Le Alpi e le scienze in epoca moderna

Giornata di studio attorno a
Interconnected Worlds: Johann Jakob Scheuchzer and the Scientific Discovery of the Alps (1500-1730)
di Simona Boscani Leoni



^ "Itinera Alpina", in Johann Jakob Scheuchzer (1672-1733), Ouresiphoítes helveticus, sive

Giovedì
26 novembre
2026
ore 9:15-13:00

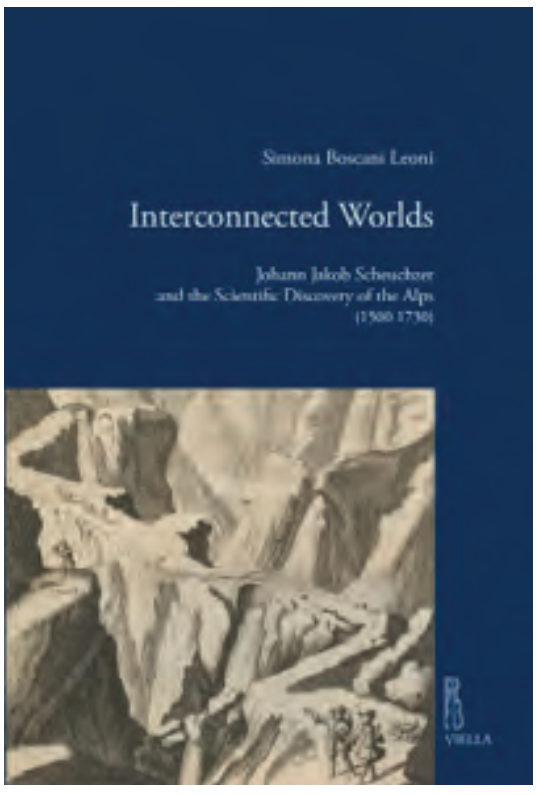
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Università della Svizzera italiana

Laboratori di Storia delle Alpi

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Interconnected Worlds: Johann Jakob Scheuchzer and the Scientific Discovery of the Alps (1500-1730)



Swiss physician and naturalist Johann Jakob Scheuchzer (1672–1733) was the first to explore the Alps using scientific instruments like the barometer, thermometer, and hygrometer. More than just a mountain lover, he devoted time and efforts to observing and measuring, and published extensively. His work reflects a time when science was becoming global, fuelled by curiosity and exploration in the wake of the European discovery of the Americas. Scheuchzer's research adopted the new methods of the early modern academies – travel, correspondence, surveys, and writing in the vernacular. By comparing Alpine plants, animals, and minerals with exotic specimens, he disclosed their medicinal and therapeutic virtues and benefits. Through his eyes, the Alps became more than a rugged landscape – they turned into a site of scientific discovery, shaped by global exchange and early national ambition. The story of how we came to understand the mountains is also a story of how science itself expanded and evolved.

Programma

Giovedì 26 novembre 2026

09.15–09.30	**Christoph Frank (USI)** **Luigi Lorenzetti (USI-LabiSAlp)** Saluti e introduzione
09.30–10.15	**Simona Boscani Leoni (Université de Lausanne)** *Scienza e montagne in epoca barocca*
10.15–10.45	Discussione
10.45–11.00	Pausa Caffè
11.00–11.30	**Barbara Di Gennaro Splendore** **(Université de Lausanne-Università di Bologna)** *Ai margini dello sguardo: i funghi alpini da Conrad Gessner ad Albrecht von Haller*
11.30–12.00	**Michael Jakob** **(Università della Svizzera italiana)** *Scheuchzer : Si può essere nel contempo passatista e guardare in avanti?*
12.00–12.30	**Francesco Luzzini** **(Università del Piemonte orientale)** *Il laboratorio dei monti: Scienze della Terra e ricerca sul campo in età moderna*
12.30–13.00	Discussione generale
13.00	Pranzo

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