

## PRESS RELEASE

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**Contact:** Katherine Hazelrigg  
(202) 461-3888 / [khazelrigg@cgs.nche.edu](mailto:khazelrigg@cgs.nche.edu)

### **John North Hopkins Receives 2017 Arlt Award in the Humanities**

Washington, DC – The Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) has awarded the 2017 Gustave O. Arlt Award in the Humanities to Dr. John North Hopkins, assistant professor of art history and classical studies at Rice University. The awards ceremony was held during the CGS 57th Annual Meeting.

The Arlt Award is given annually to a young scholar-teacher who has written a book deemed to have made an outstanding contribution to scholarship in the humanities. Dr. Hopkins becomes the award's 47<sup>th</sup> recipient for his book, *The Genesis of Roman Architecture* (Yale UP, 2016). He received his PhD in art history from the University of Texas at Austin in 2010.

In *The Genesis of Roman Architecture*, Hopkins offers a close investigation of a dissected architectural and urban fabric from Rome's origins through the mid fifth century BCE. By focusing on individual elements of architectural creation—including architectonic practice, structural analysis, the style of decorative sculpture, and the social and political purpose of architectural manufacture—Hopkins assembles an image of Rome in continuous change through the beginning of the Republican period. The outcome is a book that allows the archaeological and visual record to play the primary role in telling the story of Rome's origins. Recent excavations—some still unpublished—are synthesized with the existing archaeological scholarship to create a holistic picture of the existing evidence. The analysis of these materials in comparison with remains from across the ancient Mediterranean reveals that Romans, as much as any other cultures in the classical world (Greek, Etruscans, etc.), helped shape the genesis of Mediterranean artistic and socio-political movements that lie at the foundations of world history.

"The Council of Graduate Schools is delighted to present this year's Arlt award to Dr. Hopkins. This award has a long and prestigious history of recognizing the outstanding scholarship by early-career humanities faculty," said Dr. Suzanne Ortega, president of the Council of Graduate Schools. "Dr. Hopkins' exceptional work is a valuable contribution to the study of early Rome."

Created in 1971, the Arlt Award honors the first president of CGS, Gustave O. Arlt. The winner must have earned a doctorate within the past seven years, and currently be teaching at a North American university. Nominations are made by CGS member institutions and are reviewed by a panel of scholars in the field of competition, which rotates annually among seven disciplines within the humanities. This year's field was Classical Studies/Archaeology. The winner receives a \$1,000 honorarium, a certificate, and travel to the awards ceremony.

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*The Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) is an organization of approximately 500 institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada engaged in graduate education, research, and the preparation of candidates for advanced degrees. The organization's mission is to improve and advance graduate education, which it accomplishes through advocacy in the federal policy arena, research, and the development and dissemination of best practices.*