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His major research areas are: eighteenth-century European architecture and its relation to culture, sciences and politics; in particular Gianbattista Piranesi; Johann Santini Aichel and early-eighteenth-century architecture and urbanism in Bohemia and Moravia; the historiography of the architecture of the 16th through mid-eighteenth centuries, its impact on twentieth century architecture, and its relationship to cultural and political issues, including nationalism.

His books on the late-Baroque period include *Johann Santini Aichel* (1998), *Piranesi: Archeologie en Inventie* (2008), *Aspects of Piranesi: Essays on History, Criticism and Invention* (2015), and *Eighteenth-Century Neapolitan Staircases* (2017 and 2018, 2 vols). He contributed to books published by a.o. the Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte (Munich), Electa (Milan), Blackwell (New York), 010 (Rotterdam) and the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (Paris). He has published in journals such as the *JSAH*, the *Journal of Architecture*, *Casabella*, and *Oase*, and has curated international exhibitions in Belgium, Prague and Montréal.