

Prehistoric Art: Guide to Good Practice

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CeSMAP

Centro Studi e Museo d'Arte Preistorica



EuroPreArt

European Prehistoric Art

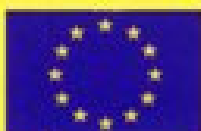
Past Signs and Present Memories

EuroPreArt Project

Past Signs and Present Memories

European Prehistoric Art: Inventory, Contextualisation,

Preservation and Accessibility



Europa

European Commission – Education and Culture DG

Culture 2000 Programme

• CUEBC

European University Centre for Cultural Heritage, Ravello - Italy

Since 1983, in Ravello, in the magnificent Villa Rufolo, the European University Centre for Cultural Heritage of Ravello has been the first tangible example of the Council of Europe's realisation of the usefulness of "centres of excellence" in various sectors of research and scientific training. At the same time it is an experimental laboratory dealing with scientific research and specialist matters, which is part of the auspicious European University for Cultural Heritage.

With reference to traditional universities, on one hand the Centre follows their usual research and training activities, but on the other hand it is characterised by:

- an international dimension: since culture knows no bounds, Ravello has now become a medium for co-operation and friendship, a "forge" as it were for a united Europe; the Centre's schemes are also being carried out with equal commitment in other European cities, and its representatives are present more and more frequently in meetings on a world-wide scale;
- interdisciplinarity: as it is fully aware of the unity of culture (l'Esprit de Ravello), the Centre operates on an interdisciplinary basis. In this way it is possible to overcome the contradiction between the single subject of cultural heritage and the natural interest of Universities for every field of culture.

These characteristics allow the Centre to provide for needs which traditional universities are not able to meet, and it has thus become a meeting place for specialists and experts, as well as an appreciated training centre.

The Centre has organised, up to now, 31 intensive courses and about 100 workshops, round tables and conferences. It publishes its activities in its own collection.

The European Centre also carries out a subsidiary promotional activity, following the tested formula of "research-training-intervention"

In a series of meetings organised by the Centre in agreement with the Council of Europe, the Civil Protection Ministers of Mediterranean Europe drew up the guidelines for an Open Partial Agreement for the Prevention of, Protection against, and Organisation of Relief in Major Natural and Technological Hazards (EUR.OPA Major Hazards), and the Centre represents the reference for cultural heritage.

Besides this, the Centre carries out, in agreement with the European Union, programmes for the protection and re-evaluation of widespread common resources (the so-called minor monuments), including hand-manufactured goods which express the history, the tradition, the civilisation and the culture of different populations and which provide a context for the great monuments. Plans are underway for a special project during the next decade dealing with the study and protection of so-called minor cultural heritage.

At present the European Community, UNESCO, IDNDR and other European and world-wide institutions greatly value the Centre and make sound use of the work it produces. European governments and international institutions have adopted the scheme the Centre drew up against major natural and technological hazards, establishing a system of scientific research and organising prevention and rescue measures.

In particular, the Centre has joined the 2000 awareness-raising campaign launched by the Council of Europe "**Europe, a common heritage**", by means of three transnational projects: European Observatory on Cultural Tourism, New methodologies for the knowledge of European cultural heritage, Atlas of Seismic Cultures .

As a result of its activities, the Centre is a scientific and cultural landmark at an international level and an effective tool for European integration.

Project Team

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