2 PhD Positions, Swiss Rococo Architectural and Art History, ETH Zürich

ETH Zurich, Feb 17, 2025–Aug 31, 2028
Application deadline: Dec 6, 2024

Noelle Paulson

NEW DEADLINE: Application deadline: Jan 6, 2025

The Chair for the History and Theory of Architecture (Prof. Dr. Maarten Delbeke) in the Institute for the History and Theory of Architecture (gta) at ETH Zurich is looking for two doctoral students to join the team for the SNSF Project “Swiss Rococo Cultures: Idioms of ornament and the architecture of East Switzerland (1700-1850)” to start February 17, 2025.

This project studies the architecture and material culture of East Switzerland and specifically the cantons of St. Gallen and Appenzell Innerrhoden and Ausserrhoden in the 18th and early-19th centuries to understand how the Rococo was adopted by different social classes and groups and generated multiple idioms of ornament. The study combines objects of art and architecture with folk art and everyday material culture. Methodologically it blends approaches from art and architectural history and ethnography with a digital research platform.

Job description
- Individual research within the framework of the research project, resulting in a PhD
- Participation in, and support of, research, publication and outreach activities of the research group
- Participation in the PhD program of the Institute
- Participation in the teaching activities of the chair

Profile
- MSc or MA in architecture, the history of architecture, art history, or a related field required
- Experience in historical research and academic writing
- Familiarity with the history of art and architecture in the 18th century, and with Rococo in particular, is advantageous
- Familiarity with the history, architecture and geography of the region under study is advantageous but not required
- In addition to English fluency, advanced German language skills are required. Swiss-German dialect abilities are advantageous, but not required.
- Ability to work in a team, interact with different project partners (museums, archives, private collections, experts and academics from different fields and geographies), communicate your research to different audiences
- Willingness to move to Zurich for the duration of the project

- A clear interest in a long-term career in research

We look forward to receiving your online application with the following documents:
- Cover letter (max. 1 page)
- CV (max. 5 pages, no design portfolios)
- Two references (email addresses, not cover letters)
- Writing sample (MA Thesis, publication, or anything similar)
- Research proposal that fits in the framework of the Project (max. 2 pages excluding illustrations, plus a short bibliography)*

*For this proposal, we are interested in how you would approach the topic of the Project. Any way to relate this to current discussions about gender, class, coloniality, environment, religion and aesthetics would be welcome. This proposal will serve as the starting point for our conversation about your qualifications and interests. If you are accepted, we will help you develop your own dissertation project.

We offer:
- 100% doctoral salary (ETH standard rate) for the 3.5-year duration of the project
- Participation in the doctoral program of the gta
- Academic supervision and mentoring by members of our chair, within a developed research framework (including guidance towards specific methods, materials and bibliography)
- Contact with our network of Swiss experts
- Guidance in writing, publishing and career development

Timeline:
- Deadline for Applications: December 16, 2024
- Applicants will be notified about whether they will be interviewed by January 10, 2025
- Applicants accepted for an interview will have to provide a letter of recommendation by January 20, 2025
- Interviews will take place via zoom on January 20-21, 2025
- Accepted applicants will be expected to start work in Zurich by February 17, 2025

Please note that we exclusively accept applications submitted through our online application portal. Applications via email or postal services will not be considered.

For further details and to apply, follow the link:
https://jobs.ethz.ch/job/view/JOPG*ethz*jdp7MlaGAaOBEleW5v

Further information about the Chair for the History and Theory of Architecture can be found on our website: delbeke.arch.ethz.ch
Questions regarding the position should be directed to Dr. Noelle Paulson, paulson@arch.ethz.ch (no applications).

Reference:
JOB: 2 PhD Positions, Swiss Rococo Architectural and Art History, ETH Zürich. In: ArtHist.net, Oct 30, 2024 (accessed Nov 18, 2026), <https://arthist.net/archive/43060>.