Smith Travel
Presents

Rome Rediscovered
October 22—30, 2016
with Craig Felton, Professor of Art
Dear Smith alumnae and friends,

Join us on this “Uniquely Smith” program which focuses on the art treasures found in beautiful Rome—The Eternal City that has held the attention of the Western World for over two millennia. Accompanying you will be Professor Craig Felton, from the Art Department at Smith, and Susie Orso, the designer of many one-of-a-kind travel programs from Specialtours.

One lifetime would be insufficient to see everything Rome has to offer; nevertheless, our own pilgrimage offers an opportunity to see some of the most significant buildings and works of art through carefully crafted and guided daily tours.

A walk through the Roman Forum sets the stage for the first period of grandeur of the City, and we will note three triumphal arches: those of Titus, Septimius Severus, and Constantine, in addition to the great Colosseum and the Forum and Column of Trajan. The Second Century CE emperor Hadrian will occupy our in-depth attention through his greatest achievement, the overwhelmingly inspiring Pantheon—a temple built to honor all gods. The High Renaissance is studied through the greatest masterpieces of Raphael, in the Vatican Palace and the Villa Farnesina, and of Michelangelo, with the Vatican Pietà and the famous Moses, culminating in a private tour of the Sistine Chapel frescoes.

The origins of Baroque art will be carefully examined through paintings by Caravaggio in several Roman churches, the frescoes of Annibale Carracci in the Palazzo Farnese, and sculpture from various periods of the career of Bernini—from the David and Apollo and Daphne in the Villa Borghese, which also houses great works by Caravaggio, among others, including one of the early masterpieces by Raphael, The Entombment of Christ, and Titian’s Sacred and Profane Love.

We will continue our study of Bernini with the Saint Teresa in Ecstasy, and his late masterpiece The Blessed Ludovica Albertoni. Our tour includes some early Renaissance and Baroque churches, and the Baroque Palazzo Barberini, now housing the National Gallery, with another superlative collection of art, including frescoes painted in the Grand Salone by Pietro da Cortona.

In leisure moments, we will sample the wine and culinary delights of Rome as we stroll through the heart of the ancient city, located just a few steps outside our luxurious hotel—Grand Hotel de la Minerve.

Since the number of participants will be limited on this program, we encourage you to reserve your space as soon as possible by contacting Smith Travel at (800) 225 2029 sending your completed registration form to Smith Travel, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063 or by fax to (413) 585 2015.

We look forward to hearing from you

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director, Smith Travel
Office of Alumnae Relations, Smith College.

The Triumph of Galatea by Raphael, Villa Farnesina. (c.1513)
Our Lecturer & Tour Director

Craig Felton, Professor in the Department of Art, Smith College, teaches courses on Italian and Spanish Art of the Renaissance and Baroque periods, as well as introductory survey courses in the history of Western Art. His research and publications focus on painting in Italy and Spain. Most recently, he wrote a comprehensive biographical essay on the Hispano-Italian painter Jusepe de Ribera for the catalogue of an exhibition at the Meadows Museum, SMU, Dallas, and another similar essay on the Italian-Maltese painter Mattia Preti, for an exhibition held in Taverna, Calabria, Italy, and Valletta, Malta. For both of these exhibitions he was an invited symposium speaker. He taught at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, and at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, and was then the Assistant Director at the Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, before joining the faculty of Smith College. He and Susie Orso have traveled together on programs designed for Smith Travel in Italy, Sicily, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, and Hungary.

Susie Orso, who is part of London-based Specialtours, has made the arrangements and will accompany the tour. She has helped lead numerous tours for Smith Travel and has a faithful following. She has lived in Italy for over 40 years and has developed many personal contacts which enable access to private homes and collections in Italy and the rest of Europe.

