



GLOBAL BAROQUE

The World in the Age of Bernini

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Electa is the publisher of the catalogue of the major exhibition *Global Baroque. The World in the Age of Bernini* (Rome, Scuderie del Quirinale, 4 April – 13 July 2025).

Through its numerous scholarly contributions, the volume presents the rich and articulated history of the Baroque period that created ties between Rome and the broad Global context, extending far beyond the confines of Europe and ranging from the Americas to Africa and Asia. The city at that time was at the centre of a complex network of relationships that embraced the then whole known world, reconstructed in the works on display and explored in the pages of the catalogue.

A capital at the centre of a globalized world, Rome was the place where Gian Lorenzo Bernini, with the Fountain of the Rivers, gave a tangible form to the relations linking Europe, Africa, Asia and America. With this cardinal work for the development of the artistic culture of the West, evoked in the exhibition with spectacular sketches, the world was brought to the centre of Rome, and Rome taken to the centre of the world. This work by the Baroque genius is the subject of an insightful treatment; to this is added in the second part of the catalogue the study of a selection of other works that lead the reader on a journey with broad interpretational implications that comprise religion, power, literature, and the arts of the time.

The rich apparatus of images, and the countless maps depicting the world at that time, give an account of the very rich choice of works on display including paintings, sculptures, sacred vestments made from feathers and fabrics. These focus on the century of the Baroque, while also offering insights into the sixteenth century, to understand developments and precedents of an age when cosmopolitanism and transculturalism were salient features of the city's social and political fabric.

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