A l’Orientale
Collecting, Displaying and Appropriating Islamic Art and Architecture in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries

International Conference, Zurich and Schaffhausen, May 4–6, 2017
The Swiss Orient traveler Henri Moser Charlottenfels (1844–1923) is considered one of the pioneering 19th-century amateurs of Islamic Art, because of his activity as collector and exhibitor. His continuously growing collection had made Moser famous from 1876 onwards through much-noticed traveling exhibitions in and outside of Switzerland. His collection was later displayed permanently at the widely known private museum he established in 1906 at the Charlottenfels Castle near Schaffhausen. Through his 1914 donation to the Bern Historical Museum, Moser assured that after his disappearance the Orientalische Sammlung Henri Moser Charlottenfels (Oriental collection Henri Moser Charlottenfels) of over 4000 objects would remain available to the public in an exhibition hall specially built for that purpose.

The conference wants to present Henri Moser and his collection in an international context. Does Moser’s activity of collecting and exhibiting Islamic art reflect a widespread tendency of his period? How have strategies of presentation, re-contextualisation and didactics changed since the 19th century? To what extent have private collections influenced the making of Islamic departments in national museums? And which role did private collectors such as Moser play in transmitting and appropriating Islamic art and architecture in the West during the 19th and early 20th century?

The conference will open on Thursday, 4th May 2017, with a first section on “Displaying Islamic Art” at the Museum Rietberg, with a roundtable discussion with representatives of the most important European collections of Islamic Art. The second day will take place at the University of Zurich and will be dedicated to the section “Appropriating Islamic Art and Architecture”. Finally, a third section regarding “Collecting Islamic Art”, taking place on Saturday, 6th May 2017, will bring the topic to a close in Charlottenfels Castle.

Cover
Fotoatelier C. Koch, Schaffhausen:
Ohne Titel [Persisches Fumoir auf Charlottenfels], ohne Jahr
© Moser Familienmuseum Charlottenfels, Neuhausen am Rheinfall
# Program

## Day 1  May 4, 2017: Oriental Taste and Display

*Museum Rietberg Zurich, Park-Villa Rieter, Vortragssaal*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13.30–14.00</td>
<td>Welcome and Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00–14.10</td>
<td>Dr. Albert Lutz, Director of Museum Rietberg Zurich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welcome Remarks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.10–14.30</td>
<td>Francine Giese, Mercedes Volait, Ariane Varela Braga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opening Remarks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chair: Axel Langer (Museum Rietberg Zurich)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.30–15.00</td>
<td>Tomasz F. de Rosset (University Nicolas Copernic, Torún)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“L’envoyé de Lechistan n’est pas encore arrivé”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.00–15.30</td>
<td>Moya Carey (Victoria and Albert Museum, London)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Selling Damascus Rooms: Vincent J. Robinson and commercial Strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of Presenting Islamic Art in London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.30–16.00</td>
<td>Barbara Karl (Textilmuseum St. Gallen)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Vienna Carpet Exhibition of 1891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chair: Yuka Kadoy (University of Edinburgh)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.30–17.00</td>
<td>Inessa Kouteinikova (Amsterdam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Personalities, Programmes and Visions behind the Orientalist Spaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in the First Russian Museums.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.00–17.30</td>
<td>Agnieszka Kluczewska-Wójcik (Polish Institute of World Art Studies,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warsaw)                     A la découverte de l’art de l’Islam en Pologne au début du XXe siècle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17.45  |  Round Table  
**Chair: Mercedes Volait (CNRS-INHA, Paris)**  
Kjeld v. Folsach (David Collection Kopenhagen), Yannick Lintz (Musée du Louvre), Tim Stanley (V&A London), Stefan Weber (Museum für Islamische Kunst Berlin)

19.00–20.00  |  Opening Reception

---

## Day 2  |  May 5, 2017: *Appropriation*

*University of Zurich, Rämistrasse 59, Aula (RAA G-01)*

**Registration**  
9.00–9.15  
**Prof. Dr. Andreas Jucker, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**  
Welcome Remarks

**Chair: Ariane Varela Braga (University of Zurich)**

9.30–10.00  |  Hélène Guérin (University Paul-Valéry Montpellier II)  
Inventorier, relever et attribuer l’art islamique en Sicile pour s’approprier une histoire à construire: François Sabatier (1818–1891) dans la fabrique de l’histoire des musulmans en Sicile.

