Culture in Crisis: The Practical Applications of Digital Reproduction in Heritage Preservation
9 December 2017
Seminar Room 1, Sackler Centre, V&A

Conference outline

The V&A's Culture in Crisis Programme, partnered with Yale Global Cultural Heritage Initiatives, presents a conference and workshop event to address the practical applications of digital reproduction in heritage preservation.

Over the course of 2017, the V&A's ReACH (Reproductions of Art and Cultural Heritage) project has been working with partner institutions around the globe to write a new agreement which promotes and facilitates the dissemination of works of art and culture in the digital sphere.

Following the announcement of the agreement, taking place on Friday 8th December at the museum, this follow-on event will explore how we in the UK can apply this technology in the wider sphere of cultural heritage preservation, registering a global impact.

From teachers using the technology as innovative teaching aids supporting their syllabus; instilling the importance of heritage preservation from an early age, to universities using the resource for academic research and to train the practitioners of tomorrow. Taking a multidisciplinary approach, we'll also explore how this resource can be used to increase access to culture for special needs audiences as well as improving regional collaboration between cultural institutions.

Speaking with a diverse pool of future partners, who will both feed and extract from this resource, the event will be an opportunity to collaborate and contribute ideas on how the 2017 ReACH declaration could be best used in the future, as we continue our efforts to support education, advocacy and direct action which promotes, protects and preserves cultural heritage.

Programme and Speakers

Welcome Remarks
Dr Tristram Hunt, Director, V&A

Culture in Crisis and Yale Global Cultural Heritage Initiatives Partnership
Dr Stefan Simon, Director, Global Heritage Initiatives, Yale Institute for the Preservation of Cultural Heritage

Introduction to proceedings
Vernon Rapley, Director of Security and Culture Heritage Protection, V&A

Case study 1 – Regional Museums
Al Rawlinson, Head of Digital Innovation and Learning, Historic Environment Scotland

Case study 2 – Schools

Faye Ellis, Director of Digital Tech, Thomas' School Clapham, Apple Distinguished Educator, Class of 2017

Case study 3 – Universities

Dr Robert Bewley, Project Director & Co-Founder of Endangered Archaeology of the Middle East (EAMENA), Oxford University

Case study 4 – App Development

Anna Lowe, Cofounder and Director of Partnerships, Smartify App

Panel discussion

Chaired by Vernon Rapley, Director of Security and Culture Heritage Protection, V&A

Question and Answer session

The conference was recorded and is available on YouTube