

AIWAC: Interrogating the Female Gaze (Rome/online, 4-6 Nov 25)

Rome, University of Arkansas Rome Center / online, Nov 4-06, 2025

Consuelo Lollobrigida

Fifth Edition of AIWAC (Annual International Women in the Arts Conference): Spectacle and Spectatorship. Interrogating the Female Gaze.

NOVEMBER 4

5.30 PM – INAUGURAL CEREMONY

CONSUELO LOLLOBRIGIDA, Five Years of AIWAC

ADELINA MODESTI, Presentation of Celebrative Volume "AIWAC at the University of Arkansas Rome Program"

DR. SHERYL REISS, Raphael and the Ladies – Keynote address (online)

Visit to the Baroque Wing of Palazzo Taverna

7.30/8 – RECEPTION AT UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS ROME CENTER. Registration required

LINK TO PARTICIPATE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GkuAIKgzxM>

NOVEMBER 5

9 AM – FIRST MORNING SESSION

THE GAZE OF PATRONS, COLLECTORS, AND DEALERS

9.10 – KIMBERLY DENNIS (Professor of Art History and Director of the Office of External Fellowships & Scholarships, Rollins College in Winter Park, FL) & GRETCHEN MEYERS (Professor of Classics, Franklin & Marshall College) – USA: Domus omnipotentis Olympi: Rethinking Pietro da Cortona's Galleria Ceiling Fresco in Palazzo Pamphilj Through the Gaze of its Patron, Olimpia Maidalchini Pamphilj

9.30 – JOHNATAN SASO, Independent scholar – BELGIUM: The Evil Queen Dances: Spectacle, Female Agency, and the Politics of Queenship under Sophie Amalie of Denmark

9.50 – AGNIESZKA FICEK, Southern Methodist University and the University of Texas at Dallas – USA: (Un)Fragile Passions: Maria Amalia's Porcelain Salottino and Queenly Patronage

10.10 – FIONA RICKLOW, Independent art and architectural historian, London – UK: The Baroness's Eye: Emma Schroder, Portraiture, and Cultural Vision in Edwardian Britain

10.30 – ILARIA SOLA, PhD candidate in Cultural Heritage – University of Turin – ITALY: Curating

the Female Gaze: Ida Gianelli and the Spectatorial Politics of Exhibiting Women in Italy

10.50 – PAULA GAUSS, Braunschweig University of Art – GERMANY: Focusing the pioneer and art collector Galka Scheyer: The beginning of modern art in Los Angeles through a female eye

11.10/11.30 – Q&A

11.30/12 – BREAK

12 PM – SECOND MORNING SESSION

EARLY MODERN HEROINES

12 – RACHEL KLINE, PhD candidate in History of Art & Architecture, Boston University – USA: Subjects of Desire: The Female Gaze and Nude Figures Inside Florentine Marriage Chests

12.20 – ALEXANDRA MASSINI (Professor of Art History, Accademia Vivarium novum) & SARA PATTA (Independent researcher, History of Theatre) – ITALY: Acting it out: 'Isabella's madness', gendered role-play, and female self-projection in late XVI Century Italy

12.40 – SIVAN MAOZ, PhD student in Art History at Ben-Gurion University – ISRAEL: Constructing the Heroine: Judith as Spectacle and the Female Gaze in Lavinia Fontana's Painting

1 – AGATA STEPIEN, Lecturer, Department of Hispanic Culture and Art History, University of Krakow – POLAND: Pentimento as a Language of Resistance: Hidden Feminine Narratives in the Layers of the Image

1.20 /1.30 – Q&A

1.30 /2.30 – LUNCH BREAK

2.30 PM – FIRST AFTERNOON SESSION

PENNED LEGACIES: THE GAZE INTO MEMORY, LANGUAGE AND GENDER

2.40 – ALESSIA MURONI, Independent researcher – ITALY: Gli occhi di un'artista: l'arte, la vita, il mondo, nel lavoro e nelle memorie di Elisabeth Vigée Lebrun

3 – EMMA QUIRICONI, PhD student in Languages, Culture and Modern Societies – Ca' Foscari University, Venice – ITALY: Spectacular Modesty: Sarah Fielding and the Rhetoric of Reputation

3.20 – CAMILLA FABRETTI CAMPAGNOL, Independent scholar – ITALY: Seeing Her in Style: Lidia Dosio De Liguoro, Lidel, and the Fashioning of the Female Gaze in Fascist Italy

3.40 – FABIENNE DUMONT, Université Jean-Monnet-Saint-Etienne – FRANCE: Françoise d'Eaubonne's feminist perspective in «Histoire de l'art et lutte des sexes» (1978)

4 – ALLISON BELZER, Professor of History, Georgia Southern University – USA: Reversing the Gaze: Amelia Almagià Ambron's Portraits of Male Intimacy in Early 20th Century Italy.

