

ANDREAS PITTAS ART CHARACTERIZATION LABORATORIES

MISSION AND VISION

Advances in Science and Technology offer new and innovative approaches to the study and understanding of art and archaeology. Issues of style, iconography, technique and materiality are addressed through novel digital and analytical methods that have revolutionized the history of art, the archaeological method, the preservation of cultural heritage and their relevance for contemporary societies.

Responding to these opportunities, the establishment of the Andreas Pittas Art Characterization Laboratories (APAC Labs) at The Cyprus Institute, made possible with the generous support of Dr. Andreas Pittas, provides the necessary research and innovation infrastructure to pursue fundamental questions in art historical, archaeological and heritage research in the broader Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East region, through the effective application of analytical and digital methods. Operating as an integral component of the research facilities of the Science and Technology in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Research Center (STARC) of The Cyprus Institute, thus moving beyond the confines of a standard lab, APAC Labs embrace a holistic approach to art characterization. More specifically, the labs will pursue:

A) Research, to advance a science and technology-driven study of the history, style, iconography, materiality and production techniques of works of art and heritage assets.

B) Innovation, to develop task-specific service protocols related to material characterization, provenance, state of preservation and identification of works of art and cultural heritage artefacts.

C) Training and Education, to offer workshops and seminars to experts in art history, archaeology and the humanities thus exposing them to new methodologies and approaches in the cross-disciplinary study of works of art and archaeological material.

Moreover, the future development of APAC Labs is fully aligned with the growth of Heritage Science as envisioned in the EU research agenda. Specifically, Art Characterization research at APAC Labs and STARC has been formally included in the European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science (E-RIHS) as the designated hub for the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East region.

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS

Centre de Recherche et de Restauration des Musées de France (C2RMF), France
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NCSA, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
A. G. Leventis Gallery, Cyprus
Leventis Municipal Museum of Nicosia, Cyprus
Byzantine Museum, Cyprus
Historical Museum of Crete
Benaki Museum
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR), Italy
Israel Antiquities Authority, Israel

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