

Conversations between architecture and art history (Alexandria, 19–20 May 26)

Alexandria, May 19–20, 2026

Deadline: Dec 15, 2025

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A Church, A Mosque: Interdisciplinary conversations between architecture and art history.

International Conference.

Alexandria, 19-20 May 2026.

Fatma Keshk/Sabine Frommel/Thomas Faucher.

Language : English.

About the Conference.

Until now, the origins and evolution of the architectural typologies of monotheistic religions have been considered as an isolated phenomenon insofar as research has focused on the monographic and usually non-diachronic study of religious buildings. Using a novel approach, this conference aims to focus on a comparison based on a selection of case studies, in order to understand the development, disappearance and return of these different typologies to their unique origins, the processes of contamination, the circulation of models and conversion strategies. The interdisciplinary dimension of this conference is hoped through the participation of architects, archaeologists, art historians and historians specializing in the field of liturgy. This dialogue will help to answer the following question: to what extent do functional, aesthetic or semantic criteria determine the dynamics of the evolution and metamorphosis of these constructions? Drawing on the results of the colloquia held in Istanbul (2017), New York (2019), Rome (2022) and Cairo (2024), this new event will focus on the evolution of the mosque in Egypt and seek to place it in the context of the genesis of this typology within the Mediterranean tradition.

We invite 25-minute scientific papers on the following topics:

- Origins, use and development of typological features in the art and architecture of religious buildings in the ancient Mediterranean through the modern times.
- Influence of religious traditions on the designs, uses and continuation of mosques in Egypt and the ancient Mediterranean.
- Innovation versus tradition in the art and architecture of mosques in Egypt and the ancient Mediterranean.
- How cultural history illuminated understanding of changes of traditions in architecture and art history of churches and mosques in Egypt and the ancient Mediterranean

To apply, fill the form in the link here: <https://forms.gle/5PQPM7UBhEdbMFR8>

The deadline for the call for papers is the 15th of December and the applicants will be notified by the 15th of January if their abstracts were accepted.

Reference:

CFP: Conversations between architecture and art history (Alexandria, 19-20 May 26). In: ArtHist.net, Nov 19, 2025 (accessed Jan 6, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/51144>>.