

# Remember 创忆遗产 数字经济 Heritage-driven Economy

2018 / 9 / 12 - 9 / 16 北京 · 清华大学  
Tsinghua University, Beijing

## CHCD2018 SYMPOSIUM

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Cultural Heritage Conservation and Digitization

第五届文化遗产保护与数字化国际论坛

### 发言题目

**New methods and materials for the Conservation of  
Cultural Heritage**

汇报人姓名(Piero Baglioni) / 工作单位(University of  
Florence and CSGI, Italy – [baglioni@csgi.unifi.it](mailto:baglioni@csgi.unifi.it))

## FACTS ON ART

**Cultural heritage is a strategic resource for a sustainable society**

If properly managed, it can:

- enhance **social inclusion and cohesion**,
- encourage **intercultural dialogue**,
- improve the quality of the immediate **living environment**,
- and stimulate **tourism**.

**Effective strategies to ensure the long-term** conservation of irreplaceable cultural heritage resources are therefore necessary

## FACTS ON ART

The best way to realize these benefits is **to increase the access to cultural heritage**. However, **access is possible** only if the **original artefacts** are properly conserved, which is **NOT** an **EASY TASK**

An example: **MODERN and CONTEMPORARY ART ONLY**

Museums	Modern/contemporary Works of art
MOMA	150,000
Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris	10,000
Centre G.Pompidou -Le Beaubourg	100,000
MAV/VAL - Musée d'Art Contemporain du Val-de-Marne	2,000
Tate	ca. 1,000 on display
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía	10,000
Peggy Guggenheim Collection - Venice	ca. 500
Rijks Museum of Amsterdam	30,000

**Huge # of artifacts: cannot be conserved with conventional technologies**  
**NEED FOR NEW FAST AND SAFE METHODS**

**A NEW SCIENTIFIC FRAMEWORK IS NECESSARY**

# What is conservation?

**ICOM-CC resolution adopted at the 15th Triennial Conference held in New Delhi in September 2008**

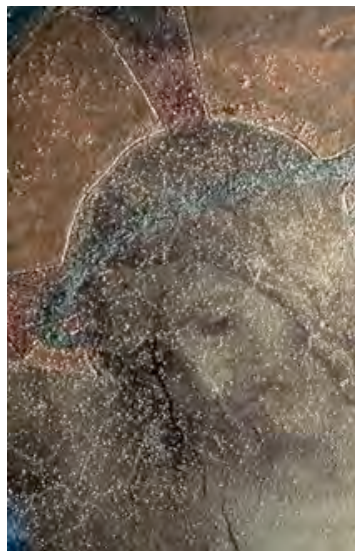
**Conservation** - all measures and actions aimed at safeguarding tangible cultural heritage while ensuring its accessibility to present and future generations.

**Accessibility** means the possibility to access and enjoy not only the **conceptual value of the artwork** (i.e. by using ICT technologies such as 3D reconstruction) **but also (more important) the ACTUAL OBJECT**



## ART: natural aging, degradation

### WORKS OF ART DEGRADE



Templo Mayor (Mexico City)

Beato Angelico wall paintings, Florence

Although the **conservation of cultural heritage** involves a different code of ethics, it can be **compared to medicine**, where **artefacts** are analogous to **patients** and **conservators** are similar to **doctors**.

**Diagnosis, treatment and prevention** are relevant to the conservation of artefacts: **SCIENCE** is contributing to such activities.

