

Peter Mitchelson

Carlo Maratti's *Jael & Sisera*

This presentation examines the development of Carlo Maratti's *Jael & Sisera*, one of the mosaic decorations for the Presentation Chapel in St Peter's. Maratti's work was immediately popular, and a painted copy was commissioned by the Marchese Niccolò Maria Pallavicini even before Maratti's studio had produced an engraved copy to sell to the wider public. Scholars have traditionally associated the engraving with the painting for Pallavicini, despite significant differences between the two. However, the recent appearance of a related painting in a private collection now provides grounds for suggesting that the engraving is in fact derived from Maratti's original bozzetto for St Peter's instead. An examination of related prints, as well as the newly discovered painting, demonstrates that the engraving can no longer be seen as solely derived from the commission for Pallavicini. Consideration must also be given to its possible derivation from Maratti's bozzetto. Since the latter is lost, the engraving therefore provides valuable evidence as to Maratti's original design.



Please **RSVP** Mark Shephard (shepm@unimelb.edu.au) if you plan to join us for dinner in Lygon st afterwards.

Monday 17 November 2008 6.30 pm
Room 148 Elisabeth Murdoch Building
All Welcome