Intersections of Art History and Cultural Heritage from Digital Approaches

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Digital technologies and approaches have brought art history and cultural heritage, two distinct but related fields, closer together. This panel examines the intersections in these fields deriving from these new methods. Laser scans, photogrammetry, BIM modeling, and other digital tools have offered innovative approaches to the study of buildings and their environments both past and present. In the past two decades, for example, GIS mapping has been employed for resource management as well as in research on spatial and social networks. In addition, 3D modeling has enabled visualizations of vanished or modified monuments, their phases of construction, and the broader built environment. These new methods have produced inspiring and tantalizing visualizations that extend the known corpus of monuments and shed new light on artistic production and exchange, but the intersections between these two fields have not been critically assessed in any significant ongoing discourse. We ask what new insights, questions, and methods arise from the mutual cross-referencing of these two fields.

This session aims to showcase research in art history and cultural heritage that explore new directions and reveal insights gained from the increased proximity of these fields. The session papers do not focus solely on digital processes, but instead critically reflect on the ways in which digital research informs or contributes to practices in both disciplines. How do digital approaches alter traditional methods and interpretations for art history and cultural heritage? In what ways do digital approaches transform the ways we represent and see art history and cultural heritage? The papers in this session include topics ranging from spatial and phenomenological analyses to data-driven and quantitative analyses through case studies.

#Art History #Cultural Heritage #DigitalHumanities