

Thursday January 7, 2021

"Iconic Examples Of Italian Design"

Speaker: Silvia Barisione

Audubon Country Club

Doors open at 11:00

Lecture at 11:30

Followed by lunch

Price \$49

Chairs: Maria Tomaro

Gerhard & Joanne Seblatnigg

After two decades of Fascist regime, the years of post-war reconstruction in Italy saw rapid growth in society, culture, and design. From the postwar boom to the present, Silvia Barisione, the senior curator of the Wolfsonian-FIU Museum and Research Center, Miami Beach, where over 180,000 objects spanning the years 1850–1950 are displayed, will trace the evolution of Italian design. Its combination of artistic creativity, skilled craftsmanship, and technical innovation has generated some of the most iconic products from the Vespa scooter to the FIAT 500, from Gio Ponti's Superleggera chair to the Ettore Sottsass Valentine typewriter. These are just some of the outstanding things that can be found in Italian architecture, fashion, and cinema.



Silvia Barisione

Silvia Barisione is senior curator at The Wolfsonian–FIU, Miami Beach. With over 180,000 objects spanning the years 1850–1950, The Wolfsonian is a museum and research center dedicated to interpreting the impact of design in shaping the modern world. Until 2011, Silvia had been founding curator at the Wolfsoniana in Genoa – the Italian affiliate of The Wolfsonian in Miami Beach.

Silvia's research focuses primarily on twentieth-century decorative arts and design and pre-war Italian architecture. She has curated and co-curated numerous exhibitions including *Under Mussolini: Decorative and Propaganda Arts of the Twenties and Thirties*; *Pubblicità e Propaganda: Ceramica e grafica futuriste*; *Postcards of the Wiener Werkstätte*; *The Rebirth of Rome*; *Modern Dutch Design*; *Made in Italy: MITA Textile Design 1926–1976*, and *Deco: Luxury to Mass Market*. She has written extensively in the field, contributing to and authoring many exhibition catalogs and other publications, among them *Luigi Vietti: Architetture 1928–1998*; *Ville in Riviera tra eclettismo e razionalismo*; *The Birth of Rome*; and *Modern Dutch Design*.

She has been an advisor to the exhibition *Italian Futurism 1909–1944*, which opened at the Guggenheim in New York in 2014. In 2016 and 2017, she served as a juror for the Samuel H. Kress Foundation's AAMC Affiliated Fellowship at the American Academy in Rome.

In 2014, Silvia was bestowed the Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella d'Italia (Knight of the Order of the Star of Italy) by the Italian government, which is awarded to outstanding expatriates promoting Italian culture and elevating national prestige abroad.