2-4 June 2021, Nicosia, Cyprus

Emerging Technologies and the Digital Transformation of Museums and Heritage Sites





The conference is dedicated to the exploration of current practices in the use of emerging and interactive technologies such as augmented, mixed or virtual reality, holographic models, 3D models, artificial intelligence, sensors and gamification in museums and heritage sites

# **RISE IMET 2021**

This is the first conference in a series of RISE annual conferences focusing on Interactive Media, Smart Systems and Emerging Technologies (RISE – IMET).

For 2021, the RISE IMET International Conference will be dedicated to the theme "Emerging Technologies and the Digital Transformation of Museums and Heritage Sites"

The aim of the conference is to promote critical and interdisciplinary approaches and conversations between participants from diverse fields and to encourage interdisciplinary dialogue between academics and professionals from various backgrounds on digital advances, innovation and their impact on the field of cultural heritage.

# **RISE CoE**

The conference is organized by the Research Centre on Interactive media, Smart systems and Emerging Technologies (RISE). RISE is a Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Cyprus aiming to empower knowledge and technology transfer in the region. It is a joint venture between the three public universities of Cyprus - University of Cyprus, Cyprus University of Technology, and Open University of Cyprus- the Municipality of Nicosia, and two renowned international partners, the Max Planck Institute for Informatics, Germany, and, the University College London, United Kingdom.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 739578



This project has received funding from the Government of the Republic of Cyprus through the Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development.

#### **CONFERENCE CHAIRS**



Dr Theopisti Stylianou-Lambert, Associate Professor, Cyprus University of Technology/ Research Centre on Interactive media, Smart systems and Emerging technologies (RISE)

Theopisti Stylianou-Lambert is associate professor at the Department of Multimedia and Graphic Arts at the Cyprus University of Technology and the founder and coordinator of its Visual Sociology and Museum Studies Lab. Her research interests include museum studies and visual sociology with an emphasis on photography. Theopisti has published widely on museums and photography, is the co-author of The Political Museum (Routledge, 2016) and the editor of Museums and Visitor Photography (MuseumsEtc, 2016), Museums and Photography: Displaying Death (co-editor, Routledge, 2017), Photography and Cyprus: Time, Place, Identity (co-editor, I.B.Tauris, 2014), and Re-envisioning Cyprus (co-editor, University of Nicosia Press, 2010). She received her PhD in Museum Studies from the University of Leicester (UK) and her MA in Visual Arts/ Museum Education from the University of Texas at Austin (USA).

Theopisti is also the recipient of several scholarships and awards including a Smithsonian Fellowship in Museum Practice (USA), a Fulbright Fellowship (USA) and an Arts and Humanities Research Council Award (UK).



#### Dr Maria Shehade, Research Associate, Research Centre on Interactive media, Smart systems and Emerging technologies (RISE)

Maria Shehade is a Research Associate at the Museum Lab of RISE Research Centre and an Expert Scientist at the Cyprus University of Technology. She obtained her PhD title in Cultural Heritage Management from the Institute for Sustainable Heritage of UCL. She also holds a Master's degree in Cultural Heritage Management from the Institute of Archaeology of UCL, a Bachelor degree in History, Archaeology and History of Art from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and a Certificate in Negotiation from the Institute of Leadership and Management, UK. She has worked as a Research Associate in a number of research projects in the UK, Greece and Cyprus offering her expertise in heritage management, museology and history and archaeology. She has also taught courses in several Universities including University College London, the University of Nicosia, Open University Cyprus and the Cyprus University of Technology. She has received several scholarships and awards for her research from the National Foundation of Scholarships of Greece, the UCL Graduate School and the Leventis Scholarship Foundation, which also funded her doctoral research.