PRELIMINARY ITINERARY

Please note that this itinerary is subject to change

Day 1 ~ Saturday, October 22
Depart the US for Rome.
(Appropriate in-flight meals)

Day 2 ~ Sunday, October 23
Arrive in Rome this morning and transfer to the five-star Grand Hotel de la Minerve, a beautiful 17th-century luxury hotel set in the historical city centre overlooking the Pantheon and the Church of Santa Maria Sopra Minerva. Enjoy an independent lunch before joining Smith Faculty Professor Craig Felton and local guide Sonia Travoletta for an afternoon walking tour of Rome’s most impressive historic sites including the Pantheon, Piazza Navona, Piazza Colonna with the Marcus Aurelius Column, and more. In the evening gather for welcome drinks and dinner at the hotel.
Grand Hotel de la Minerve  (Breakfast, Dinner)

Madonna of Loreto by Caravaggio, Sant’Agostino. (c.1604-6)
Day 3 ~ Monday, October 24
Enjoy a hearty, early breakfast, then depart for the Palatine Hill, known for its ruins of ancient imperial palaces. Spend the morning touring the Forum to see the Arch of Titus (c. 81 CE) commemorating Roman victories in Judea, 70–71 CE, the Basilica of Maxentius (the final and largest building built in the Forum, used as a great hall for court sessions and public meetings), the Arch of Septimius Severus (erected in 203 AD depicting the stages of war between Romans and Parthians), the Column of Trajan (the 126-foot carved marble column featuring 155 scenes and 2,662 figures illustrating two victories over the Dacians), and the Arch of Constantine (a symbol of the last great monument of Imperial Rome, commemorating Emperor Constantine's victory over Maxentius in 312 CE, thus consolidating the empire under one ruler). Continue to the iconic Colosseum, a grand elliptical amphitheatre seating more than 50,000 spectators to view gladiatorial combats and other games. Enjoy a private lunch at Villa Habsburg inside the Aurelian Walls (subject to confirmation), followed by a visit to the Basilica of San Giovanni Lateran and Santa Maria Maggiore, and then enjoy some leisure time. Dinner will be independent.

Grand Hotel de la Minerve  (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 4 ~ Tuesday, October 25
In the morning, depart by coach to the Church of Sant'Agostino, the 15th-century basilica, and view the famous Madonna of Loreto by Caravaggio. Next stop is the Church of San Luigi dei Francesi to see the Contarelli Chapel, housing Caravaggio's paintings dedicated to Saint Matthew. Enjoy a comprehensive walking tour of Piazza del Popolo (the “People's Square”), followed by a visit to the Church of Santa Maria del Popolo—an Augustinian basilica erected in 1099. Here we will view influential Baroque paintings such as the Conversion of Saul (Saint Paul) and the Crucifixion of Saint Peter by Caravaggio, as well as the Assumption of the Virgin by Annibale Carracci. After free time for lunch in Piazza del Popolo, continue by coach to the Galleria Borghese for a guided tour of painting and sculpture collections to include works by Dosso Dossi, Raphael, Jacopo Bassano, Caravaggio, Gian Lorenzo Bernini, Antonio Canova, and more. Proceed towards Santa Maria della Vittoria to view Bernini's masterpiece, Saint Teresa in Ecstasy. Return to the hotel before meeting for dinner. In the evening dine at Trattoria La Pigna.

Grand Hotel de la Minerve  (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 5 ~ Wednesday, October 26
Spend part of the morning at your leisure before joining the group for a visit to the Doria Pamphilj Gallery, an extensive collection of superb paintings, furniture, and statuary assembled since the 16th century. Among the list of distinguished Italian artists, you will also view masterpieces from many Flemish Old Masters. In the afternoon enjoy lunch at Ristorante Costanza before a visit to Palazzo Farnese—a beautiful Renaissance palace constructed in 1514 which now serves as the French Embassy. This palace showcases beautiful vault and ceiling frescoes by Annibale Carracci (current restoration to be finished by October 2016; tour subject to confirmation with French Embassy). The afternoon is filled with guided visits to the opulent Baroque churches of Sant'Andrea della Valle, home of the Theatine order, and Santa Maria in Vallicella, known as the Chiesa Nuova (the “New Church”), which fostered the spiritual and social reforms of St. Philip Neri. Dinner will be independent.

