

James Ackerman

Professor Emeritus, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

2001 Balzan Prize for the History of Architecture (including town planning and landscape design)

For his outstanding work on the history of Renaissance architecture which contributed to the modern approach to architectural history based on a systematic critical examination of written and visual sources.

Institutions Administering Research Funds:

- Centro Internazionale di Studi di Architettura Andrea Palladio, Vicenza
- American Academy in Rome

Adviser for the Balzan General Prize Committee: Dmitry O. Shvidkovsky

Social Integration in Modern Democratic Societies

1. *James Ackerman Award.* Part of the second half of the Balzan Prize received by James Sloss Ackerman in 2001 went to the creation of the “James Ackerman Award in the history of architecture”, made possible by Professor Ackerman’s donation to the Centro Internazionale di Studi di Architettura Andrea Palladio. The James Ackerman Award has been conferred since 2005 for the publication of an important, original work in any period in the history of architecture by one or two scholars of any nationality who have not yet published any books. The texts selected by the Jury presided over by James Ackerman himself are published in a series created for this purpose. The first James Ackerman Award was given to Leo Schubert for his book *La villa Jeanneret-Perret di Le Corbusier, 1912. La prima opera autonoma*, which was published in May 2006. The 2006 award went to Valeria Cafà for her book *Palazzo Massimo alle Colonne di Baldassarre Peruzzi* which was published in May 2007. The winner of the 2007 award was Angela Dressen and her book, *Pavimenti decorati del Quattrocento in Italia*, was published in May 2008. In 2008, the Award was presented to Federica Rossi for her book *Palladio in Russia: Nikolaj L’vov, architetto e intellettuale russo al tramonto dei Lumi*, published in 2010. The 2010 prize was won by Daniel McReynolds, for his book *Palladio’s Legacy. Architectural Polemics in Eight-*

eenth-Century Venice published in May 2011. In 2011 the Prize was awarded to David Rifkind for his book *The Battle for Modernism: Quadrante and the Politicization of Architectural Discourse in Fascist Italy*, which was published in May 2012. The 2012 Award was won by Matthew A. Cohen for his book *Beyond Beauty: Reexamining Architectural Proportion in the Basilicas of San Lorenzo and Santo Spirito in Florence*, which will be published in May 2013.

Members of the selection board include(d) James S. Ackerman (President), Arnaldo Bruschi (1928-2009), Past President of the Scientific Council of the Centro, Howard Burns, President of the Scientific Council of the Centro, Guido Beltramini, Director of the Centro, Fernando Marías, Director of “Annali di architettura”, the journal of the Centro, and two members of the current Scientific Council of the Centro Internazionale di Architettura.

2. *Summer School in Applied Palaeography*. The remainder of the second half of the Balzan Prize awarded to James Ackerman was destined to the creation of a “Summer School in Applied Palaeography” at the American Academy in Rome. The program focused on the analysis of texts from Roman antiquity to the Renaissance in Europe, and was consistent with Professor Ackerman’s way of studying Renaissance architecture “based on a systematic critical examination of written and visual sources”, as the citation for the Balzan Prize reads. The courses were offered free of charge to graduates and scholars, who did not necessarily have to be Americans. They were chosen according to their curricula, and for six weeks they were the guests of the American Academy in Rome, one of the oldest American institutions abroad. Directed by Christopher S. Celenza, Professor of European History at the University of Michigan, the summer courses in Applied Palaeography took place in 2002, 2003 and 2005. Amongst the participants of the 2002 Summer School were: Sandra Chang, Walter Cupperi (today at Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa), Federica Ciccolella, Frederick Lauritzen and Dana Munteanu. Other organizers and participants were Karl Appuhn, Antonio Ciaralli, Christine Huemer, Melissa Bullard, Armando Petrucci, John Petruccione, Charles M. Radding, Ingrid Rowland, Fabio Troncarelli (2003); Lorenzo Calvelli, Eileen Jaxcsens, Jennifer Knust, Christine Kralik, Manu Radhakrishnan and Sonia Sabnis (2005). Maria Pia Blasi (Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Roma) and Don Faustino Avagliano (Abbazia di Montecassino) facilitated the scholars’ work on the ancient manuscripts.

Researchers:**Ackerman Prize**

Valeria Cafà

Matthew A. Cohen

Angela Dressen

Daniel McReynolds

David Rifkind

Federica Rossi

Leo Schubert

Publications:

- Cafà, V., *Palazzo Massimo alle Colonne di Baldassare Peruzzi: storia di una famiglia romana e del suo palazzo in rione Parione*, Marsilio, Vicenza-Venezia, 2007.
- Cohen, M., *Beyond Beauty: Reexamining Architectural Proportion in the Basilicas of San Lorenzo and Santo Spirito in Florence* (forthcoming 2013).
- Dressen, A., *Pavimenti decorati del Quattrocento in Italia*, Marsilio, Vicenza-Venezia, 2008.
- McReynolds, D., *Palladio's Legacy. Architectural Polemics in Eighteenth-Century Venice*, Marsilio, Vicenza-Venezia, 2011.
- Rifkind, D. *The Battle for Modernism: Quadrante and the Politicization of Architectural Discourse in Fascist Italy*, Marsilio, Vicenza-Venezia, 2012.
- Rossi, F., *Palladio in Russia. Nikolaj L'vov architetto e intellettuale russo al tramonto dei Lumi*, Marsilio, Vicenza-Venezia, 2009.
- Schubert, L., *La villa Jeanneret-Perret di Le Corbusier, 1912. La prima opera autonoma*, Marsilio, Vicenza-Venezia, 2006.

Link:

www.premioackerman.it