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**



#### Professor Alan Chalmers, WMG, University of Warwick, United Kingdom

Alan Chalmers is a Professor of Visualisation at WMG, University of Warwick, UK and a former Royal Society Industrial Fellow. He has an MSc with distinction from Rhodes University, 1985 and a PhD from University of Bristol, 1991. He is Honorary President of Afrigraph and a former Vice President of ACM SIGGRAPH. Chalmers has published over 250 papers in journals and international conferences on virtual archaeology, HDR imaging, high-fidelity virtual experiences, and multi-sensory perception, and successfully supervised 49 PhD students. In addition, Chalmers is a UK representative on IST/37 considering standards within MPEG and a Town Councillor for Kenilworth where he lives.



Dr Jenny Kidd, Senior Lecturer, School of Journalism, Media and Culture, Cardiff University, UK Dr. Jenny Kidd is Senior Lecturer in the School of Journalism, Media and Culture at Cardiff University. She researches across the fields of digital heritage, ethics and immersive media, often in partnership with those working in the cultural sector. Jenny is author of Museums in the New Mediascape: Transmedia, Participation, Ethics (Routledge 2014) and Critical Encounters with Immersive Storytelling (Routledge 2019), and has published extensively in Journals such as The International Journal of Heritage Studies, Museum and Society, The Curator and Information, Technology and People. Jenny has been a core project partner on a number of immersive heritage projects, including With New Eyes I See (2014) and Traces/Olion (2016).



#### Dr. Roberto Scopigno, Director ISTI-CNR, Pisa, Italy

Roberto Scopigno graduated on Computer Science at Pisa in 1984. He is a Research Director with CNR-ISTI and founder of the Visual Computing Lab. Since 2019 Roberto has been nominated Director of CNR-ISTI. He has been engaged in research projects concerned with 3D graphics and visual technologies (interactive visualisation, multi-resolution technologies, 3D digitization) with main application to Cultural Heritage. He published more than 250 papers in international journals or conferences, with Google Scholar h-index 53. Roberto has been responsible person for CNR-ISTI for several EU projects and ICP Co-Chair of several international conferences. He served as Chair of the Eurographics Association (2009-2010), Editor in Chief of the Int. Journal Computer Graphics Forum (2001-2010) and member of the ERC PE6 panel (ICT panel); he is Editor in Chief of the ACM J. on Computing and Cultural Heritage. He has been the recipient of the "Outstanding Technical Contribution Award" issued by the Eurographics Association in 2008 and of the "Distinguished Career Award" issued by Eurographics in 2014.



# Professor Sarah Kenderdine, Laboratory for Experimental Museology (eM+), École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland

Professor Sarah Kenderdine researches at the forefront of interactive and immersive experiences for galleries, libraries, archives and museums. In widely exhibited installation works, she has amalgamated cultural heritage with new media art practice, especially in the realms of interactive cinema, augmented reality and embodied narrative. She is considered a pioneer in the field digital heritage, digital museology, digital humanities and data visualisation and is a regular keynote speaker at related forums internationally. In addition to her exhibition work she conceives and designs large-scale immersive visualisation systems for public audiences, industry and researchers. Since 1991 Sarah had authored numerous scholarly articles and six books. She has produced 80 exhibitions and installations for museums worldwide including a museum complex in India and received a number of major international awards for this work. In 2017, Sarah was appointed Professor of Digital Museology at the École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland where she has built a new laboratory for experimental museology (eM+), exploring the convergence of aesthetic practice, visual analytics and cultural data. She is also Director and lead curator of EPFL's new art/science initiative, inaugurated in 2016 as ArtLab.



