

PRESS RELEASE
19 February 2010

Opening of the Photo Library in the Palazzo Grifoni

2 March 2010

Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai, Via dei Servi 51, Florence

We would like to invite you to the inauguration of the new premises of the Photo Library of the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz in the Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai.

After a short closing period from December last year, since January 2010 the Photo Library of the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz has re-opened its doors to scholars in its new home, the Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai.

While respecting the historic fabric of the Palazzo erected by Bartolomeo Ammannati in 1561-1565, and more than once remodelled since then, the Photo Library has been installed in its new home according to the most advanced curatorial and conservational standards and at the same time provides optimal facilities both for scientific research and for the conservation of its photographic holdings.

The Photo Library is located on the piano nobile of the Palazzo Grifoni. Its holdings of standard format photos are fully accessible on an open-shelf system. With a view to the integrated use of analogue and digital media all consultation desks are provided with computer terminals with internet access. A seminar room is also located on the piano nobile, and is used for meetings and conferences of the KHI.

Offices and special collections of the Library have been installed on the ground floor – here optimal conservational conditions could be created for its valuable historic holdings of large-format photographs. A specialized library on the theory and history of photography is also available, as also a book service, which makes it possible for users to work with books and periodicals from the KHI Library in the Photo Library's new home in the Palazzo Grifoni.

We will be delighted to welcome you to the Palazzo Grifoni, and would like to invite you to the inauguration.

Programme La Fototeca del Kunst in Palazzo Grifoni

Inauguration 2 March 2010, 6.30 pm

Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai, Via dei Servi 51

Cristina Acidini, Soprintendente per il Polo Museale Fiorentino

Gerhard Wolf, Director of the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz

Alessandro Nova, Director of the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz

Costanza Caraffa, Head of the Photo Library

Opening lecture 3 March 2010, 6.00 pm

Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai, Via dei Servi 51

Larry J. Schaaf

"I Have Captured a Shadow!" - William Henry Fox Talbot and the Conception of Photography



Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai

Residence of Ugolino Grifoni, secretary of Grand-Duke Cosimo I, the Palazzo Grifoni was erected by Bartolomeo Ammannati in one of the most prominent sites in Florence between 1561 and 1565. The façade on the Piazza Santissima Annunziata was completed in 1772. The present interior with representative staircase and fresco decoration on the piano nobile goes back to the Budini Gattai family who acquired the palazzo in 1890.

Opening hours of the Photo Library in the Palazzo Grifoni are as follows:

Monday to Friday: 10 am to 7 pm. (except for public holidays and other days when the KHI remains closed).

Visitors with a valid user ID card for the KHI should enter the Palazzo Grifoni by the door on the Via dei Servi 51.

Photo Library of the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz - Max-Planck-Institut

Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai

Via dei Servi 51, I-50122 Florence

Tel.: +39 055 216707

For any mail sent to the Photo Library the Institute's address remains valid:

Via G. Giusti 44, I-50121 Florenz

For further information :

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