

EDITORIAL. AN ISSUE OF SCIRES-IT RICH IN CONTENT, 'COLORFUL' AND 'DIVINE'

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Abstract

This issue of SCIRES-IT, rich in content, 'colorful' and 'divine', contains various and interesting articles supporting the documentation, preservation and fruition of Cultural and Environmental Heritage. In particular, it hosts some selected papers on color technologies and processes applied to Cultural Heritage in its multifaceted aspects. Some papers deal with innovative projects on Dante and the Divine Comedy carried out on the occasion of Dante's 700th anniversary, and other contributions on different technologies applied to Cultural Heritage in various parts of the world.

Keywords

SCIRES-IT, Editorial, SCientific REsearch and Information Technology, Cultural and Environmental Heritage, Multimedia Technologies, Eco-sustainable Publications, Diamond Open Access Journal, Color technologies, Divine Comedy, Dante Alighieri.

This issue of SCIRES-IT (no. 2, vol. 11, 2021), rich in content, "colorful" and "divine", contains a number of novelties and contributions on cultural, environmental and natural heritage, as well as on digital technologies.

From this issue, SCIRES-IT hosts some scientific contributions selected among those that were presented, in a more concise form, during the last 14th Congress of the International Color Association (AIC2021). The event, which took place from August 30th to September 3rd, brought together scholars and professionals from a wide range of fields, united in the common interest in the theoretical and practical study of color and its several applications.

The AIC2021 papers chosen for this issue of the Journal are the result of in-depth analyses of the topics that the authors presented at the Congress, which are here expanded so as to be more consistent with the scope of SCIRES-IT.

Therefore, color technologies and processes applied to Cultural Heritage in its multifaceted aspects, from archaeology to movies, or from fabrics to paintings, are collected in these selected works in an extended version.

Colors and related technologies and processes, as well as the accuracy of their replication, are all paramount features in the reconstruction of

architectural works and, most importantly, of ancient artifacts, since the tiniest trait could easily lead to the discovery of unexpected clues in an object, thus greatly enhancing our knowledge about it (Zampieri, Baldoni, Garagnani, Gaucci & Silani, 2021).

Further selected contributions on color will be presented in the first issue of 2022.

Starting from this issue, SCIRES-IT also host some contributions on projects carried out for Dante' 700th anniversary, a year in which the figure and work of Dante, throughout Italy, generated a surge of reappropriation and collective identification, at every level.

During the most critical stages of the pandemic, the whole of Italy identified once more with its heritage, traditions, symbols, with its capacity to create and share culture, also thanks to modern technologies and new methods of communication. In such a context, Dante as a poet, but also a naturalist and ecologist ante litteram (Valzano, Sartor, 2021), a man of the Middle Ages attentive to the functioning of machines and technological processes contemporary to him (Caroti, Piemonte, Caprioli, Cisaria, 2021) – as defined in the two projects presented in this issue – played a leading role.

The first project, through an accurate scientific

framework of the Divine Comedy and the realization of a multimedia product capable of making literature, art, music and technology interact, aims at facilitating a wider and more accessible knowledge of Dante's poetry, of his love and respect for nature in all its components.

The second project, through the realization of an artistic installation of old and new technologies interacting with each other, proposes a reinterpretation of the Poet and the Divine Comedy in a playful and immersive digital reality, with a view to celebrating the modernity of his work, as well as stimulating a reflection on the link between Dante and technology, still little investigated today, but quite present in his work.

Both projects offer users new and interesting ways of looking at the priceless cultural heritage that the Divine Comedy represents for all Italians and lovers of the Supreme Poet around the world.

More contributions concerning innovative projects on Dante and the Divine Comedy will also be welcomed in 2022.

This 'rich', 'colorful' and 'divine' issue also hosts other contributions, of considerable interest, on different technologies applied to Cultural Heritage in various parts of the world, dealing with different problems and possible solutions concerning the structural monitoring of buildings, the parametric modelling of historical buildings and infrastructures, the generation of digital twins of cultural heritage artifacts, their virtual fruition, augmented reality, accessibility and more.

The contributions are interesting and consistent with the scope and the Manifesto of SCIRES-IT, a diamond open access and eco-sustainable journal focused on multimedia technologies and cultural and environmental heritage, which combines the main principles of the Berlin Declaration on Open Access with the objectives of the International Convention on Biological Diversity, with the aim of promoting scientific dissemination, biodiversity awareness, environmental conservation and a sustainable use of natural resources.

As stated in the SCIRES-IT Manifesto:

“Our mission of disseminating knowledge is only half complete if the information is not made widely

and readily available to society.” (Berlin Declaration).

“We can survive as a species only if we live by the rules of the biosphere. The biosphere has enough for everyone's needs if the global economy respects the limits set by sustainability and justice.” (Vandana Shiva, Indian environmental activist). (SCIRES-IT Manifesto, 2011).

On the occasion of the 700th anniversary of Dante and his love for nature, with the publication of the present issue, an action of environmental restoration will be carried out in protected areas of Salento, by planting local ecotypes of native species, in line with the editorial project "Eco-sustainable Open Acces Publications", launched in 2009, within which SCIRES-IT was founded (Proietti & Valzano, 2011; Boero & Lucarella, 2018).

To the Supreme Poet we also dedicated the cover of this issue, featuring an illustration of the Divine Comedy by Gustave Doré (Inferno. I, 91-92).

Finally, from the present issue, SCIRES-IT has a new Co-Editor-in-Chief, Marco Gaiani, University of Bologna, who replaced Michela Cigola as Co-Editor-in-Chief of SCIRES-IT.

We would like to thank Michela Cigola (Co-editor-in-Chief from 2018 to no. 1 of 2021) for the valuable work done, and once again Cristiana Bartolomei (Co-editor-in-Chief from 2013 to 2018), Francesco Proietti (Co-editor-in-Chief from 2011 to 2013) and all the contributors: the Editorial Board, in particular Fabrizio Apollonio (University of Bologna), Antonio Leaci and Diego Pallara (University of Salento), the Editorial Staff, the Reviewers, the Authors and the Readers.

Thanks to the cooperation of all of them, SCIRES-IT has maintained its fundamental objectives and policy, thus achieving excellent results in the scientific field both nationally and internationally.

We welcome the new Co-editor-in-Chief Marco Gaiani and the new member of the Editorial Board and Editorial Staff, Simone Garagnani (University of Bologna) with the hope that these new collaborations may lead SCIRES-IT to achieve further important goals.

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