**Cardinal Alessandro Albani: Collecting, Dealing, and Diplomacy in Grand Tour Europe
Collezionismo, diplomazia ed il mercato nell’Europa del Grand Tour**British School at Rome / Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale, 11–13 December 2019

Organised by Clare Hornsby and Mario Bevilacqua

The British School at Rome and the Centro di Studi sulla Cultura e l’Immagine di Roma present Cardinal Alessandro Albani: Collecting, Dealing, and Diplomacy in Grand Tour Europe. Exploring the multifaceted life and career of Cardinal Alessandro Albani (1692–1779), the conference will bring together an international range of art historians alongside scholars of related humanistic disciplines to open a new chapter on the multifaceted life and career of the ‘Father of the Grand Tour’.

The two keynote lectures on Wednesday evening, 11th December at BSR, will be given by the noted senior scholars Carlo Gasparri and Salvatore Settis, curators of The Torlonia Marbles: Collecting Masterpieces, the spring 2020 exhibition of antique sculpture from the famed collections of the Torlonia family in Rome who own the Villa Albani Torlonia and the antiquities collected there by Cardinal Alessandro Albani.

The conference has groups of papers on different themes relating to Alessandro Albani’s life and career including his private life, his association with scholars and artists—particularly Johann Joachim Winckelmann and Giovanni Battista Piranesi, his diplomatic and political associations, his dealing and networking in the European art market and of course his antiquities collections—both those he sold and his third collection which remains largely intact at Villa Albani Torlonia in Rome. His particular connection with the British—both as Grand Tourists in Rome and politically as allies of the papacy —is a focus of this conference, notably the sale of his vast drawings collection including the Cassiano del Pozzo ‘Paper Museum’ to the English King George III through the dealing efforts of the architect brothers Robert and James Adam. His commission to the architect Carlo Marchionni for the new Villa outside the northern walls of Rome to house his collection and as a location to host parties for foreign dignitaries is also examined.

This conference is taking place only a few months before the long-awaited exhibition of the private Torlonia collection opens in Rome—a collection where many Albani objects have been kept—no doubt this gathering of researchers including both established and younger scholars from a variety of disciplines and international backgrounds will provide a valuable focus for discussion of the future directions for study and research on this most important figure of the Roman 18th century.

On Thursday 12th at BSR there will be a presentation by Adriano Aymonino and Colin Thom introducing the Adam letters digital publication project and a display of Albani-related rare books and early photographs of Villa Albani from the BSR library and archive collections alongside the volumes of The Paper Museum of Cassiano del Pozzo: A Catalogue Raisonné, published by the Royal Collection Trust.

The conference is open to all without charge; registration is welcome though not obligatory: albaniconvegno@gmail.com. An edited and expanded volume of essays based on the conference papers is planned. The conference is generously sponsored by The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art and we thank our partners the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Roma, the Fondazione Torlonia, and the Royal Collection Trust.

**Conference Coordination**
Mario Bevilacqua, Direttore, Centro di Studi sulla Cultura e l’Immagine di Roma
Clare Hornsby, Research Fellow, British School at Rome

**Honorary Committee**
Elisa Debenedetti, Andrea De Pasquale, Marcello Fagiolo, Carlo Gasparri, Barbara Jatta,
Tim Knox, Maria Vittoria Marini Clarelli, Stephen Milner, Martin Postle.