# What's being done? A comparison with medicine..

- ✓ Diagnosis → **diagnostics**
- ✓ Prevention → **preventive conservation** and
- ✓ Treatment → **remedial conservation**

**The main tools are already available to transfer to future generation  
our patrimony**

The treatment is **(therapy)** the final action, and the drugs used for  
therapies are **new smart materials and methods** coming from  
**groundbreaking technologies**

# New groundbreaking materials and methods

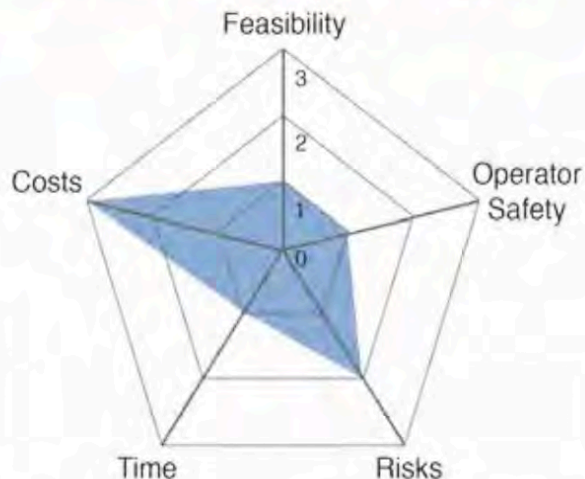
so far more than 50 new materials, 36 from **CSGI** based on

**nanoscience** for the conservation of our **HERITAGE** are now

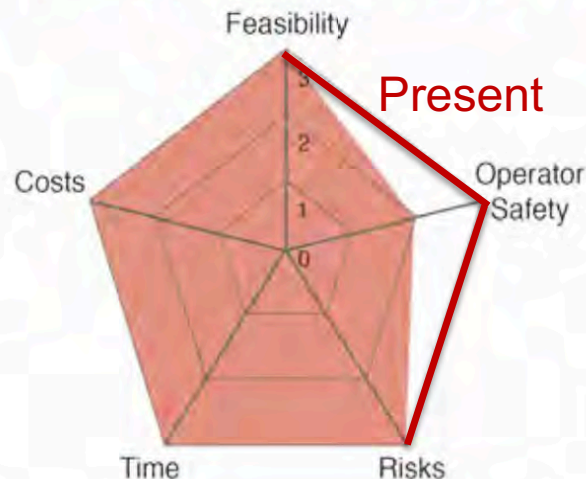
available



### Cleaning with traditional methods



### Cleaning with new nanomaterials



Present

## New materials and methods for Cultural Heritage

### 1) NANOPARTICLES, from 1991-

- ✓ calcium hydroxide nanoparticles (magnesium, strontium barium, and zinc)

### 2) DETERGENCY (MICELLES AND MICROEMULSIONS), from 1986-

### 3) SOFT CONTAINERS, from 1999-

- ✓ physical and chemical gels

### 4) CONFINED AND RESPONSIVE SYSTEMS, from 2002-

- ✓ hybrid systems: nanoparticles/gels; microemulsions/gels)



## Nanotechnology restores flaking frescos.

An off-the-wall application of tiny particles re-unites paint and plaster.  
11 July 2018

PHILIP BALL

Had Leonardo da Vinci known about nanotechnology, his Last Supper might not be in its present sorry state. Italian chemists have shown that particles of staked lime – a staple of the Renaissance palette – just a few micrometres of a millimetre across can restore old frescos from decay.

Leonardo's painting is one of the worst affected by the ravages of time. The damage was largely the result of ill-informed experimentation with materials – Leonardo was no chemist. Similar fresco deterioration is a common problem for conservators.

Piero Baglioni and colleagues from the University of Florence have salvaged a lesser-known work: Gli Angeli Muscolari painted in the sixteenth century by Santa Maria della Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral in Florence. The image is sketched where flakes of paint impregnated plaster, having lifted off the wall below, are threatening to fall off, damaging the painting irreparably.

Before Italian painters began to use canvas in the fifteenth century, many made frescos. They applied pigment directly to damp plaster on a wall, so that it bound fast as the plaster dried. Gesso and Michelangelo were masters of this technique.

Done skilfully, the results were robust, unfortunately half a millennium later, flaking of the top layer has become a common problem, especially in damp areas.

Plaster was typically made from sand and lime (calcium

oxide), which becomes staked lime (calcium hydroxide) when wet. As it dries, staked lime reacts with the carbon dioxide in air to make chalky calcium carbonate.

