



## (R)MA/PHD SEMINAR

Royal Netherlands Institute in Rome

6 - 20 April 2020



# *Rome and the Romantics, ca. 1770-1870*

The Eternal City has been an endless source of inspiration to the imagination of artists, writers and travellers through the ages. This seminar sets out to investigate whether this was particularly the case during the era defined as the 'long Romantic period' (ca. 1770-1870). As the term Romanticism itself seems to invoke Rome, it is worthwhile to look for the particularities of the Romantic experiences, imaginings and renderings of Rome. These reflections not only relate to 'contemporary' Rome in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, nor are they limited to the 'Roman presences' in the city as a physical place, effectively visited by travellers to Italy. As the 'City of the Soul' – as Byron put it – Rome, past and present, was also a romantic idea onto which artists and writers projected individual imaginations and longings, and shared cultural ideals or political anxieties pertaining to their contexts of origin.

This course aims to illuminate the encounter between Rome and the romantic imagination, in its individual and collective manifestations. We will get acquainted with both foreign and Italian romantics in their Roman homes and on the sites they frequented or drew their inspiration from. At the same time, we will see how they saw and shaped an age of revolution and nationalism that foreshadowed Rome's transformation from a papal enclave to capital of a unified Italy, and how they witnessed the gradual passage from the Grand Tour to mass tourism.



### CREDITS

6 ECTS

### MORE INFO

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### APPLY BEFORE:

15 February 2020

### TEACHING STAFF

Prof. dr. Joep Leerssen (UvA)  
Dr. Asker Pelgrom (KNIR)  
Guest lecturers