



Conservation matters

the art of restorers in a demanding world

ELIA Biennial Conference
(Wien, November 10th 2012)

re+spect is about the conservator's figure and role in the XXI century.

Despite the focus of his/her training, the convergence of artistic and scientific competences in one single professional represent an opportunity for future answers that our world, if not just its cultural heritage, is more and more demanding.

re+spect is about the fostering of a culture of care.

A common attitude towards both the arts and the environment; to embrace the worlds of conservation & restoration (C&R) into one common vision, one similar approach, providing an opportunity to express the outcomes of interventions, which are different in scale and specific technologies, with common words. So that **re+**touching lacunas of a worn out painting would be as **re+**planting the shores of a damaged estuary; both **re+**cover the readability and the authenticity of a phenomenon, whether it is artistic or natural.

re+spect is to demonstrate the importance of a conservative attitude in our daily life and future; to clarify and express the common roots of the C&R approach; to steer a better understanding of the importance of cultural diversities and the richness of their outputs; to show and improve the attachment of people to their cultural heritage/natural or anthropic landscapes, the appreciation of theirs and others identities.

re+spect is also the fostering of a better understanding of the **re+**economy.

To provide decision makers, politicians, designers but also the same professionals, of tools and methods to better understand and interpret the positive fallouts of C&R in local economies.

Conservation & restoration can be interpreted as a guide, able to teach civic and ethical principles like a cure aimed at transferring good practices to train people conscious of today and tomorrow in the knowledge of the fragility of the tokens of our presence on this planet.

ARE YOU WITH US?



Re-spect: conservation matters
conservators in a demanding world

ELIA Biennial Conference
(Wien, 8 - 10 November 2012)

Round Table
Saturday 10th November
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Summary of themes for contributions

Re-spect is about the conservator's figure and role in the XXI century. Despite the focus of his/her training, the convergence of artistic and scientific competences in one single professional represent an opportunity for future answers that our world, if not just its cultural heritage, is more and more demanding.

Re-spect

- of traditional techniques and the re-discovery of their sustainability in a renewed "lifecycle" management approach (might apply to movable and immovable patrimony);
- of the readability of the original expressive intentions and technical solutions;
- of the impact of certain choices for the environment in the short and long term;
- etc...

Re-economy....

- the outcomes of an activity that spans from cultural heritage to the conservation of the environment;
- options for re-using materials (the current economy seems to want/need a return to this approach);
- the restorer is the first in line (not just as regards techniques but also in recycling);
- etc...

Open questions

What is your perception of "re-spect" and how much of it is part of your running curricula?

Can we reserve an area to such a global approach and holistic appreciation in our training programs?

Can the graduates from our schools apply their knowledge in other fields, and in which way?

What is your data gathering about the actual position of your trainees in the job market?