

20. Firenze Imperiale: Mapping Colonial Heritage in Italy

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On this poster, La Boîte à Histoire would like to present its first main project: a transmedia history festival that will take place in September 2018 in Paris. This three days event has been thought as a meeting space between professional historians and various publics throughout different types of workshops and participative activities. The festival will deal with the revolutions and massive protest movements that occurred in 1848 in Europe and had a knock-on effect around the world. This historical episode remains not very well-known in France, yet many social issues raised at that time still echo nowadays as for instance discussions about women's role, slavery, political representation etc. The originality of this project lies in the variety of the activities the festival will propose but also in the close collaboration of professional historians along with the integration of a central artistic dimension. Among about a dozen activities organised by La Boîte à Histoire, people will find traditional historical mediations as a guided tour of revolutionary Paris, a round table conference with specialists and an art exhibition. Apart from that, the programme will include an escape game, staged readings of historical sources, a historical trial re-enactment, a twitter fictionalised debate between historical characters and a counter-factual history workshop. The poster will present the key aspects and specificities of this project: the pedagogical dimension, the participative and inclusive approach, the interdisciplinarity of the project,

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FIRENZE IMPERIALE MAPPING COLONIAL HERITAGE IN

Statue of Hercules and the Nemean Lion

In the center of Piazza Ognissanti stands a bronze sculpture depicting an episode of Greek mythology: Hercules defeats the Nemean Lion. In 1935 Angiolo Orvieto (1869-1967), a Jewish-Italian poet and intellectual, commissioned this statue from the Florentine sculptor Romano Romanelli (1882-1968). In the context of the conquest of Ethiopia and the time of the statue's erection in 1937 - one year after the proclamation of the colonial empire - the statue took on a new meaning: It celebrated the subjugation of Ethiopia by Italy. While Hercules - in this understanding - represents the dictator Benito Mussolini...
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This square is the site of the battle of Adwa in 1896, which Ethiopia won against Italy. This battle was a decisive moment in the colonial history of Ethiopia and the Italian colonial empire. The square was named in honor of the battle. However, the name was changed to Piazza Adua in 1941. This change was a recognition of the Italian colonial empire's role in the region. However, the name was not changed back to its original form after the war.

STREETS, SQUARES, AND BUILDINGS WHOSE NAMES ARE COLONIAL
STATUES, MONUMENTS, COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUES WHICH CELEBRATE COLONIALISM
INSTITUTIONS THAT WERE INVOLVED IN COLONIALISM
COLONIAL TRACES IN POPULAR AND MASS CULTURE

THE PROJECT

Cradle of the Renaissance, Florence's historical heritage is primarily tied to Italian art history whereas the colonial past of the city remains barely noticeable. Although the Italian colonial empire had been relatively small and

A WORK IN PROGRESS

On this digital map, the data was originally collected by the project team. It is not only geographically accurate but also historically accurate. This is crucial - historically

the choice of 1848 as a topic etc. Moreover, the poster will also include practical information on the event, lists of contributors and activities, the partners' logos, contact details etc. This poster will be designed to present the way La Boîte à Histoire , as a public history association, seeks for creating performative mediation forms that could serve critical discourses while giving a playful dimension to didactical public history practices. ©2019 AIPH - Associazione Italiana di Public History