- Mediating role of prints in relation with the intra-European circulation of images and transfer to the New World;
- Reproduction, restoration and reframing of sacred images;
- Artists and/or objects travelling North-South or East-West in Europe;
- Artists working for publics of different confessions;
- European art theories in relation to religious images;
- The role and function of Catholic images in contact zones and the role of images for conversion.

The successful PhD candidates will work as part of the SACRIMA team based in Munich, comprising the Principal Investigator, two Post-Doctoral Researchers and a part-time Doctoral Student collaborating with the group. They will have a travel budget to conduct research on fieldwork and/or in archives, libraries and museums outside Munich. They will be encouraged to publish the results of their research within the publication programme of the project and/or in peer-reviewed journals. They will be expected to be involved in the collaborative activities of the project group (i.e. project meetings and seminars; work related to the project publication plan and digital outputs) as well as in some administrative work associated with the project. An interest for archival research and/or the implementation of digital tools connected with the project would be desirable.

Anforderungen

You will have a relevant university degree, completed with excellent results. You will have a background in areas of the History of Art and/or Visual Culture of the early modern period, preferably with an interest in Northern European art or in one of the other areas of interests of the project, and/or in cultural transfer and the early modern religious history of Europe.

Applications by researchers with handicap will be considered with priority under equal conditions. We welcome applications from female candidates.

Ihr Arbeitsplatz befindet sich in zentraler Lage in München und ist sehr gut mit öffentlichen Verkehrsmitteln zu erreichen. Wir bieten Ihnen eine interessante und verantwortungsvolle Tätigkeit mit guten Weiterbildungs- und Entwicklungsmöglichkeiten. Schwerbehinderte Bewerber / Bewerberinnen werden bei ansonsten im Wesentlichen gleicher Eignung bevorzugt. Die Bewerbung von Frauen wird begrüßt.

Bewerbungsadresse

Please send the following application materials as a single PDF-document to Chiara.Franceschini@lmu.de (please specify SACRIMA in your email subject line):

1. Short cover letter;
2. Short CV;

3. A description of your proposed research project, relating to the scope of the SACRIMA project and/or to one of the suggested research areas and including a work plan and a bibliography (max 1300 words, excluding bibliography);
4. A writing sample (e.g. a section from your MA dissertation or your latest paper). The writing sample should reflect your research interests; it does not need to have been already accepted for publication and should preferably be no longer than 8000 words;
5. Names and contacts of at least two referees.

Applications received by August 10, 2017 will receive full consideration. Review of the applications will continue until suitable candidates are found. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews (or Skype interviews) in September. Informal enquiries concerning the position may be made to Prof. Chiara Franceschini.

Ansprechpartner/in

Prof. Dr. Chiara Franceschini

SACRIMA – The Normativity of Sacred Images in Early Modern Europe (ERC)

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JOB: PhD positions in early modern history of art/visual culture, LMU Munich. In: ArtHist.net, Jul 13, 2017 (accessed Jun 18, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/16012>>.