

David R. Marshall

Baroque Chinoiserie

The *Gabinetto Cinese* in Rome 1720



Chinoiserie — style based on ori- often be treated in gen- which Rome hardly figures eighteenth century. Why was

What role did Athanasius Kircher and Jesuit missionaries play in this? When did Chinoiserie first make its appearance in Rome? Was Chinoiserie Chinese or Indian in inspiration? Drawing on unpublished primary sources and unpublished Venetian chinoiserie works of art, this paper presents an account of the first attempt in Rome to embrace the 'modern' in interior decoration. In 1720 Chinoiserie was undoubtedly 'modern': in opposition to Rome's dominant antiquarian culture, but as yet distinct from French Chinoiserie stemming from Watteau, and long preceding the better-known Rococo Chinoiserie of Boucher and Huet.

the decorative ental styles — has eral surveys, surveys in before the middle of the Rome a Chinoiserie-free zone?

Monday 5 June

6.30 pm

Room 148 Elisabeth Murdoch Building

All Welcome