Baglioni and his colleagues use humble staked lime as a kind of glue to re-adhere flaking parts. They apply it as a suspension of tiny calcium hydroxide crystals in alcohol. As the alcohol evaporates, the crystals absorb water and carbon dioxide, and merge with the calcium carbonate in the paint layer and the underlying plaster, bonding them together with an almost invisible bond<sup>1</sup>.

Ordinary ground-up calcium hydroxide doesn't work too well. More than a thousandth of a millimetre across, commercial powder particles are too big to penetrate deeply into all the cracks of the paint layer. Worse still, they tend to come out from the solvent, producing an indelible white film on the paint surface.

The Italian chemists' particles are smaller: they are hexagonal plates about 100-250 nanometres (millionths of a millimetre) across. These penetrate a fresco more thoroughly, and, being light, do not settle out. The particles' flat shape makes them very water-absorbent, aiding their transformation to calcium carbonate as the alcohol evaporates.

Creating such small crystals is one of the objectives of nanotechnology, the manipulation of matter at the nanometre level. Nanotechnology, usually portrayed as the futuristic pursuit of molecular-scale machines, has something to offer the past too, it seems.

### References

1. Andreoli, M., Dei, L., Gargi, R., Netti, C. & Baglioni, P. Colloidal particles of Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>: properties and applications to restoration of frescoes. *LANGMUIR*, 17, 4231–4233 (2001).

© Nature News Service / Matthew Maguire, Ltd 2018

## Synthetic strategies: Microparticles 1989-1992

## Nanoparticles

Top-down 1995

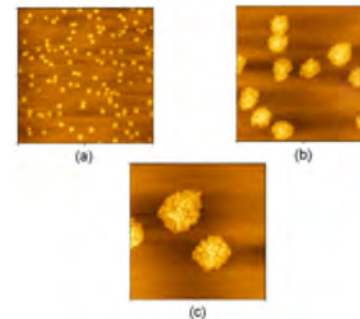
Bottom-up 1997

Confined systems 1997

Alkoxides 1998

Sol-gel 2001

Direct reaction 2012-2017 (particles from 2nm – up)



Atomic force microscopy  
AFM

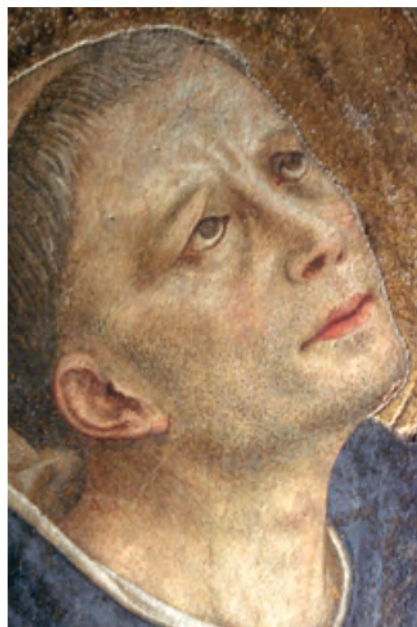
22 different systems

Ca(OH)<sub>2</sub>, Ba(OH)<sub>2</sub>, Mg(OH)<sub>2</sub> in 2-propanol, and/or ethanol and cyclohexane dispersion



