

Maurizio Calvesi

Professor Emeritus at the Università di Roma “La Sapienza”; Fellow of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, Rome; Fellow of the Accademia Clementina, Bologna

2008 Balzan Prize for the Visual Arts since 1700

For his outstanding work on the history of modern and contemporary visual art, which has contributed to a better understanding of the nature and development of modernism as well as to the study of the origin of new trends in contemporary art.

Institution Administering Research Funds:

Fondazione Palazzo Albizzini, Collezione Burri, Città di Castello, Perugia

Adviser for the Balzan General Prize Committee: Dmitry O. Shvidkovsky

Three Research Projects on the Visual Arts in Italy

Maurizio Calvesi has set aside the second half of the 2008 Balzan Prize for the Visual Arts since 1700 for three research projects, which are personally supervised by the prizewinner, and which involve five young scholars for two or three years.

Research Project A: *Antiquarian Culture in Rome from Biondo Flavio to Piranesi.*

This project deals with a subject already touched upon by scholars, but which still has significant scope to be developed. This area covers the works of fifteenth century “antiquarians”, including the problem of *Polifilo*, ranging from Cartari, Pignoria and Cassiano, through Pozzo to Kircher, Venuti and Piranesi, to mention only a few of the names that immediately come to mind. In this era, there developed a compact tradition that was full of internal cross-references that are obviously closely related to the history of the visual arts, from Pinturicchio’s cycle in the Vatican to Piranesi’s work. The research is being carried out by three scholars: Stefano Colonna (in charge of the research), Camilla Fiore and Jacopo Curziotti. It is being supervised by Professor Maurizio Calvesi, who has already produced various studies on these subjects. Professor Colonna’s close textual analysis of the single surviving example of Stefano Buzzoni’s *Epigrammata* has permitted the research to incorporate a triangularization

of cultural relations between Rome, Venice and Brescia. In addition, Professor Colonna has been able to identify the resting place of Tommaso Paleologo (previously described as unknown) in the Basilica of St. John Lateran in Rome. Drs. Curziotti and Fiore have carried out detailed research on the period covering the pontificates of the Barberini and Chigi Popes (1630-1666). In minutely examining the literature of the period and concentrating on the architectonic and figurative aspects of artistic expression, much light has been shed on the projection of the image of a *Roma-Triumphans* during this period. In addition, many new aspects regarding the restoration projects of classical Roman edifices and structures undertaken at the time have been uncovered. A number of articles describing the conclusions of the research are being published. A monograph *Gli eruditi dell'Accademia alessandrina: la politica antiquaria sotto il pontificato di Alessandro VII (Chigi)*, which will draw together much of the material, is forthcoming.

Research Project B: *Critical Edition of the Sources and Documents Related to Caravaggesque Painters and a Search for yet Undiscovered Sources.* Professor Stefania Macioce, who will supervise this research together with Professor Maurizio Calvesi, Professor Alessandro Zuccari and Professor Caterina Volpi, has already published a fundamental collection of documents concerning Caravaggio (S. Macioce, *Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio. Fonti e documenti 1532-1724*, Roma, 2003). The Balzan Project aims to create an analogous *corpus* for the main Caravaggesque painters, putting together a relevant research effort concentrating on the great number of scattered, already known documents. In the course of the research, which is being carried out by Michele Nicolaci, it is possible that new documents on Caravaggio himself might also be discovered.

Research Project C: *Complete Catalogue of the Works of Umberto Boccioni.* There is already a catalogue of Boccioni's works (1982), compiled by Ester Coen with the supervision of Maurizio Calvesi, who penned the introductory essay. In consideration of the documentary innovations that have emerged on the painter since then, as well as the great number of unpublished works discovered (not to mention the errors now apparent in the text), a new catalogue of the works is obviously necessary. The article *Ester l'Expert, Leggere su Boccioni* penned by Professor Calvesi in 2008, can be considered as a detailed justification for such an endeavor. This new catalogue is being edited by Alberto Dambruoso, with the assistance of Professor Maurizio Calvesi, and will appear in two volumes published by Allemandi.

Researchers:

Stefano Colonna Filippone de Montagu
Jacopo Curziotti
Alberto Dambruoso
Camilla Fiore
Michele Nicolaci

Publications:

Calvesi, Maurizio. “Ester l’Expert, Leggerezze su Boccioni”, *Storia dell’arte* 119 (n.s. 19): 131-70; “1607: Pomarancio a Loreto e Caravaggio tra Malta e Corfù”, *Storia dell’arte* 127 (n.s. 27): 36-40; “Caravaggio, i documenti e dell’altro”, *Storia dell’arte* 128 (n.s. 28): 22-51; “Caravaggio, ancora due asterischi: la veste di cappuccino, e ‘l’Humilitas’”, *Storia dell’arte* 130, (n.s. 30) pp. 38-40.

