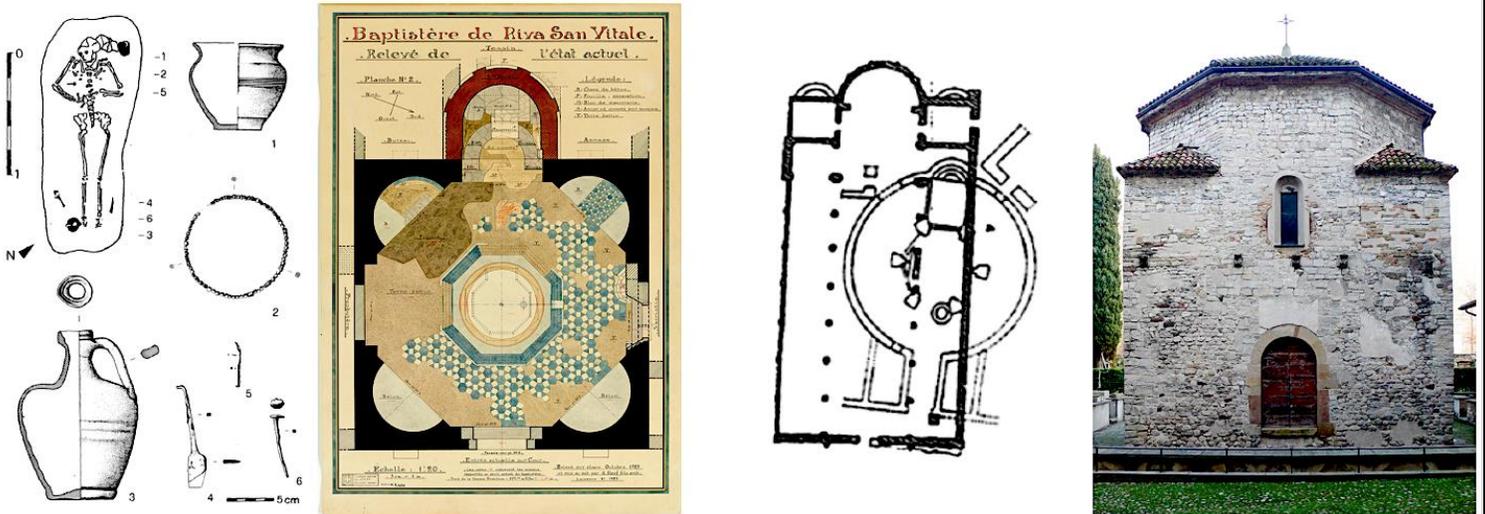


Christian belief and practice in the Alps (ca. 250-ca. 600)

In search of a topography of faith

November 18, 2020



ORGANIZERS:

Roberto Leggero, LabiSAlp - Laboratorio di Storia delle Alpi, Accademia di Architettura di Mendrisio, Università della Svizzera italiana

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CONCEPT:

In past decades, numerous studies were dedicated to the ways in which Christianities arrived and disseminated in the area of the Alps. Drawing on textual and archaeological sources, these scholarly efforts indicate that the new religion spread following the Roman network of settlements and, in particular, the commercial routes across the Alps. This overlapping invited associations with the earlier process of Romanisation, which had also been shaped by the topography that directed human presence towards specific alpine passes and valleys. This conference brings together historians, archeologists, and art historians to discuss the latest finds regarding the spread of the new religion in the Alpine area, inviting them to consider how the natural component influenced the process. By placing the topography at the basis of the phenomenon, the present initiative changes the approach usually taken in past decades, which saw scholars document the process by province. Thus, the religion's spread in Ticino, Trentino-Alto Adige, Lombardy, and Piedmont was studied separately, despite the fact that these considerations were often published in volumes that announced a panoptic view of the process. In order to take a step forward, towards a comprehensive understanding of the phenomenon, researchers working on the specific areas are here invited to identify and discuss the relevance of recurrent patterns.

PROGRAMME

09:00-09:30

Welcome
Adrian Brändli

Introduction
Roberto Leggero

Section I

09:30-10:10

Silvia Giorcelli Bersani, Università degli Studi di Torino
L'impero in quota. Raccontare e vivere le Alpi in età romana

10:10-11:10

Rossana Cardani Vergani, Ufficio dei Beni culturali, Cantone Ticino
& **Maria Isabella Angelino**, Ufficio dei Beni culturali, Cantone Ticino
Cristianizzazione in area alpina. Testimonianze in Cantone Ticino. Stato degli studi

11:10-11:30

Coffee Break

Section II

11:30-12:10

Elena Costa, PhD candidate, Universität Zürich
& **Romeo Dell'Era**, PhD candidate, Université de Lausanne & La Sapienza, Roma
Circolazione di modelli epigrafici in area alpina tra I e VII secolo d.C.

12:10-12:50

Vladimir Ivanovici, Accademia di Architettura di Mendrisio, USI & Masaryk University, Brno
Lombardy, Ticino, Piedmont: Recurrent patterns of dissemination

12:50-13:50

Lunch break

Section III

13:50-14:30

Francesco Massa, Université de Fribourg
Late paganism in the area of the Alps: some methodological remarks

14:30-15:30

Round table discussion