10.00–10.30  |  Francine Giese (University of Zurich)  
Architectural Transformation in 19th-century Italy: The White Hall of Sammezzano and Its Islamic Models

10.30–11.00  |  Valentina Colonna (Rome)  
The “Arab Hall” of Achille Vertunni: Islamic Art in the Streets of Rome

**Break**
Chair: Francine Giese (University of Zurich)

11.30–12.00 Ariane Varela Braga (University of Zurich)
Driven to Madness: Cesare Mattei, Ferdinando Panciatichi and the Orientalist Architectural Obsession

12.00–12.30 Mercedes Volait (CNRS-INHA, Paris)
Le remploi de grands décors mamelouks et ottomans dans l’oeuvre construit d’Ambroise Baudry en Egypte et en France

12.30–13.00 Sami L. De Giosa (University of Oxford)
The neo-Islamic Pastiche of the Manial Palace in Cairo

Lunch Break

Chair: Yannick Lintz (Musée du Louvre)

14.30–15.00 Nicolas Schaub (Deutsches Forum für Kunstgeschichte, Paris)
S’approprier et collectionner les objets d’art islamique: Butin de guerre dans l’Algérie coloniale du XIXe siècle.

15.00–15.30 Axel Langer (Museum Rietberg, Zurich)
Safavid Revival in Persian Miniature Painting: Renewal, Fake and Source of Inspiration

15.30–16.00 Sarah Keller (Vitrocentre, Romont)
“Des véritables merveilles d’execution”: Les vitraux du Fumoir arabe d’Henri Moser

Break

Chair: Alban von Stockhausen (Bernisches Historisches Museum)

16.30–17.00 Maurizia Onori (SOAS University of London)
Neo-Islamic architecture in Palermo, from the National Exhibition to funerary architecture.
17.00–17.30 Ágnes Sebestyén (University of Bern)
Henri Moser as Commissioner General of the Pavilion of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Universal Exposition of 1900 in Paris

17.30–18.00 Katrin Kaufmann (University of Zurich)
Samarkand à l’ouest: Une salle néo-timouride pour la collection Henri Moser

20.00 Conference Dinner (Invitation Required)

Day 3 May 6, 2017: *Collecting*

6 Charlottenfels Castle in Neuhausen near Schaffhausen

10.00–10.15 Dr. Roland E. Hofer, Staatsarchivar und Kulturbeauftragter Kanton Schaffhausen
Welcome Remarks

10.15–10.30 Mandy Ranneberg, Curator of Moser Familienmuseum Charlottenfels
Opening Remarks

Chair: Sarah Keller (Vitrocentre Romont)

10.30–11.00 Roger Nicholas Balsiger (Heinrich und Henri Moser Stiftung)
From Playboy to Explorer, Diplomat and Collector: The Illustrious Life of Henri Moser

Break

Chair: Kjeld v. Folsach (David Collection Kopenhagen)

11.30–12.00 Alban von Stockhausen (Bernisches Historisches Museum)
The Henri Moser Collection at Bernisches Historisches Museum
12.00–12.30 Elika Palenzona-Djalili (University of Zurich)
From Bows to Eyebrows: Lacquerwork of Henri Moser Collection in Historical Museum Bern

12.30–13.00 Opening of the Poster Exhibition “Henri Moser (1844–1923)”
Lunch Break

14.00–15.00 Guided Tours through the Moser Family Museum

Chair: Stefan Weber (Museum für Islamische Kunst Berlin)

15.00–15.30 Irina Gugunava (Georgian National Museum)
History of the Islamic Metalwork Collection from the Georgian National Museum

15.30–16.00 Vera Mariz (University of Lisbon)
Calouste Gulbenkian’s Islamic Art Collection: An Overview of the European Art Market

16.00–16.30 Maria Medvedeva (Institute for the History of Material Culture RAS, St Petersburg)
The Orient in Photographs of the 19th century: Collection of Y. Smirnov

Break

Chair: Tim Stanley (V&A London)

17.00–17.30 Jenny Norton-Wright (Manchester Museums Partnership)
Islamic Art by the Back Door: Manchester’s Incidental Collecting

17.30–18.00 Deniz Beyazit (The Metropolitan Museum of Art)
The Making of a Collection: Islamic Art at the Metropolitan

18.00 Final Remarks
General Information

Locations
May 4, 2017: Museum Rietberg Zurich, Park-Villa Rieter, Vortragssaal, Seestrasse 110, 8002 Zurich
May 5, 2017: University of Zurich, Aula (RAA-G-01), Rämistrasse 59, 8001 Zurich
May 6, 2017: Charlottenfels Castle, Charlottenweg 2, 8212 Neuhausen am Rheinfall

Organizers
Prof. Dr. Francine Giese (University of Zurich)
Prof. Dr. Mercedes Volait (CNRS/InVisu)
Dr. Ariane Varela Braga (University of Zurich)

Cooperations
Museum Rietberg Zürich
Moser Familienmuseum Charlottenfels der Heinrich und Henri Moser Stiftung in Neuhausen bei Schaffhausen

Keynotes Speakers
Kjeld v. Folsach (The David Collection, Copenhagen)
Yannick Lintz (Musée du Louvre, Paris)
Tim Stanley (Victoria and Albert Museum, London)
Stefan Weber (Museum für Islamische Kunst, Berlin)

Registration
Please register by April 25, 2017:
http://www.transculturalstudies.ch/en/index/conferences/display-conference/registration.html

Internet
http://www.transculturalstudies.ch/de/index/tagungen/display-tagung.html