Horizon 2020  
European Union Funding  
for Research & Innovation





## BEATO ANGELICO WALL PAINTINGS, FLORENCE



## PIERO DELLA FRANCESCA (AREZZO (1987 – 1991))





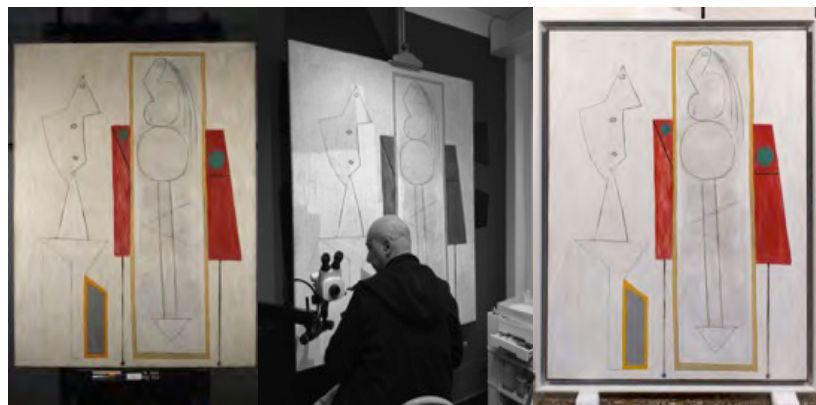
**FERRONI & DINI 1967, BAGLIONI 1979**

**Wall paintings by Beato Angelico - Italian Renaissance**



## ADVANCED CHEMICAL HYDROGEL FOR WATER SENSITIVE CLEANING 2016-18

## THE PEGGY (GUGGENHEIM) FAMILY GELS and TATE FAMILY GELS



**PABLO PICASSO**



**GIORGIO DECHIRICO**



**JACKSON  
POLLOCK**

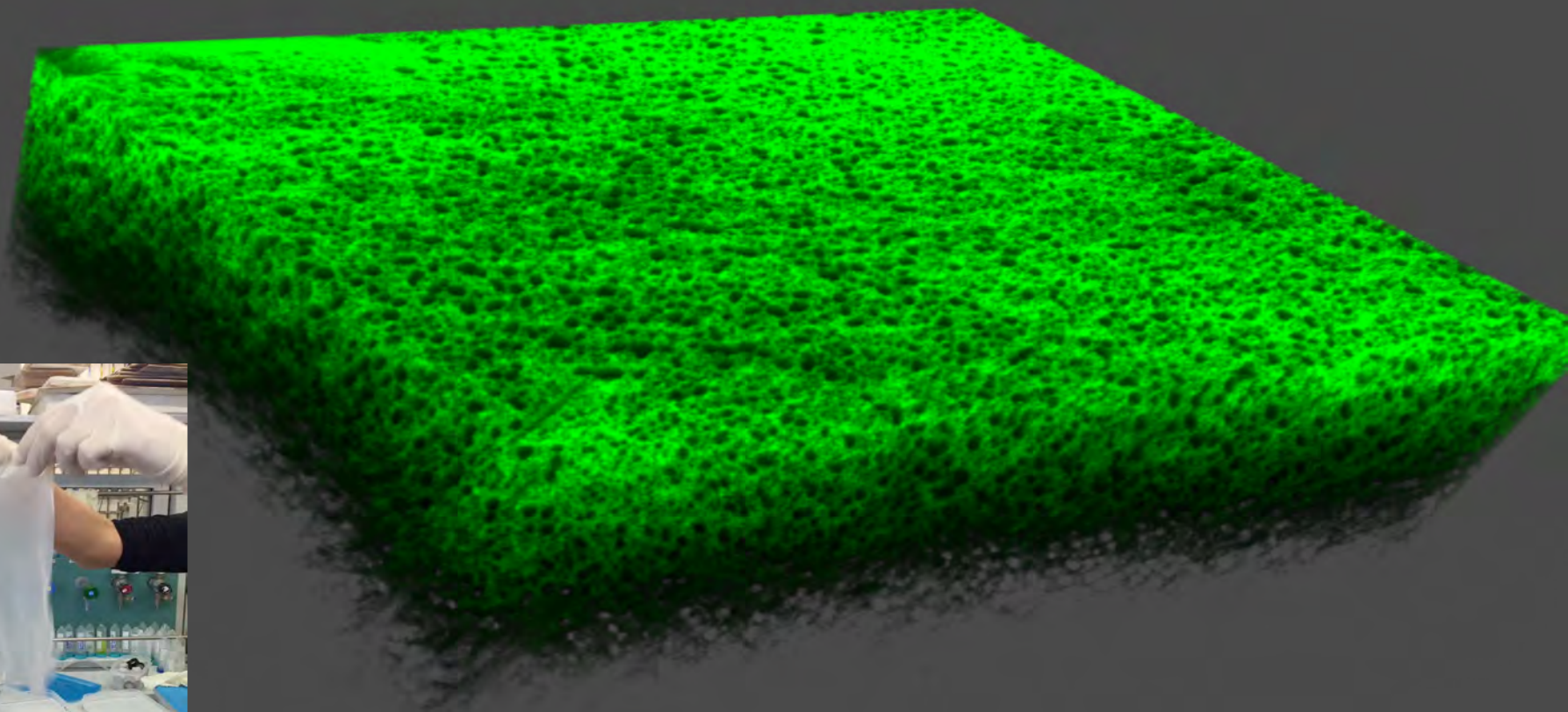
# CHCD2018 SYMPOSIUM

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Cultural Heritage Conservation and Digitization