## Dr Nancy Proctor, Director, The Peale Center for Baltimore History and Architecture, USA

Nancy Proctor is Director of The Peale Center for Baltimore History and Architecture as well as Co-chair of the MuseWeb (formerly Museums and the Web) Conferences. Previously Nancy was Deputy Director of Digital Experience and Communications at the Baltimore Museum of Art (2014-2016), Head of Mobile Strategy and Initiatives at the Smithsonian Institution (2010-2014), and Head of New Media Initiatives at the Smithsonian's American Art Museum (2008-2010). With a PhD in American art history and a background in filmmaking, curation and art criticism, Nancy lectures and publishes widely on technology and innovation in museums, in French and Italian as well as English. Nancy Proctor created her first online exhibition in 1995 and went on to publish the New Art CD-ROM and website of contemporary art in the UK in 1996. She co-founded TheGalleryChannel. com in 1998 with Titus Bicknell to present virtual tours of innovative exhibitions alongside comprehensive global museum and gallery listings. The Gallery Channel was later acquired by Antenna Audio, where Nancy led New Product Development from 2000-2008, introducing the company's multimedia, sign language, downloadable, podcast and cellphone tours. She also directed Antenna's sales in France from 2006-2007, and worked with the Travel Channel's product development team. Nancy served as program chair for the Museums Computer Network (MCN) conference 2010-2011, and co-organized the Tate Handheld conference 2008 & 2010. She started MuseumMobile.info, its wiki and podcast series in 2008. She was Digital Editor of Curator: The Museum Journal from 2009-2014, and is now on the Journal's editorial board, as well as on the Board of Directors of the Omnimuseum Project.

## WELCOME TO NICOSIA, CYPRUS



Nicosia, the capital of Cyprus, is the southeasternmost European capital city with a population of 300,000 people. The city has a long and vibrant history dating back to the Bronze Age. A charactiristic feature of the city are the Venetial Walls that surround the Old Town of Nicosia. Evidence from all eras and rulers that have passed from the island are evident all around the city. In addition to its history, Nicosia boasts a trendy and lively social scene with theatrical and musical events along with a vibrant night-life.

#### VENUE



The sessions of the event will be taking place at the A.G. Leventis Gallery

The A.G.Leventis Gallery was opened in central Nicosia in 2014, fulfilling Anastasios G. Leventis' bequest to make the art treasures acquired during his lifetime accessible to his compatriots in Cyprus.

True to the founder's vision, the A. G. Leventis Foundation resolved that his Collections should be exhibited in a building worthy of the art it houses.

Following an international architectural competition, construction of the Gallery began in 2011 and was completed in 2014. Eco-friendly and equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual resources within the framework of a traditional museum, the Gallery is designed to inform and entertain visitors of all ages.

The Gallery is home to three collections: the Paris Collection and the Greek Collection, acquired by Anastasios G. Leventis himself, and the more recent Cyprus Collection.

Taking its name from Anastasios G. Leventis' Paris apartment where it was housed for more than 50 years, the Paris Collection features European art from a range of artistic schools from the 17th century to the 20th, as well as period furniture and objets d'art.

Making up the Greek Collection are works of local artists from the early 20th century to 1930s.

The primary focus of the Cyprus Collection is work by the first generation of local artists.

Together, the three Collections and the Gallery serve as a landmark for Nicosia and a fitting tribute to the magnificence of our shared European heritage.

# AUDIENCE

The conference will provide a platform for academics and professionals from the fields of museum studies, cultural heritage, computer science, heritage management, artificial intelligence, visual arts and cognitive science amongst others to discuss state-of-the-art developments in the academia and industry as well as providing opportunities for networking and collaboration through series of presentations, talks, panel discussions, workshops and special sessions.

The scientific committee of the conference comes from Europe, the US, Australia and Israel and is formed by well-established academics.



## 100 participants

RISE IMET 2021 aims to attract more than 100 participants

## **International Reach**

RISE IMET 2021 will provide a platform for academics and professionals from all over the world

## **Multidiscilinary**

RISE IMET 2021 will attract participants from the fields of museum studies, cultural heritage, computer science, heritage management, artificial intelligence, visual arts and cognitive science

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## **ADDITIONAL SPONSORHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Interested parties may also opt for specific sponsorship opportunities such as sponsoring the Welcome Reception, lunch / coffee breaks, have a banner display and others.

Please contact us for more information.

# **CONTACT US**

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## LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

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