Mausoleum of Hadrian Rediscovered: Architecture, Function, Symbolism

Dr. Paolo Vitti
March 31st at 7:30 p.m.
The Memorial Art Gallery, M&T Bank Ballroom
Free and Open to the Public

This lecture presents a new architectural analysis on the Mausoleum of Hadrian in Rome, whose internal distribution and exterior appearance has remained an enigma for scholars studying the ancient architecture of the city of Rome. The research was prepared in occasion of the exhibition "Apoteosi. Da uomini a dei" that was held in Rome on in 2014. The new reconstruction is based on firsthand information that came out of detailed analysis of the remains within the present day Castel Sant'Angelo. Important additions to our understanding of the Mausoleum include the original architectural layout, the concept of the construction and the itinerary necessary to reach the top of the mausoleum. Dr. Vitti will present his interpretation on the symbolism behind the architectural program of the emperor Hadrian.

Dr. Paolo Vitti (University of Roma Tre, Italy) is a professional architect and an internationally recognized authority on conservation and heritage management. He is the recipient of the 2014 and 2015 European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage/Europa Nostra Award as well as the "2014 L'Erma di Bretschneider Prize for Archaeology". His research is focused on Mediterranean sites from the Antiquity to Middle Ages. Most noteworthy researches are the study on Roman architecture in Greece ("Building Roman Greece. Innovation in Vaulted Construction in the Peloponnese", L'Erma 2016) and the study on the Mausoleum of Hadrian/Castel Sant'Angelo.

Co-Sponsored by the University of Rochester and the Archaeological Institute of America Rochester Society
Made possible by the support of the Archaeology, Technology, and Historical Structures Selwyn Fund and the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures of the University of Rochester