## 第五届文化遗产保护与数字化国际论坛

暨国际青年专家训练营&案例竞赛&主题展会 2018/09/13-14 清华·北京

**Remember**  
创忆遗产 数字经济  
Heritage-driven Economy







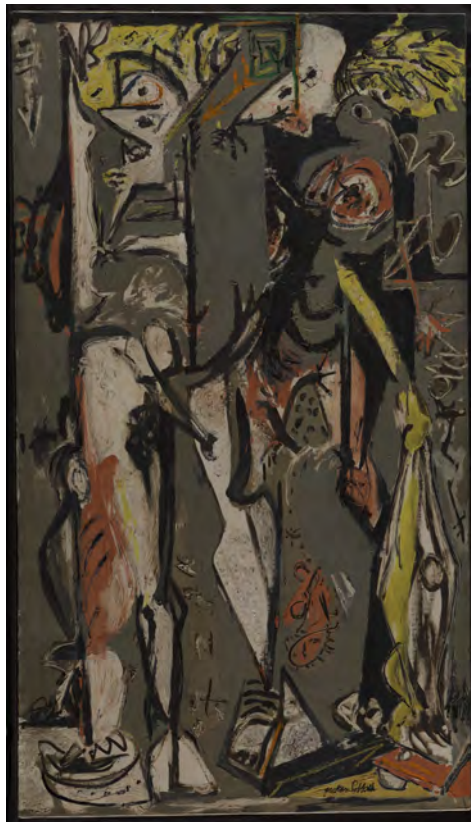


## JACKSON POLLOCK

### ALCHEMY Partly Cleaned

Pollock paintings are water sensitive and were cleaned with water

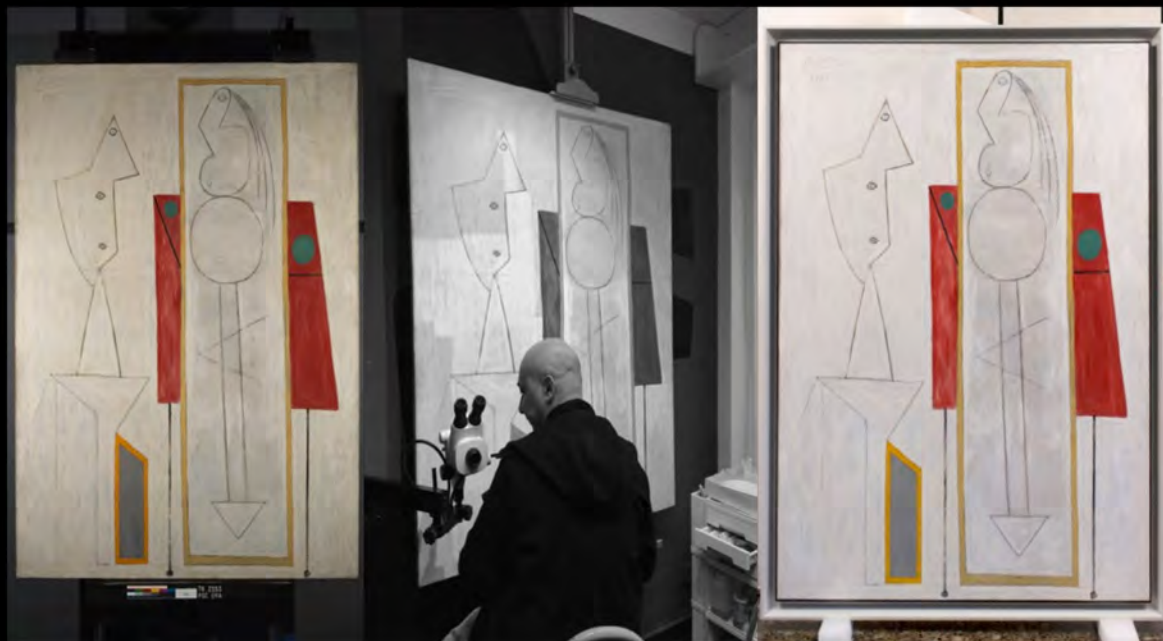




# Cleaning with chemical gel: J. Pollock



## PICASSO ATELIER



# CHCD2018 SYMPOSIUM

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Cultural Heritage Conservation and Digitization

