







Call for Papers Cultural Crossroads. Artistic Encounters between the Low Countries and Spain, 15-17th Centuries

II-Woven Pictures

(Madrid, 8 November 2024)

Since 2020, the Moll Institute (Madrid) and the Périer-D'Ieteren Foundation (Brussels) have been conducting a research program aimed at identifying and studying the art that developed in Flanders and Burgundy from the 15th to the 17th centuries, which is still preserved in Spanish collections. As part of this collaboration, in 2023, a series of study sessions began to be held to share, deepen, and disseminate the work of specialists in the field. The 2023 study day took place in Brussels and focused on pictorial art. This time, the session will be dedicated to tapestries and will be held in Madrid.

Tapestries were top-tier luxury products that enjoyed tremendous success during the Early Modern period, both for their narrative and decorative possibilities. The quality of craftsmanship of these products by the workshops settled in the former Habsburg territories led to their popularity and demand growing to such an extent that leading artists were eventually enlisted to conceive the compositions that were transferred to the loom, further enhancing their interest and quality. The close relations that the Iberian Peninsula always had with the Low Countries facilitated the arrival of numerous series of tapestries to Spanish territory. Many of these works were commissioned by monarchs,





important ecclesiastical figures, and nobles to the most prominent Flemish workshops. The different production centers, as well as the commissioning of series, the creation of cartoons, the various typologies of craftsmanship, their functions, and conservation, are topics we wish to address in this study session.

In Spain, highly significant collections of Flemish tapestries still exist, some of which are among the most prominent in the world, such as those housed by the National Heritage, which have been the subject of study by specialists in both specific catalogs and more general studies on the tapestries of the House of Austria. Likewise, exhibitions have played a prominent role in opening the door to new research. However, there are also numerous high-quality tapestries and series preserved in various dioceses of Spain, as well as in prominent noble families of the Iberian Peninsula, which are less known but open up a field of research of great interest.

The conference will be divided into various panels:

- 1. Tapestry production in the Burgundian and Habsburg Netherlands. From tapestry guilds in the 14th century to the great workshops.
- 2. Series and tapestries: Tapestry cartoons, artists, major commissions, and production for the art market.
- 3. Function and valuation of tapestries in the Early Modern period. Tapestries in inventories of artworks.
- 4. Restoration and conservation of tapestries. Challenges of a highly specific art form.

Papers may be delivered in English, French, or Spanish and will have an approximate duration of 15-20 minutes. The outcomes of the presentations will be subject to a publication in the *Cahies d'étude series of Annales d'Histoire de l'Art et d'Archéologie*, and the referenced works will be included in the database currently being created by the Moll Institute and the Périer-D'Ieteren Foundation.

Those wishing to participate in this study day should send, **before June 7**, **2024**, a provisional title of their presentation and a short abstract of approximately 300 words, along with a brief CV, to the following addresses: <u>congreso@institutomoll.es</u> and <u>fondation@perier-dieteren.org</u>





The organizers will respond before August 31, 2024.

Please note that the organisers of the study day will not be able to cover accommodation or transport costs.

Organizers:

- Dr Ana Diéguez Rodriguez, Instituto Moll / Universidad de Burgos
- Dr Sacha Zdanov, Fondation Périer-D'Ieteren / Université Libre de Bruxelles

Selected bibliography:

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