

# AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME PATRONS' WEEKEND

April 9-11, 2022

Itinerary\*



\*The itinerary is in formation and details are subject to change.

# Day 1: Saturday, April 9

## McKim Building & Bass Garden

11:30 a.m.



We kick off Patrons' Weekend with coffee in our historic, portrait-filled bar and a tour of the Academy's McKim Mead and White Building (constructed between 1912-1914). The tour will be led by AAR leadership: President Mark Robbins and Director Elizabeth Rodini.

## Rome Sustainable Food Project

12:30 p.m.



Rome Sustainable Food Project Head Chef Kyle Pierce will lead a cooking demonstration, followed by a spring inspired lunch prepared by the RSFP. Founded in 2006 under the guidance of Alice Waters, the RSFP provides the AAR community with seasonal, nutritious, and delicious food that nourishes scholarship and conviviality.

## Library & Villa Aurelia

2:00 p.m.



Following lunch we will embark on a tour of the Academy's Arthur & Janet C. Ross Library and Barbara Goldsmith Rare Book Room with Drue Heinz Librarian Sebastian Hierl. Then, we will have a visit to the Academy's 17th Century Villa Aurelia and its formal gardens and a tour with Bass Superintendent of Gardens Alessandra Vinciguerra.

After the tour you will have time to explore the city, relax, or enjoy a drink on your own.

## Aperitivi at Villino Bellacci

7:00 p.m.



Enjoy drinks and a light meal at the Villino Bellacci. The Bellacci was built at the beginning of the 20th century by a prince of the Torlonia family for his mistress, Cesarina Bellacci. It is a rare example of Arts and Crafts architecture in Rome created in 1907 by a group of artists, including: Duilio Cambellotti, Flavio Giosi, Cesare Picchiarini and Venuto Venuti. Villino Bellacci was purchased and donated to the American Academy in Rome by J.P. Morgan in 1913. Today it is the residence of the AAR Director.

# Day 2: Sunday, April 10

## Piacentini's Prati

10:00 a.m.



On a walking tour led by AAR Heiskell Arts Director Lindsay Harris, we will visit a series of sites in Rome's Prati neighborhood that reveal the architect Marcello Piacentini's hand in shaping the city after it became the capital in 1870. A suite of residential buildings exemplifies Piacentini's conflicted relationship to international architectural developments, and the Tempio di Cristo Re, a monumental church Piacentini designed in 1934, provides insight into the architect's association with the Fascist regime. We will end this portion of the tour with lunch at Ercoli 1928.

## Casa Balla

1:00 p.m.



For the first time, the extraordinary house in Rome where one of the leading figures of Italian Futurism, Giacomo Balla, lived and worked from 1929 until his death is open to the public. For thirty years, Balla (1871-1958) transformed the entire family home into a veritable work of art. It is a laboratory of experimentation made up of painted walls, a myriad of furniture, furnishings, decorated utensils, numerous paintings and sculptures, clothes he designed and many other objects that together created a unique and kaleidoscopic total project. Read the New York Times Magazine feature on the apartment [here](#).

## In Tosca's Footsteps

3:00 p.m.



Giacomo Puccini's *Tosca*--a story of passion, jealousy, and political turmoil--unfolds through some of the most iconic locations of Rome: the baroque church of Sant'Andrea della Valle, the Palazzo Farnese, and the rooftop of Castel Sant'Angelo. By following the opera's storyline, this walk, led by Rome Prize Fellow Eugenio Refini, will give us a chance to appreciate the fascinating variety of styles that inform the urban fabric of Rome, while inviting us to think about the city's architectural stratification as a dynamic frame for everlasting drama.

## Villa Aurelia

7:00 p.m.



Join the AAR community of artists and scholars for cocktails at the Villa Aurelia, while enjoying panoramic views of Rome. Following cocktails, our group will have a private dinner in the Villa's Sala Musica.

# Day 3: Monday, April 11

## Breakfast

10:00 a.m.



Start the day with coffee and breakfast at the AAR Bar. We will provide rapid antigen testing this morning, which is required in order to participate in the AAR community dinner on Monday evening.

## The Jewish Ghetto

11:00 a.m.



