

# Anne McComish

## Micromosaics and the Vatican Mosaic Studio

What are micromosaics? How were they made? Who made them? And who bought them? This presentation will explore the fascinating world of the Vatican Mosaic Studio and the minutely detailed works of art that it produced.

During the heyday of the Vatican Mosaic Studio in the 19th century, these works of fine vitreous enamel tesserae were distributed across the world as souvenirs of the Grand Tour, as diplomatic presents, and as decorative objets d'art. Subjects ranged from the sacred to the profane: scenes of antiquity and contemporary Rome, the Doves of Pliny, and devotional images. Micromosaics present a fascinating case study in the development of artistic technique, the interaction of art and the market, and the history of patronage and collection.



Please RSVP to [tould@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:tould@unimelb.edu.au) if you plan to join us for dinner in Lygon st afterwards.

Monday 29 October 2007 6.30 pm  
Room 148 Elisabeth Murdoch Building  
All Welcome