

Early Modern Religious Images (Madrid, 22-24 Apr 10)

International Symposium:

Early Modern Religious Images and the Margins of Art

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid / Thyssen Bornemisza Museum, Madrid
Thursday 22 April 2010- Saturday, 24 April 2010

In the early modern period, the nature of religious images came under heated debate. The authors of the Reformation, and subsequently the leaders of the Catholic Reformation, argued over the growing power of images and developed different strategies to control them. While this polemic illustrates the schism between Rome and Protestant Europe, it also sheds light on the challenges faced by the long-standing tradition of religious images - indeed, dominant until the High Middle Ages - when new discourses about Art began to emerge. Far from disappearing, this tension informs the artistic production of a great many works during the Renaissance and Baroque periods. Aesthetic function found new ways of coexisting with the devotional and cult status of religious images. In Italy, Spain, and Spanish America, and in a general way within the Catholic Church, this hybrid nature of religious images was visualized in the competition or paragone between sacred and artistic images, between painting and sculpture, and ultimately between Art and life.

This symposium will analyze the inherent paradox that defines religious images from a variety of methodological perspectives. Beyond examining these types of works, it will also address the hermeneutic challenges that their study presents to Art History.

Organized by the Research Group En las fronteras de las imágenes:
consideraciones metodológicas y fuentes para el estudio de la imagen religiosa
en la Europa Moderna, Department of History and Theory of Art, Universidad
Autónoma de Madrid (Spain)

For further details and inscriptions see:

http://www.uam.es/centros/filoyletras/convocatorias/Anuncio_Simposio.pdf

Reference:

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