

2 PhD and 2 PostDoc Positions, University of Zurich

University of Zurich, Institute of Art History, GLOBECOSAL: Global Economies of Salvation. Art and the Negotiation of Sanctity in the Early Modern Period
Application deadline: Mar 15, 2021

Vera Müller

1. Two doctoral (PhD) positions, 60%

University of Zurich's Institute of Art History invites applications for two doctoral positions within Prof. Dr. Raphaële Preisinger's research project "GLOBECOSAL: Global Economies of Salvation. Art and the Negotiation of Sanctity in the Early Modern Period", funded by the ERC (European Research Council) and the SNSF (Swiss National Science Foundation). The project investigates how artworks were employed in the process of negotiating sanctity with the Roman Curia in the age of Iberian hegemony (1500–1700) by examining the artworks produced with regard to the pioneers of Catholic blessed and saints in the post-Tridentine 'global' context. For further information see: <https://www.khist.uzh.ch/de/kol/preisinger/research.html>

Your responsibilities

The two PhD candidates write their dissertations within the project's thematical scope: One focuses on the visual construction of sanctity relating to the Jesuit St. Francis Xavier, which involves carrying out research in Rome, Portugal and India; the other concentrates on the visual construction of sanctity relating to the patron saint of the American continent, St. Rose of Lima, which involves traveling to Rome, Spain and Peru. Participation in all of the project's activities, including support for project-related research, organizational and administrative tasks, and residency in Zurich are expected.

Your profile

The successful candidates should demonstrate outstanding scientific potential and should hold a master's degree in Early Modern or Global Art History. A further requirement for a successful application is an excellent level of English and a very good level of either Portuguese (for the candidate working on St. Francis Xavier) or Spanish (for the one working on St. Rose of Lima). Knowledge of German is not required at the moment of application, but successful candidates should acquire basic skills in due time.

We offer

The two PhD candidates will be employed at a 60% employment level. We offer opportunities for professional development (PhD, participation in conferences and publications, workshops with experts in the field) in an inspiring environment, working within a research team welcoming an interdisciplinary outlook. Diversity and inclusion are important to us. Funding for research activities (travel) is available.

Place of work

University of Zurich located in the heart of Zurich, Switzerland.

Start of employment

The two doctoral positions are preliminarily assigned for 12 months each; upon extension, the positions may be held for a total of 48 months per PhD candidate, starting at the earliest possible mutually agreed date. Please submit your application by March 15, 2021, indicating which of the two doctoral positions you are applying for.

Further information

Prof. Dr. Raphaële Preisinger, raphaele.preisinger@khist.uzh.ch

E-Mail address where the application has to be sent to

Please send your application electronically as one pdf-file comprising your motivation letter, a detailed CV, information on publications (if applicable), copies of obtained degrees, a writing sample (a chapter of the MA thesis or an article) and the contact details of two references to the following e-mail address: ges-applications@khist.uzh.ch

--

2. Two post-doctoral researchers, 60% – 80%

University of Zurich's Institute of Art History invites applications for two four-year positions as post-doctoral researcher interested in examining circulations between the continents in the early modern era of globalization (1500–1700).

The post-docs will be part of Prof. Dr. Raphaële Preisinger's research project "GLOBECOSAL: Global Economies of Salvation. Art and the Negotiation of Sanctity in the Early Modern Period", funded by the ERC (European Research Council) and the SNSF (Swiss National Science Foundation). The project investigates how artworks were employed in the process of negotiating sanctity with the Roman Curia in the age of Iberian hegemony by examining the artworks produced with regard to the pioneers of Catholic blessed and saints in the post-Tridentine 'global' context. For further information see: <https://www.khist.uzh.ch/de/kol/preisinger/research.html>

Your responsibilities

The two post-doctoral researchers pursue their own research agendas in the context of the project, examining cases of failed attempts at beatification or canonization connected to either the Viceroyalty of Peru or to the context of early modern mission in South or Southeast Asia. Work on the project involves traveling. Participation in all of the project's activities, including support for project-related research, organizational and administrative tasks, and residency in Zurich are expected. The post-docs disseminate the results of their research by presenting at academic conferences and by publishing in top outlets.

Your profile

The successful candidates should hold a PhD in Early Modern or Global Art History and should have the ability to produce excellent academic research. A further requirement for a successful application is an excellent level of English and a very good level of either Portuguese or Spanish. Knowledge of German is not required at the moment of application, but successful candidates

should acquire basic skills in due time.

We offer

The salary is approximately 58.000 CHF/year (60% employment contract) and 77.000 CHF/year (80% employment contract in the third or fourth year of employment). Funding for research activities (travel) is available. We offer opportunities for professional development (participation in conferences and publications, workshops with experts in the field) in an inspiring environment, working within a research team welcoming an interdisciplinary outlook. Diversity and inclusion are important to us.

Place of work

University of Zurich located in the heart of Zurich, Switzerland.

Start of employment

The two post-doctoral positions start at the earliest possible mutually agreed date. Please submit your application by March 15, 2021, indicating which of the two post-doctoral positions you are applying for (the one centering on the Viceroyalty of Peru or on early modern mission in South or Southeast Asia).

Further information

Prof. Dr. Raphaële Preisinger, raphaele.preisinger@khist.uzh.ch

E-Mail address where the application has to be sent to

Please send your application electronically as one pdf-file comprising your motivation letter, a detailed CV, list of publications (if applicable), copies of obtained degrees, a writing sample (a chapter of the PhD dissertation or an article) and the contact details of two references to the following e-mail address: ges-applications@khist.uzh.ch

Reference:

JOB: 2 PhD and 2 PostDoc Positions, University of Zurich. In: ArtHist.net, Mar 1, 2021 (accessed Jun 12, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/33495>>.