

SEMINAR WEEK FS24
CHAIR DELBEKE

ROME

THE POETICS OF INFRASTRUCTURE

Rome, more than any other civilization, is characterized by its infrastructure. When we think of ancient Rome, we think of roads drawing an ever-straight line into the landscape, and of aquaeducts towering high above the ground. Later generations of Romans often restored these ancient buildings with great pomp, or tried to outlive them. These infrastructural buildings acquire the quality of art works and thus uniquely unite the functional with the poetic – even more so when one takes into account their inscriptions, depictions, and reflections in drawings or travelogues. During the seminar week, we will trace Roman infrastructures in their urban and rural landscapes and follow their echoes in images, literature, and even music. From our base at the Bibliotheca Hertziana, one of Rome's largest libraries for art history, we will go on explorations of cityscape and landscape. This course requires an attentive eye, sturdy shoes, and stamina – and will reveal Roman sights not shown on tourist maps from the emperors via the popes to present days.

19.03.24 - 23.03.24

with the possibility to visit Rome
independently in the days before

Cost Frame: C

including reader, accommodation, transport
in Rome, guided site visits (excluding
individual arrival and departure)

Travellers: 14