Marla Stone, AAR Mellon Humanities Professor and Professor of History at Occidental College will guide us on a walk that covers the history of the Ghetto from its inception in 1555 to the present. We will discuss the evolution of the Jewish Ghetto, its creation under Papal edict, the conditions of life in the Ghetto from the early modern period, its dissolution under the Kingdom of Italy, and the persecution and deportation of Roman Jews during the Nazi occupation of 1943 to 1944.

We will end the tour with lunch at the oldest Jewish restaurant in Rome.

## Accademia dei Lincei

3:00 p.m.



Enjoy a visit to the Accademia dei Lincei and its Library with Lincei Librarian Alessandro Romanello, and AAR Librarian Sebastian Hierl. The Accademia dei Lincei is one of the oldest and most prestigious European scientific institutions, dating back to its founding in 1603.

## Exhibition Preview

4:30 p.m.



Andrew Heiskell Arts Director Lindsay Harris will lead a private preview of the AAR's spring exhibition REGENERATION, along with artists included in the exhibition: Sonya Clark, Guillermo Kuitca, and Jorge Otero-Pailos.

Rome and its ruins have long provoked an aestheticization of decay. REGENERATION gathers the work of contemporary artists working across the globe to consider this paradigm with fresh eyes and push up against a paradox: that decay can seed a new, often beautiful materiality, whether of dust, rust, fragments, or weeds.

## Day 3: Monday, April 11, continued

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### Fellows' Shoptalks

6:00 p.m.



Shoptalks are an opportunity for Fellows to present their work-in-progress in an informal setting and to exchange ideas and receive feedback from peers, colleagues, and members of the Academy community. The Shoptalks presented on April 11 will be by Manuele Cerutti (Fondazione Sviluppo e Crescita CRT Italian Fellow in Visual Arts) and Mary Ellen Carol (Cynthia Hazen Polsky and Leon Polsky Rome Prize Fellow in Design).

### AAR Community Dinner

8:00 p.m.



Patrons' Weekend will culminate in a festive community dinner. Join us at the communal table for a delicious meal prepared by the RSFP, and enjoy the robust cross disciplinary conversation with Fellows and Residents that is a hallmark of the Academy experience.

# American Academy in Rome: Senior Leadership

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**Mark Robbins**  
**President & CEO**

Robbins is an artist, architect, educator, advocate for the arts and design, and 1997 Fellow in Design. He was previously Executive Director of the International Center of Photography, Dean and Professor at Syracuse University School of Architecture, Director of Design at the NEA, and the first Curator of Architecture at the Wexner Center for the Arts.



**Marla Stone**  
**Mellon Humanities Professor**

Dr. Stone was a professor of modern European history at Occidental College in Los Angeles and a 1996 Rome Prize Fellow in what is now modern Italian studies. A historian of modern Italy with a focus on fascism, authoritarianism, and genocide, Marla works on the intersection of ideology, culture, and the state.



**Elizabeth Rodini**  
**Director**

Dr. Rodini founded the Program in Museums and Society at Johns Hopkins University and served for ten years as its Director and as Teaching Professor in the History of Art. Her research interests center on narratives of material heritage: the objects we protect and preserve, the stories we tell about them, and the way those stories get shared.



**Lindsay Harris**  
**Heiskell Arts Director**

Dr. Harris is a historian of nineteenth- and twentieth-century photography and a 2014 Fellow in modern Italian studies. She served as AAR Mellon Professor from 2014-18 and curated the Academy exhibition *Matera Imagined: Photography and a Southern Italian Town*. Most recently she was a lecturer in the history of photography at LUISS University.



**Sebastian Hierl**  
**Drue Heinz Librarian**

Prior to joining the American Academy in Rome, Dr. Hierl held responsibility for Widener Library's Western European collections at Harvard University, served as Bibliographer for English and Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Chicago, and worked for North Carolina State University Library.



**Marilyn B. Hernandez**  
**Vice President of Development**

Marilyn oversees the AAR's comprehensive advancement program. She was formerly Deputy Chief Development Officer for Individual Giving at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and previously worked with the Columbia University Medical Center, New York City Ballet, and Columbia College.