

Rhetoric and Architecture (SAH Savannah Apr 06)

Call for Papers: Rhetoric and Architecture after Renaissance Humanism
(1600-1900)

Society of Architectural Historians 59th Annual Meeting, 26-29 April
2006, Savannah, Georgia

Members and friends of the Society of Architectural Historians are invited to submit paper abstracts by 10 September 2005 for a thematic session on Rhetoric and Architecture after Renaissance Humanism (1600-1900) as described below. Abstracts of no more than 300 words are to be headed with the applicant's name, professional affiliation [graduate students in brackets], and title of paper. Submit with the abstract a short résumé, home and work addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address. Abstracts should define the subject and summarize the argument to be presented in the proposed paper. The content of that paper should be the product of well-documented research that is primarily analytical and interpretative than descriptive in nature. A complete call for papers for the conference can be read at <http://www.sah.org>

Call for Papers: Rhetoric and Architecture after Renaissance Humanism
(1600-1900)

The importance of rhetoric as a model for architecture during the Renaissance is well studied. Scholars have explained how Quattrocento theorists in need of firm rules for architecture have borrowed principles of this theory of human communication laid down in antiquity. They have shown that Renaissance architects could even follow methods developed in rhetoric in their creative process. Rhetorical concepts such as *inventio*, *dispositio*, or *decorum* became categories through which architects went about their work and by which their creations could be discussed and judged.

This session will consider the relationship between rhetoric and architecture after their Renaissance symbiosis and until rhetoric's decline during the Nineteenth century. Papers are invited which trace the evolution of the rhetorical model in the art of building, particularly when that discipline came in contact with other concepts

developed in the physical and human sciences during the Baroque period, the Enlightenment, or the Industrial Age.

Did the waning of humanistic studies that began in the Seventeenth century change the status of rhetoric in the visual arts? Did the scientific revolution shake the foundations of an architectural theory based on persuasive expression? What happened to the rhetorical model in architecture when sensation and embodiment were first addressed in theories of knowledge? Did the emergence of architectural history in the Eighteenth century shatter the belief in the universal system of expression proposed by rhetoric? Can the nineteenth-century concepts of style and "organic unity" be legitimately traced back to their rhetorical origins?

Detailed case studies on the theory and/or practice of architecture based on original research are specially encouraged. Send proposals by 10 September 2005 to:

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Reference:

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