

HAA HISTORY OF
ART & ARCHITECTURE
UC SANTA BARBARA

Part of the
MEMORY
Department Lecture Series 2016-17

Architectural Memory and the Varieties of Late Antique Appropriation: The Case of S. Paolo fuori le mura

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Tuesday, March 14, 2017
5:30pm, reception to follow
Arts 1341

This paper examines architectural renovation as a significant mode of memory shaping by studying the case of the fifth-century rebuilding of the basilica of S. Paolo fuori le mura in Rome. We shall consider how the reworking of both the fabric and history of the pre-existing structure crafted new meanings and modes of experiencing the hallowed site. Dr. Yasin is particularly interested in exploring what we could call the naturalizing force of architectural appropriation: its ability to alter the past building's earlier appearance and associations while at the same time casting the new form and context as normal and appropriate. In the case of the late antique renovation of S. Paolo, she demonstrates how a range of appropriative forms — including manipulation of architectural materials, monumental writing, and decorative elements — recast the relationship between past and present, imperial and papal histories of place.

Dr. Yasin specializes in Roman and late antique art and material culture; she holds a joint appointment in the departments of Classics and Art History. Her work focuses on the social and political dimensions of sacred architecture and art, and her current research examines questions of memory, materiality and user engagement with Roman and late antique architecture and material culture.

Full details: www.arthistory.ucsb.edu/news/event/539