Grand Hotel de la Minerve  (Breakfast, Lunch)
Day 6 ~ Thursday, October 27
In the morning leave by coach for a visit to the church of San Pietro in Vincoli, home of Pope Julius II’s tomb and Michelangelo’s statue Moses. Spend the rest of the morning in the ancient Lazio town of Tivoli and Hadrian’s Villa. A UNESCO World Heritage site, this large Roman archaeological complex of classical buildings once served as the retreat for Roman Emperor Hadrian. After lunch at Ristorante Adriano, return to Rome for a visit to Palazzo Barberini, home of the Galleria Nazionale d’Arte Antica—one of Italy’s most important painting collections. Next, walk to the monastic church of San Carlo alle Quattro Fontane before continuing to the Bernini-designed Church of Sant’Andrea al Quirinale. In the evening, dine at Ristorante Fortunato al Pantheon.

Grand Hotel de la Minerve  (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 7 ~ Friday, October 28
Our day begins with a guided tour of the charming medieval district of Trastevere, with an initial visit to Villa Farnesina—a 16th-century suburban Renaissance villa decorated with numerous frescoes by Giovanni da Udine, Giovan Francesco Penni, Baldassarre Peruzzi, and Raphael. Continue to the church of San Pietro in Montorio and see the “small temple” known as the Tempietto, a commemorative martyrium built after 1502 by Donato Bramante. After lunch with the Academicians at the American Academy, return to Trastevere to spent the afternoon visiting the church of S. Cecilia and the church of San Francesco a Ripa. Return to the hotel, and enjoy an independent dinner and evening.

Grand Hotel de la Minerve  (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 8 ~ Saturday, October 29
Depart by coach in the morning for Vatican City to visit St. Peter’s Basilica, one of the largest churches in the world. The rest of the morning will be spent touring the Castel Sant’Angelo. Known as The Mausoleum of Hadrian, this 2nd-century cylindrical fortress turned castle faces a spectacular bridge across the Tiber River lined with angels and serves as the entrance to a museum filled with fascinating frescoes. Today’s lunch will be independent and part of the afternoon is at leisure. Later, travel by minibus to the Vatican Museums for an exclusive and private tour of its immense collections. Enjoy a guided tour of the Cortile del Belvedere (the Belvedere Courtyard), designed in 1506 by Bramante. A most impressive complex, this major architectural design incorporates a myriad of majestic terraces, spectacular statues and fountains, as well as outstanding building structures surrounded by peaceful woodlands. See the Pio Clementino Collection (founded in 1771 by Pope Clement XIV), followed by a tour of the Chapel of Nicholas V with frescoes by Fra Angelico. The day’s tours conclude with a walk through the four Raphael Rooms (the Stanze di Raffaello), followed by a private visit to the chapel of the Pope—the renowned Sistine Chapel. Finally, gather for farewell drinks and dinner at the hotel.

Grand Hotel de la Minerve  (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 9 ~ Sunday, October 30
After breakfast transfer to Rome airport for return flights to the US.

(Breakfast, appropriate in-flight meals)
General Trip Information & Terms and Conditions

Trip Dates: October 22—October 30, 2016

Duration: 9 days

Activity Level: Moderately active

Cost: $5,950 per person, based on double occupancy

The cost includes accommodation at the five-star Grand Hotel de la Minerve; transportation by private coach or minibuses; breakfasts daily, 4 lunches and 4 dinners; 2 drinks, all entrances and visits as per the program including the private visit at the Vatican Museums; guides; porterage at the hotels; tips; services of a Specialtours escort

Single Supplement: $1,400 per person (limited availability)

Not Included:
Round-trip flights from the US to Rome; any meals indicated as independent on the itinerary; personal extras; passport fees; travel insurance.