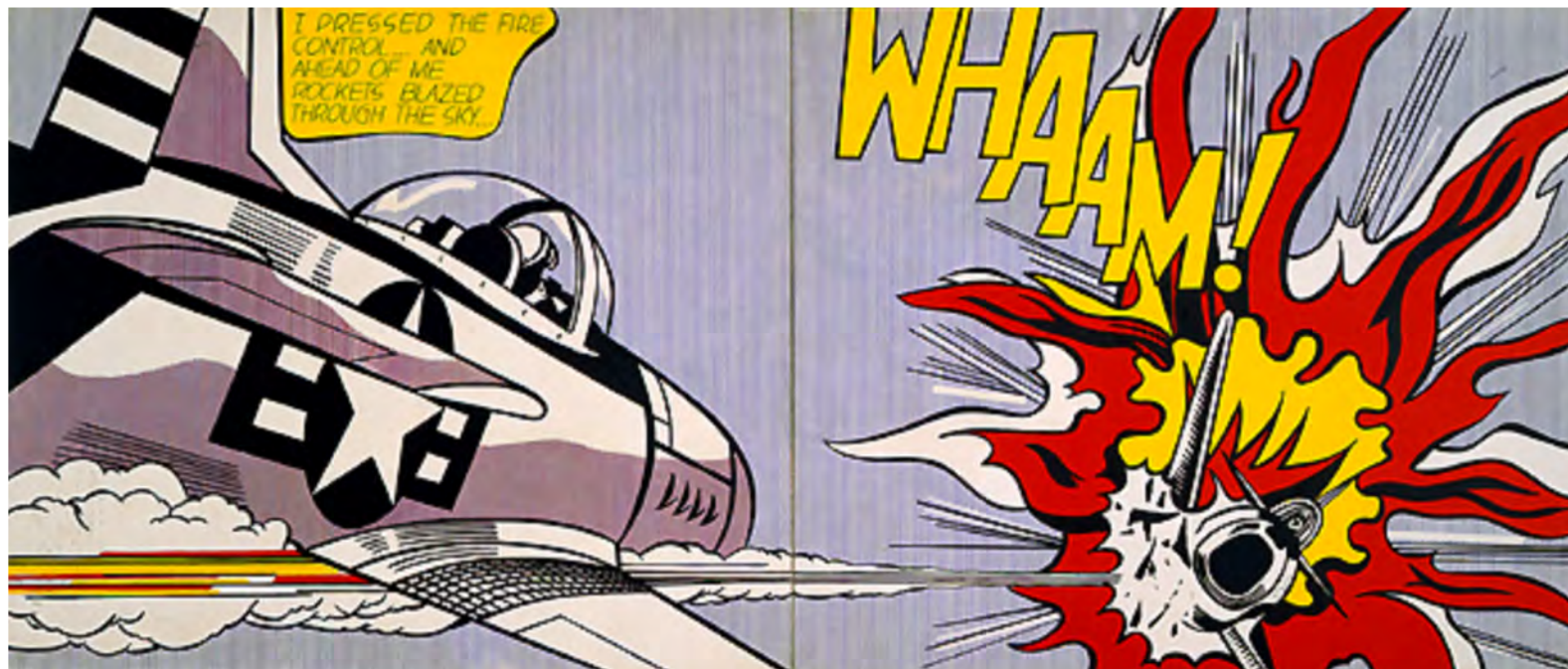
## 第五届文化遗产保护与数字化国际论坛

暨国际青年专家训练营&案例竞赛&主题展会

2018/09/13-14 清华·北京

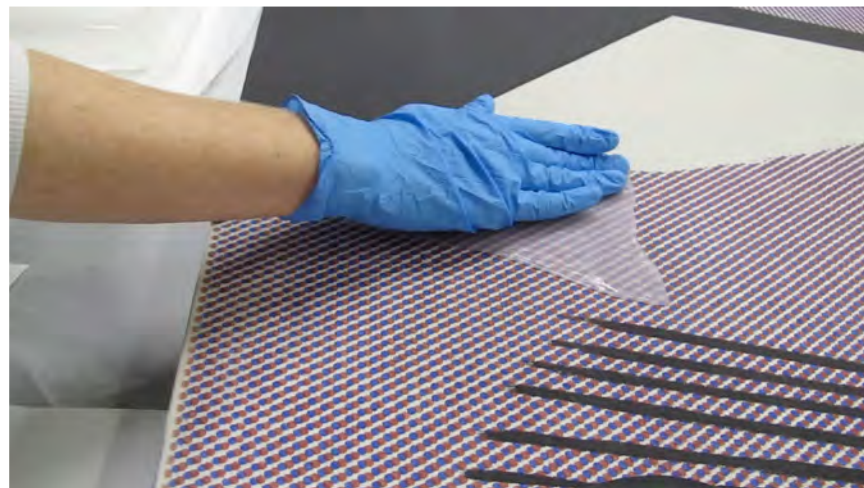
**Remember**  
创忆遗产 数字经济  
Heritage-driven Economy

# WHAAM – Roy Lichtenstein





# Roy Lichtenstein





**Piero Baglioni, Emiliano Carretti,  
David Chelazzi**