**Scientific Committee**
Mario Bevilacqua, Amanda Claridge, Clare Hornsby, Ian Jenkins, Harriet O’Neill,
Susanna Pasquali, Jonny Yarker

W E D N E S D A Y ,  1 1  D E C E M B E R  2 0 1 9

British School at Rome

18.00  Stephen Milner (Director BSR), Welcome

18.15  **Keynote Address**
• Carlo Gasparri, La collezione di sculture antiche in Villa Albani a Roma: Una storia ancora da scrivere

18.40  **Keynote Address**
• Salvatore Settis, Lo specchio dei principi: Fra Villa Albani e il Museo Torlonia

T H U R S D A Y ,  1 2  D E C E M B E R  2 0 1 9

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9.30  **Social and Cultural History**
Chair: Adriano Aymonino
• Angela Cipriani, Il cardinale Alessandro Albani nei manoscritti del Diario di Romannella Biblioteca Casanatense, 1762–73
• Heather Hyde Minor, Winckelmann and Albani: Text and Pretext
• Ginevra Odone, Rivalità e gelosie tra antiquari: Il Conte di Caylus, il cardinale Alessandro Albani e i loro intermediari
• Brigitte Kuhn-Forte, Alessandro Albani e Winckelmann

10.45  Discussion and coffee break

11.30  **Art and Diplomacy**
Chair: Susanna Pasquali
• Maëlig Chauvin, Il cardinale Alessandro Albani e i regali diplomatici: l’arte al servizio della politica
• Susanne Mueller-Bechtel, Il principe ereditario di Sassonia Federico Cristiano, Alessandro Albani e le arti
• Matteo Borchia, I vantaggi della diplomazia: Alessandro Albani protettore di artisti tra Roma e l’Europa

12.15  Discussion followed by a lunch break

14.00  **Art and Collecting: Museo Cartaceo**
Chair: Clare Hornsby
• Adriano Aymonino and Colin Thom, Introducing the Adam Letters Project
• Lisa Beaven, Fashioning a New Classical Aesthetic: Camillo Massimo, Alessandro Albani, and the Palace at the Quattro Fontane
• Francesca Favaro, Il privilegio di copiare: Apprendere l’architettura nella biblioteca di Alessandro Albani. Le copie prodotte da B.A. Vittone (1704–1770)
• Rea Alexandratos, Albani Drawings and Prints in the British Royal Collection: George III’s Purchase of 1762

15.15  Discussion and coffee break

16.00  **Painting**
Chair: Maria Celeste Cola
• Robin Simon, The Significance of Alessandro Albani’s Patronage of Richard Wilson
• Steffi Roettgen, ‘Noi non siamo venuti che per vedere il Parnasso di Mengs’: Note sul complesso rapporto del pittore sassone con il cardinale Albani

17.00  Discussion and close

F R I D A Y ,  1 3  D E C E M B E R  2 0 1 9

Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale

9.30  **Archives, Library, and Literature**Chair: Andrea de Pasquale
• Andrea de Pasquale, Introduction to the session
• Alviera Bussotti, Alessandro Albani mecenate delle lettere
• Brunella Paolini, Alessandro Albani nell’archivio di famiglia di Villa Imperiale a Pesaro
• Antonio Becchi, Bibliotheca Albana Romana: Documenti inediti e prospettive di ricerca

10.30  Discussion and coffee break

11.15  **Architecture: Villa and Architect**
Chair: Marcello Fagiolo
• Susanna Pasquali, Phases of Construction at Villa Albani: What We Know So Far
• Patricia Baker and Giacomo Savani, ‘Contriv’d according to the strictest Rules of Art’: The Reception of Roman Baths and Gardens at Villa Albani
• Elisa Debenedetti, ‘Studi sul Settecento Romano’: Villa Albani nei Taccuini di Carlo Marchionni
• Alessandro Spila, Carlo Marchionni a villa Albani: Una possibile evoluzione progettuale

12.30  Discussion followed by a lunch break

14.00  **Archaeology and Antiquarianism**
Chair: Carlo Gasparri
• Eloisa Dodero, Da Palazzo Albani alle Quattro Fontane al Museo Capitolino: La nuova vita della collezione del cardinale Alessandro
• Caroline Barron, The Epigraphic Collection of Cardinal Alessandro Albani
• Elizabeth Bartman, Alessandro Albani as Restorer
• Christoph Frank, Drawing the Albani Collection: Giovanni Battista Piranesi and Some of His Contemporaries

16.30  Discussion and close