Project A

Colonna Filippone de Montagu, Stefano. *La fortuna critica dell’Hypnerotomachia Poliphili*. Rome: CAM Editrice, 2009.

Colonna Filippone de Montagu, Stefano. *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili e Roma. Metodologie euristiche per lo studio del Rinascimento*. Rome: Gangemi Editore, 2012.

Curziotti, Jacopo. “La decorazione della cappella Pasqualoni in San Lorenzo in Lucina. Note e documenti su Domenico e Giovan Francesco de Rossi”, *Storia dell’arte* 128 (n.s. 28): 98-121; “Gian Lorenzo Bernini e Domenico de Rossi. I busti di Giovan Battista d’Aste e Clarice Margana in S. Mariain Via Lata”, *Storia dell’arte* 130 (n.s. 30): 65-82.

Fiore, Camilla S. “Mattia de Rossi: documenti inediti per il cantiere del monastero di S. Giuseppe a Capo le Case”, *Storia dell’arte* 130 (n.s. 30): 83-93.

Fiore, Camilla S. “Parmi d’andare peregrinando dolcissimamente per quell’Etruria. Scoperte antiquarie e natura nell’Etruria di Curzio Inghirami e Athanasius Kircher”, *Storia dell’arte* 133 (2012).

The final conclusions of the research will be published in the following publications:

Fiore, Camilla S. *Un carteggio inedito: incisioni e documenti sulle antichità etrusche di Athanasius Kircher e Ovidio Montalbani* (forthcoming).

Curziotti, Jacopo and Camilla S. Fiore. *Gli eruditi dell’Accademia alessandrina: la politica antiquaria sotto il pontificato di Alessandro VII (Chigi)* (forthcoming).

Project B

- Nicolaci, Michele. *Caravaggio. Mecenati e pittori*. Edited by M. C. Terzaghi. Cinisello Balsamo: Silvana editoriale, 2010. Eight contributions in exhibition catalogue (Caravaggio, Museo Diocesano, 2010).
- Nicolaci, Michele and Francesca Valdinoci, eds. *Vite di Caravaggio*. Padua: Casadei Libri, 2010.
- Nicolaci, Michele with Riccardo Gandolfi. "Il Caravaggio di Guido Reni. La 'Negazione di Pietro' tra relazioni artistiche e operazione finanziaria", *Storia dell'arte* 130 (n.s. 30): 41-64.
- Nicolaci, Michele. *Caravaggio a Roma. Una vita dal vero*. Edited by Orietta Verdi and Michele Di Sivo. Rome: De Luca editore, 2011. Five contributions in exhibition catalogue (Rome, Archivio di Stato, complesso Sant'Ivo alla Sapienza, 2011).
- Nicolaci, Michele. "Appendice I. Artemisia Lomi Gentileschi (1593-1654)". In *Artemisia. Storia di una passion*. Edited by Roberto Contini and Francesco Solinas. Milan: 24 Ore cultura, 2011: 258-69. Appendix to exhibition catalogue, plus seven contributions (Milan, Palazzo Reale 2011/12).
- Nicolaci, Michele and Yuri Primarosa. *Lettere di Artemisia*. Edited by Francesco Solinas. Rome: De Luca editore, 2011.
- Nicolaci, Michele. *Roma al tempo di Caravaggio*. Edited by Rossella Vodret. Milan: Skira, 2011.
- Eight contributions, including 3 biographies (Caravaggio, Gentileschi and Guidotti) in exhibition catalogue (Rome, Palazzo Venezia, 2011/12).
- Nicolaci, Michele. "Sul naturalismo di Giovanni Baglione (1598-1606)". In *Roma moderna e contemporanea*. Edited by Francesca Curti, Michele Di Sivo and Orietta Verdi. Roma: Università degli Studi Roma Tre, 2012.
- Nicolaci, Michele. "Il Pensionante del Saraceni. Storiografia di un enigma caravaggesco." In *Carlo Saraceni. Un veneziano tra Roma e l'Europa (1578-1620)*. Edited by Maria Giulia Aurigemma. Roma: De Luca editore, 2013. Together with six contributions in this exhibition catalogue (Rome, Palazzo Venezia, 2013).

Forthcoming Publications:

- Nicolaci, Michele. "L'inventario dei beni di Giulio Mancini (1568-1630) e qualche riflessione sulle 'Considerazioni sulla pittura' ". *Storia dell'Arte* 134 (forthcoming).
- Nicolaci, Michele. *Paolo Guidotti il Cavalier Borghese (1560-1629)* (forthcoming).

Project C

- Dambruoso, Alberto. *Catologo generale dell'Opera di Umberto Boccioni* (forthcoming).