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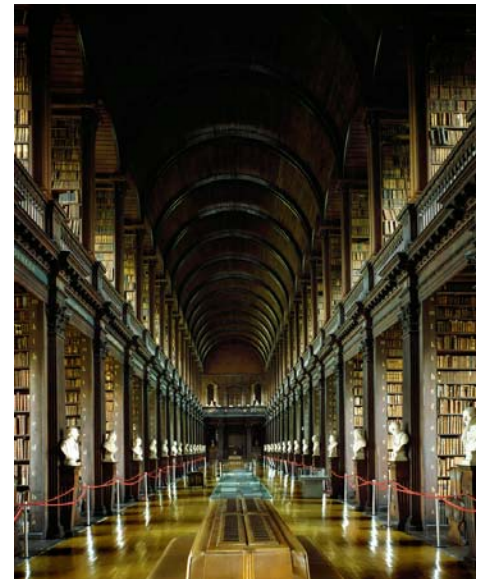
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**THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM PRESENTS MONTH-LONG
EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS BY MASSIMO LISTRI OF THE
GREAT LIBRARIES OF EUROPE**

*SHOW COINCIDES WITH THE REOPENING OF THE MORGAN'S ORIGINAL 1906
LIBRARY AND INCLUDES TWENTY-THREE LARGE-FORMAT PHOTOGRAPHS OF
SUCH MAGNIFICENT ROOMS AS TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY, DUBLIN*

Great European Libraries: Photographs by Massimo Listri Opens December 10

New York, NY, November 19, 2010—In 1902, when Pierpont Morgan commissioned Charles Follen McKim to design a library to house his growing collection of books and manuscripts, the architect conceived an Italianate marble villa that paid homage to the High Renaissance. On the occasion of the most extensive restoration of the McKim building's sumptuous interiors in over a hundred years, The Morgan Library & Museum presents an exhibition of photographs by Massimo Listri documenting iconic European libraries that similarly use fine wood, marble, and other precious materials to create an opulent setting for books. *Great European Libraries: Photographs by Massimo Listri* is on view from December 10, 2010 through January 9, 2011.



Massimo Listri, Trinity College Library, Dublin, lambda print, 1992. Courtesy Centro per l'arte contemporanea Luigi Pecci.

The large-format photographs, almost five feet in width and four feet in height, dramatically capture the beauty of the libraries, which were built from the fifteenth to nineteenth centuries. They represent an array of private, public, ecclesiastical, and academic institutions. Among them are the Malatestiana Library in Cesena, Italy, which was completed in 1454 and survives in its original building with its collection and furnishings intact; the St. Gall Monastery Library in Switzerland, which is a fine example of the Rococo style; the magnificent Long Room of Trinity College Library at the University of Dublin, where the *Book of Kells* is kept; the Laurentian Library in Florence, which was designed by Michelangelo; and the Vatican Library's sumptuous quarters, which were constructed between 1585 and 1590.

Massimo Listri is a Florence-based photographer whose work often presents interiors of great architectural and cultural importance. He has photographed ancient castles, villas and palaces, as well as hidden gardens, libraries, convents, monasteries, and universities. His photographs have been exhibited in numerous public and private institutions, including Palazzo Reale, Milan, Palazzo Pitti, Florence, and Centro per l'arte contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato. Over his career he has produced fifty eight books on art and architecture. Among the titles are *Il fascino delle biblioteche* (in which most of the photographs in this exhibition appear), *Il fascino dei musei*, *Italian Parks and Gardens*, *Where Muses Dwell: Homes of Great Artists and Writers*, and *Magnificent Italian Villas and Palaces*.



Massimo Listri. Strahov Library, Prague, lambda print, 2009. Courtesy Centro per l'arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci.



This exhibition is made possible through the generosity of Regione Toscana in collaboration with Centro per l'arte contemporanea Luigi Pecci-Prato. For more information, please visit www.centropecci.it.



The Morgan exhibition program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

The Morgan Library & Museum

The Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today, more than a century after its founding in 1906, the Morgan serves as a museum, independent research library, musical venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. In October 2010, the Morgan completed the first-ever restoration of its original McKim building, Pierpont Morgan's private library, and the core of the institution. In tandem with the 2006 expansion project by architect Renzo Piano, the Morgan now provides visitors unprecedented access to its world-renowned collections of drawings, literary and historical manuscripts, musical scores, medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, printed books, and ancient Near Eastern seals and tablets.

General Information

The Morgan Library & Museum
 225 Madison Avenue, at 36th Street, New York, NY 10016-3405
 212.685.0008
www.themorgan.org

Hours

Tuesday–Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; extended Friday hours, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Mondays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. The Morgan closes at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.