

The Muses & their Afterlife in Post-Classical Europe (London, 23-24 Oct 09)

Kathleen Christian

The Muses and their Afterlife in Post-Classical Europe,
The Warburg Institute, 23 - 24 October 2009

Organized by: Claudia Wedepohl (The Warburg Institute), Kathleen Christian
(University of Pittsburgh), Clare Guest (University of Agder)

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As personifications of the arts from Antiquity to the present, the muses have long been self-evident subjects of study in a wide variety of academic fields. Yet this colloquium is the first to map out changes in their reception from Antiquity to the sixteenth century, tracing how the afterlife of the muses sheds light on cultural notions of creativity and on the changing organization of artistic disciplines. A broad look at the muses opens up fundamental questions about the place of the arts in European societies and how the competition between the creative disciplines played out at particular moments in time. The topic of the muses provides an ideal point of departure for a cross-disciplinary dialogue between historians of art, literature, and music.

Program:

Friday, 23 October

The Warburg Institute, Lecture Room

9:45 Doors open

10:10 Welcome

Charles Hope, Director of The Warburg Institute

Session I: Pagan to Christian

Chair: Charles Burnett, The Warburg Institute

10:15

John Dillon, Trinity College, Dublin, 'The Muses in the Platonic Academy'.

11:00

Penelope Murray, University of Warwick, 'The Muses in Classical Antiquity'.

11:45 Coffee

12:15

Karin Schlapbach, University of Ottawa, 'The Muses and Culture in Late Antiquity'.

13:00 Lunch (for invited guests)

14:15

Bissera Pentcheva, Stanford University, 'Inspiration in Byzantium: The Muses, Sophia, and the Theotokos'.

Session II: Italian Renaissance Art

Chair: Eckart Marchand, The Warburg Institute

15:00

Kathleen Christian, University of Pittsburgh, 'Strani Parnasi. The Reception of Antique Images of Muses in Renaissance Italy'.

15:45: Tea

16:15

Stanko Kokole, University of Primorska, Koper, 'The "Chapel of the Muses" in the Tempio Malatestiano in Rimini'.

17:00

Ulrich Pfisterer, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, '"Seductress and Lover" the Erotization of the Muses in the Renaissance'.

18:00 Wine Reception

19:00 Supper (for invited guests)

Saturday, 24 October

The Warburg Institute, Lecture Room

10:00 Doors open

Session III: The Arts and Musical Humanism

Chair: Christian Leitmeir, Bangor University

10:15

Monika Schmitter, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and Anne Stone Queens College and Graduate Center, City University of New York, 'The Cycle of the Muses from the Casa Maffei in the Victoria and Albert Museum'.

11:15

Reinhard Strohm, University of Oxford, 'The "Quattrocento Muses" between Musical Theory and Practice'.

11:45 Coffee

12:15

Brigitte van Wymeersch, Université Catholique de Louvain, 'The Muses and Musical Inspiration in the Early Modern Period'.

13:00 Lunch (for invited guests)

Session IV: Furor and Poetics

Chair: Elizabeth McGrath, The Warburg Institute

14:15

Jan Söffner, Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung, Berlin, 'Furor Musarum in Ficino and Bruno'.

15:00

Clare Guest, University of Agder, Kristiansand, 'The Growth of the Pygmy Muses: the Muses in Italian Renaissance Poetics'.

15:45: Tea

16:15

Claudia Wedepohl, The Warburg Institute, 'Muses as Epistemological Figures in Aby Warburg's Theory of Culture'.

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Reference:

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