**Nature Nanotechnology 10, 287-291  
(2015)**







**Nicole Bonelli, Costanza  
Montis, Antonio  
Mirabile, Debora Berti,  
and Piero Baglioni**  
PNAS May 21,  
2018. 201801962



# CHCD2018 SYMPOSIUM

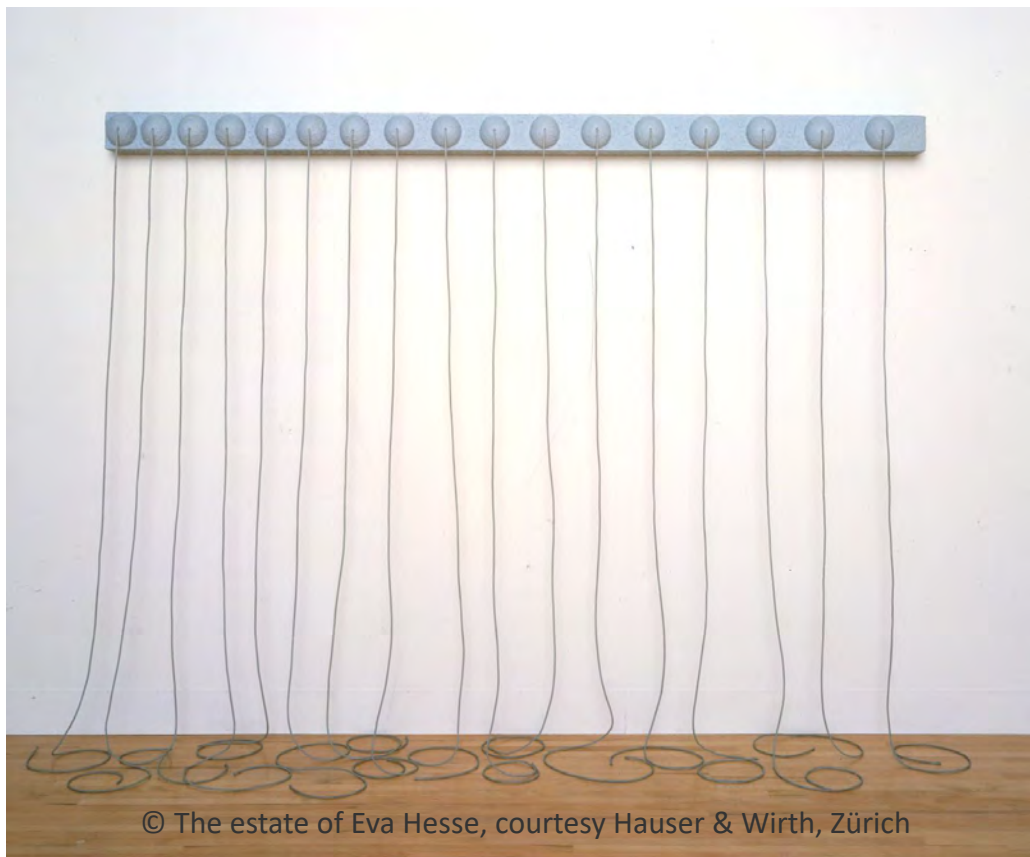
The 5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Cultural Heritage Conservation and Digitization