Airfare:
Airfare is not included in the cost of the program. Many options are available, either online or through your travel agent.

Early Arrival/Late Departure:
If you wish to arrive in advance of, or stay later than, the group please let Smith Travel know, so that the necessary arrangements can be made with the hotels. The additional cost will be payable on site. Please see the pre-departure information sheet for hotel costs.

Passports:
U.S. citizens may enter Italy for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. The passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay.

Deposit and Payment:
A non-refundable deposit of $750 per person is required by December 15, 2015 to guarantee participation in the program. This may be paid by Visa or MasterCard or check (payable to Smith College). Final payment is due by August 20, 2016 and must be paid by check only, payable to Smith College.

Cancellation Policy:
The deposit for this trip is non-refundable. In the event that you must cancel, please send written cancellation as soon as possible. The cancellation policy is as follows: 59-41 days before departure, 50% of the tour cost is refundable; 40-21 days before departure, 25% of the tour cost is refundable; 20-14 days before departure, 15% of the tour cost is refundable. After this, no refund is normally possible through Specialtours. Cancellation insurance is strongly advised, and information will be sent with your confirmation letter from Smith Travel.

Eligibility:
These trips are designed for alumnae of Smith College and accompanying members of their immediate families. Space permitting, a participating alumna may bring a non-Smith friend or couple.

Please note: This trip involves full days of sightseeing and significant amounts of daily walking. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to the fullest. For further information about the trip, call Smith Travel at (800) 225-2029 or e-mail alumtrav@smith.edu.

Trip cancellation insurance: Insurance is highly recommended. You will receive travel insurance information from Smith Travel with your confirmation letter.
Rome Rediscovered
October 22—30, 2016

Registration Form
Enclosed is my credit card information or my deposit check ($750 per person) payable to Smith College.

NAMES (as appears on passport) ______________________________________________________________

ADDRESS ______________________________________________________________________________

CITY _________________________________________ STATE __________________ ZIP______________

HOME PHONE ________________________________ WORK/CELL_______________________________

E-MAIL __________________________________________________________________________________

NO. OF PERSONS ___________ AMOUNT ENCLOSED ($750 per person, non-refundable): _____________

I/we are registering: _____ DOUBLE OCCUPANCY ($5,950) ______ SINGLE SUPPLEMENT (plus $1,400)

If using a credit card for deposit, please complete the following section:

_____ VISA ______ MASTERCARD     CARD NUMBER: ________________________________________

EXPIRATION DATE: ______                      CID CODE: ______

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD: ____________________________________________________________

Terms and Conditions: Smith College (Smith) is the sponsor of the tours. As the sponsor, Smith has engaged independent tour operators to arrange the tours. Because Smith does not own, operate, manage, or control, and is not in a partnership or joint venture with, either the tour operators or the various independent companies and persons with which or whom the tour operator has arranged to supply services to the tour, Smith and its officers, directors, trustees, agents, servants, employees, affiliates, and assigns are not liable for any negligent or willful acts or omissions of the tour operator or the various suppliers, including any acts or omissions on their part that cause, without limitations, injury, death, theft, damage to or loss of property, delay, inconvenience, or the cancellation, substitution, overbooking or downgrading of accommodations, transportation or other services. Additional terms and conditions may apply to your trip and will be sent to you with your registration acknowledgement, which you must sign and return to Smith Travel.

Deposit & Final Payment: A non-refundable deposit of $750 per person is required by December 15, 2015 to guarantee participation in the program. Deposit may be paid by Visa, MasterCard or check (payable to Smith College). Final payment is due by August 20, 2016, and must be paid by check only, payable to Smith College

EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN:

SIGNATURE _________________________________________________ DATE _________________________

SIGNATURE _________________________________________________ DATE _________________________

Please return this registration form and deposit to Smith Travel, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063 phone: (800) 225-2029; fax: (413) 585-2015