

The Professional Architect in Early Modern Europe (Guimaraes, 17-20 June 2010)

Berthold Hub

CFP: The Professional Architect in Early Modern Europe (EAHN, 17-20 June 2010)

CALL FOR PAPERS:

1st International Meeting EAHN
European Architectural History Network
Guimarães, Portugal
17-20 June 2010

Deadline: 30 Oktober 2009

At the Crossroads of Painting, Mathematics and Cultural Change: The Professional Architect in Early Modern Europe

Architecture as a profession is thought to have emerged in Early Modern Europe, starting with the Italian Renaissance. This widely accepted assumption remains under investigated, partly due to the scant historical evidence. A number of studies have dealt with particular aspects of the profession, especially related to the changes in the socio-political context, such as patronage. Raphael's workshop, for instance, due to the increased number of commissions, has been seen as the new paradigm of artistic collaboration, including architectural projects. Other studies have focused on the organization of architectural workshops-cantieri of individual buildings, and the relationships established among the different members of the work force. Furthermore, the emergence of architectural theory, in the treatises of Alberti, Francesco di Giorgio and Filarete, has been considered as the gateway for transforming "building practice" to a liberal art as well as an independent profession. Interestingly, the exact relationship between theory and practice, including their possible interaction, has not received sufficient consideration. The lack of knowledge and full understanding of medieval building practices further complicates the issue. The absence of architecture as an autonomous profession or a separate field of theoretical investigation during the Middle Ages points to its necessary correlation to other practices/fields as its means of development in

the Early Modern Period. The obvious sister arts that architecture could draw from appear to be painting/drawing and mathematics. We believe that these relationships constitute the raw material upon which further analysis can be based. Moreover, the practical aspect of architecture, the building/design procedure, would require further attention so as to better inform the analysis of the broader cultural context.

In two sessions at the 2009 meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, an international panel of scholars examined these issues, in order to begin to formulate approaches that inspire further critical study. This panel continues that dialogue and invites proposals that investigate all aspects of the architectural profession in Early Modern Europe.

Please send abstract of no more than one page and short CV by email to:

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For more information on the conference, see:

<http://www.eahn2010.org>

For more information on the European Architectural History Network, see:

<http://www.eahn.org>

Reference:

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