



The Fifth Century in Rome: Art, Liturgy, Patronage

edited by Ivan Foletti and Manuela Gianandrea

With articles by Sible de Blaauw, Olof Brandt, Zuzana Frantová and Dale Kinney

The objective of this book is to draw attention to fifth-century Rome – to those hundred years which even today need to be looked at from different perspectives. It is a key moment, a border between worlds, far too important not to receive further attention.

The studies, presented here together, aim to respond to new demands: the art object remains at the centre, but with a new search for its context. This context would be unthinkable without the key concept of co-existence – between popular and elite culture, popes and emperors, pagans and Christians. As well as between liturgy – intrinsically necessary to the Christian world – and patronage – the intellectual project which stems from a cultural concept. Moreover, co-existence is crucial between the mindset of the Roman elites (the tradition inscribed in the city's DNA), and new internal and external demands arising from this rich moment in the history of Rome.

The fifth-century, studied in this book, is the moment in which future and past meet, and Antique and Christian coincide. An artistic moment with only one identifying feature: its incredibly rich complexity.

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Manuela Gianandrea is professor of Medieval Art History at the University of Rome La Sapienza. She is curator of the Dominican Museum of Santa Sabina all'Aventino, Rome. She organized international conferences and published studies on medieval Rome and Southern Italy. Her researches are mainly focusing on the reinterpretation of the artistic phenomena through the analysis of textual sources and the reassessment of traditional historiography.

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Table of contents

Introduction

I. New Languages Old Patterns

Ivan Foletti, God From God. Christ as the Translation of Jupiter Serapis in the Mosaic of Santa Pudenziana

Manuela Gianandrea, Real Marble and Fake Marble on the Antique Façade of Santa Sabina all'Aventino, Rome

Ivan Foletti, Sicut in caelo et in terra. Observations on the cathedra vacua in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome

II. The Architectural Space: Text and Context

Dale Kinney, Expanding the Christian Footprint:

Church Building in the City and the Suburbium

Sible de Blaauw, Richard Krautheimer and the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore

Olof Brandt, San Lorenzo outside the Walls: The Complicated Relationship Between Structures and Written Sources

III. Art and Liturgy

Ivan Foletti, The Doors of Santa Sabina: Between Stational Liturgy and Initiation

Ivan Foletti, The British Museum Casket with Scenes of the Passion: The Easter Liturgy and the Apse of St. John Lateran in Rome

Ivan Foletti, Maranatha: Space, Liturgy, and Image in the Basilica of Saints Cosmas and Damian on the Roman Forum

IV. Patronage

Manuela Gianandrea, The Artistic Patronage of the Popes in Fifth-Century Rome

Zuzana Frantová, Ivory "Icons", Leo the Great and Monophysite Heresy

Manuela Gianandrea, The "Rediscovery" of Rome in Imperial Patronage of the Arts in the Fifth Century

Bibliography

Index of Names

Index of Places