

Conference of the Ph.D. course
in History, Criticism and Conservation
of Cultural Heritage

C O N V E G N O
SVELARE
l'invisibile

The PhD students of the XXXVI Cycle of the Doctoral School in History, Criticism and Conservation of Cultural Heritage of the University of Padua present the International Conference "Unveiling the invisible. Hidden traces of stories, works and cultural contexts" which will be held on 17 and 18 November 2022 in Padua (Italy).

The days of study will be an opportunity to meet and discuss the theme of the invisible in the historical-archaeological, artistic, musical and show fields. Following the values of multidisciplinary and inclusion that have distinguished the University of Padua since its foundation, PhD students from Italian and foreign universities are invited to propose their contribution, inspired by the following interpretations:

tracce nascoste di storie,
opere e contesti

UNVEILING
the invisible

hidden traces of
stories, works
and cultural contexts

Reading between the lines

- The study of hidden or covered signs and traces within artifacts, buildings, art collections and artworks, aimed at reconstructing the past from a historical, archaeological, artistic, economic, cultural, religious, social or technological point of view;
- The interpretation of artworks through the analysis of its relationship with the past and the author's identity in it and / or its influence on future works;
- New interpretations of pieces of arts emerging from buried deep traits in their conceptual and visual elements.

Beyond what can be seen

- Traditional methods and new technologies as investigative tools for the discovery, rediscovery, understanding and valorization of stories, works and artifacts, whether hidden or inaccessible (use of invasive and non-invasive diagnostic

methodologies; archaeometry, bioarchaeology, microarchaeology, AR and VR, 3D and graphical reconstruction, etc.);

- Investigation into hidden traces brought to light by destructive events (earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding, climate changes etc.) that became trails for the material or semantical reconstruction of artifacts;
- Discovering and rediscovering, understanding and valorizing the hidden or secluded artifacts and documents stored in museum's deposits, collections or public and private archives, through their studying, cataloging and digitalization;
- Studying and re-evaluating the preparatory material needed for the creative process of artworks.

Between burying and unearthing

- Theories and practices of restoration adopted to hide, modify or uncover previous artistic or constructive phases;
- Rediscovery and study of hidden informa-

tion in works that changed in appearance, substance or meaning as a result of tampering, revisions, repurposing and restructuring actions.

Hidden realities and unconventional stories

- Revaluation of past societies' figures and production;
- The contribution of cultural heritage's professionals working "behind the scenes";
- Right of recognition: rewriting art's history to include people (scholars, art collectors, artists, etc.) and works (artistic production from non-European countries, decolonial practices, etc.) left out of the canonical narrative, which is too often considered neutral.

How to participate

An abstract of a maximum length of 300 words is requested, accompanied by five keywords. Proposals for contributions (paper or poster) should be submitted by filling in the application form at the following link (<https://unipd.link/svelareinvisibile-form>) not later than **30 May 2022**.

The contributions will be evaluated by a scientific committee of PhD students and professors of the Department of Cultural Heritage of the University of Padua. Researches that are in an advanced state of research will be preferred. The results of the selection process will be notified by 30 June 2022.

The conference will be held in person with the possibility of using remote participation on the Zoom platform.

Publication of the volume

Contributions (papers and posters), compiled according to the editorial guidelines (to be indicated by the scientific committee), should be sent to the Conference e-mail address (svelare.invisibile@unipd.it) not later than 31 December 2022.

Info

svelare.invisibile@unipd.it

Organizing committee

- Chiara Andreatta
- Marco Argentina
- Greta Boldorini
- Federica Bosio
- Eliana Bridi
- Chiara Casarin
- Andrea Chiocca
- Francesca Daniele
- Mirko Fecchio
- Ylenia Saretta
- Federica Stella Mosimann
- Gianantonio Urbani
- Romina Zanon

17-18 novembre 2022

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