This paper will be delivered online.

4.20/4.45 – Q&A

4.45/5.30 – BREAK

5.30 PM – SECOND AFTERNOON SESSION
RESCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS

5.30 – JULIE CODELL, Arizona State University – USA: Art Dealers' Female Gaze: Berthe Weill and Lilian Browse. This paper is delivered online as part of The Gaze of Patrons, Collectors, and Dealers' session. It's been re-scheduled due to the time difference between US and Italy

5.50 – IRENE CALVI (PhD student, Department of Arts, University of Bologna) and PASQUALE FAMELI (Associate Professor, University of Bologna) – ITALY: Cyborg Bodies, Patriarchal Codes: Reconfigurations in Visual Culture. This paper is delivered as part of The Photographic, Cinematic, and Performative Gaze's session. It's been re-scheduled due to the presenters' professional obligation

6.10/6.30 - Q&A - END OF SESSIONS

LINK TO PARTICIPATE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65jDYga38s>

NOVEMBER 6

9 AM – MORNING SESSION

THE GAZE OF ARISTOCRATS AND THE BOURGEOISIE

9.10 – MARIE BARRAS, University of Geneva – CH: Sartorial Connoisseurship. Women, Fashion and Gaze in the 19th Century Parisian Salons

9.30 – JULIA RUEGGER, University of Hildesheim – GERMANY: Between hyper-visibility and invisibility. Approaching the gaze of the female flaneur

9.50 – GONZALO MUNOZ-VERA, School of Architecture, Virginia Tech – USA: An Overlooked Gaze: Mary Stewart's 1823 Panorama of Edinburgh. This paper will be delivered online.

10.10 – MARJA LAHELMA, Finnish National Gallery /Ateneum Art Museum, Helsinki – FINLAND: Esoteric Visionaries: Nordic Women Artists and Spiritual Evolution at the Turn of the 20th Century

10.30 EMMA DAVIS, Doctoral student, University of Sussex – UK: The female gaze on female leisure – Thérèse Lessore and the depiction of inter-war popular pleasure

10.50 /11.10 – Q&A

11.10/11.30 – BREAK

11.30 AM – KEYNOTE SPEECH

DR. LAURA LEUZZI, Robert Gordon University – UK: From the body to the feminist gaze and back: renegotiating visibility and representation through video art and new media

1/2.30 PM – LUNCH BREAK

2.30 PM – FIRST AFTERNOON SESSION
A GAZE ON THE BODY

2.30 - PATRICIA ROCCO, John Cabot University – USA and ITALY: Female spectators and the female nude: creation and reception

2.50 – JULIET SIMPSON, Full Professor of Art History, Centre for Arts, Memory and Communities, Coventry University, UK: Nude Ambition in a Man’s World: Henrietta Rae and Re-imagining the Artist’s Gaze, 1880s-1900s

3.10 – SUZANNE SCANLAN, Trinity College – Hartford, CT – USA: The Art of Disrobing: Intimacy and Performativity as imagined by Esther Estelle Pressoire

3.30/3.45 – Q&A

3.45/4.15 – BREAK

4.15 PM – SECOND AFTERNOON SESSION

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC, CINEMATIC, AND PERFORMATIVE GAZE

4.20 – FILIPPO YAHIA MASRI, PhD student in Digital Humanities, University of Genoa – ITALY: Between Stone and Flesh: Lisetta Carmi’s Female Gaze from Staglieno to Galliera

4.40 – ELISABETH STONEY, Independent Researcher, AUS: Letizia Battaglia and the act of photography

5 – ANNELIESE OSTERTAG, Goethe University Frankfurt – GERMANY: Disorganizing the Gaze: Durational Disobedience in Queer-Feminist Performance

5.20 – RAPHAELLE OCCHIETTI, Independent Scholar – ITALY: Women Performing Finance. Jamming the Frequencies of a Male-Dominated Sector

IRENE CALVI (PhD student, Department of Arts, University of Bologna) and PASQUALE FAMELI (Associate Professor, University of Bologna) – ITALY: Cyborg Bodies, Patriarchal Codes: Reconfigurations in Visual Culture. This paper will be delivered on the 5th at 5.50 (CET)

5.40/6 – Q&A – END OF SESSIONS

6.00 PM – FRANCESCO BEDESCHI, DIRECTOR UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS ROME CENTER
Closing Remarks

LINK TO PARTICIPATE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVFFCYQCley>

Reference:

CONF: AIWAC: Interrogating the Female Gaze (Rome/online, 4-6 Nov 25). In: ArtHist.net, Oct 21, 2025 (accessed Jun 7, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/50956>>.