

MASTERCLASS

**Reconstruction of religious buildings
in 20th and 21st century Europe:
monuments, heritage and identity**



25 -26 September 2023

Aachen, GERMANY

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Made possible by:

Why this masterclass?

The approach to the problem of why and how to rebuild destroyed churches has developed and changed in Europe since the end of WWI, through political and religious changes and through changed understandings of restoration/reconstruction methodology. By looking beyond national borders this 2-day masterclass aims to come to a better understanding of restorations and current polemics.

Because it is important to add that restoration practice and theory has developed since 1918 and there are some fierce discussions about reconstruction. The most obvious was that about how to restore Notre Dame in Paris, what design, what materials, which crafts, and what interior design – especially the proposal by the diocese of Paris to adapt the interior to fit better contemporary worship and celebration of mass was fiercely opposed by many opinion makers in France.

When and where?

The masterclass will take place on 25 and 26 September 2023 at the Reiff Museum in Aachen, which is run by the RWTH Aachen University in Germany. All the presentations will be simultaneously live-streamed for participants joining us remotely, who will also be able to interact and submit their questions. Participation is free of charge for both online and in-person participants.

Practical information

- Participation in this masterclass is free of charge. However, if you wish to attend in person, you will need to cover your own travel, accommodation and meals.
- Participants who join the masterclass online will receive the link to the live streaming a few days in advance.
- If you have technical difficulties or any questions, please contact us at info@frh-europe.org

Contact



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PROGRAMME

DAY 1 | 25 September 2023

- 13:00 | **Welcome by Anke Naujokat, Architectural historian at RWTH Aachen University**
- 13:05 | **Greetings by Sabine Verheyen, Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Committee Culture and Education (CULT)**
- 13:15 | **Introduction by Marcus van der Meulen, architect, researcher and FRH representative for Belgium**
- 13:30 | **Keynote presentation by Nazar Kozak (Senior researcher, Ethnology Institute, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine/Associate Professor, University of Lviv)**
Why Ukraine's Medieval Churches are under Threat of Reconstruction.
- 14:15 | Discussion
- 14:30 | Coffee break

Session A - reconstruction after war destruction 1

- 15:00 | **Marcus van der Meulen (RWTH Aachen)**
The Reconstruction of Medieval Heritage in Flanders Following the Destruction of the First World War: The Challenges of Church Reconstruction during the Interwar Period.
- 15:20 | **Anneli Randla (Head of the Department of Conservation and Cultural Heritage at the Estonian Academy of Arts)**
Museum of Atheism and A Prison's Firewood Storage. Reconstructing Medieval Churches in Soviet Estonia.
- 15:40 | **Mathieu Lours (CY Cergy Paris University)**
The Postwar Reconstruction of Churches in Normandy, France.
- 16:00 | Q&A - Coffee break

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Session B - reconstruction after war destruction 2

16:15 | **Anja Rasche & Nils Jörn (Head Network Hansekultur)**

The Wismar Miracle: Reconstruction of St George's Church 1990-2010.

16:35 | **Miroslav Malinovic & Jasna Guzijan (Head of Department for History and Theory of Architecture and Building Heritage Protection, University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina) [ONLINE]**

The Second Life of Major Sacred Buildings in Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

16:55 | **Thomas Albrecht (Architect, Hilmer & Sattler und Albrecht Architekten, Berlin)**

The Reconstruction of the Garrison Church in Potsdam.

17:15 | End of day discussion

17:30 | Reception
18:30



St John's Church in Tartu, 1994. WW2 war damage is still not repaired. Photo: Peeter Säre.



Garrison Church in Postdam. Photo: Thomas Albrecht.

DAY 2 | 26 September 2023

Session C - representing the nation

- 09:00 | **Sofia Korol & Oksana Herii (Head of the Art History Department, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine) [ONLINE]**
Constructing Identity: Aesthetics and Ideology of the Interwar Church Decoration in Galicia.
- 09:20 | **Jan Randák (Charles University Prague)**
Restoration of the Bethlehem Chapel in Prague and the (re)construction of progressive national traditions in socialist Czechoslovakia.
- 09:40 | **Giedrė Jankevičiūtė (research fellow at the Art History and Visual Culture Department, Lithuanian Institute for Culture Research /professor of art history, Vilnius Art Academy)**
Resurrection Church in Kaunas.
- 10:30 | Q&A - Coffee break

Session D - purpose and community

- 11:00 | **Mario Baeck (Tiles & Architectural Ceramics Society (TACS) Belgium)**
Unification of style, or not? Enlargement just before and reconstruction after WWI of the parish church of Onze-Lieve-Vrouw-Waver (province of Antwerp) by provincial architect Eduard Carels.
- 11:20 | **Erzsébet Urbán (Architect, monument preservation specialist; Head of Secretariat at Deputy State Secretariat for Monument Protection, Ministry of Construction and Transport)**
Transformation of Listed Hungarian Roman Catholic Churches from Vatican II until Nowadays
- 11:40 | **Susanne Urban (Head of Research and Information Department on Antisemitism, University Marburg; Co-chair FRH Conference 2023; Chairwoman Moreshet-Jewish Heritage Network)**
The Reconstruction of the Medieval Synagogue in Worms after the Shoa. Motifs, Interests and how it developed into a Jewish space after 1990s.

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12:00 | Q&A - Discussion

12:15 | Lunch break

Session E - contemporary methodology

13:30 | **Mara Popescu (Architect / Lecturer at the Department of Architecture, Targu Mures University / Advisor of Built Cultural Heritage, Cabinet of Minister of Culture of Romania)**

Reconstructing Religious Buildings in the Post-Communist Era: The Saint Friday Church in Bucharest.

13:50 | **Karl-Magnus Melin (University of Gothenburg)**

The Craft Scientific Reconstruction of the burned down 14 th Century Wooden Church in Sröda Råda, Sweden.

14:10 | **Jacques Moulin (Chief Architect of Historic Moments of France)**

The Reconstruction of the Gothic Spire of Saint-Denis, France.

14:30 | Final discussion

15:30 | Excursion Aachen Cathedral - St Foillan
16:00



Worms Synagogue. Photo: Susanne Urban.



Södra Råda Church. Photo: Gabriel Hildebrand / Kulturmiljöbild, Riksantikvarieämbetet.

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Ferhat Pasha Mosque, Banja Luka (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Photo: Miroslav Malinovic