## 第五届文化遗产保护与数字化国际论坛

暨国际青年专家训练营&案例竞赛&主题展会

2018/09/13-14 清华·北京

**Remember**  
创忆遗产 数字经济  
Heritage-driven Economy



© The estate of Eva Hesse, courtesy Hauser & Wirth, Zürich

## Eva Hesse (1967)



## MEMBERS

### Current Members



Nanomaterials for the  
Restoration of Works of Art  
[www.nanorestart.eu](http://www.nanorestart.eu)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 646063.



Nano-Cathedral

Innovation for Europe Cultural Heritage  
Protection and Conservation  
[www.nanocathedral.eu](http://www.nanocathedral.eu)



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 646178



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA



WARRANT GROUP



UNIVERSITÀ DI FIRENZE



CSGI



N&D-IR



UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



HEROMAT



ZAG



UNIVERSITÀ DI PADOVA



UNIVERSITÀ DI TORINO



UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA TOR VERGATA



UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA TOR VERGATA

PANNA

ECHOES is a community driven  
bottom-up action to connect all  
conservation science activities  
and stakeholders in Europe.

BECOME  
A  
MEMBER!



Cluster Chair  CSGI

Piero Baglioni  
Via della Lastruccia 3, Sesto Fiorentino (FI)  
[baglioni@csgi.unifi.it](mailto:baglioni@csgi.unifi.it)

Technical Secretary

Isella Vicini  
Via Bazzanese 32/7  
Casalecchio di Reno (Bo)  
051-9840863  
[isella.vicini@warrantgroup.it](mailto:isella.vicini@warrantgroup.it)

Patrizia Zitelli  
Via della Lastruccia 3  
Sesto Fiorentino (FI)  
055-4573244  
[patrizia@csgi.unifi.it](mailto:patrizia@csgi.unifi.it)



WARRANT GROUP



CSGI

EC Contact

René Martins  
European Commission  
DG Research & Innovation  
Advanced Materials & Nanotechnologies  
[rene.martins@ec.europa.eu](mailto:rene.martins@ec.europa.eu)



ECHOES

Enabling Cultural Heritage Oriented European Strategies



[www.ehc.eu](http://www.ehc.eu)

[echoes.cluster@csgi.unifi.it](mailto:echoes.cluster@csgi.unifi.it)



Horizon 2020  
European Union Funding  
for Research & Innovation



Enabling  
Cultural  
Heritage  
European  
Strategy



**ENROLL: [echoes.cluster@csgi.unifi.it](mailto:echoes.cluster@csgi.unifi.it)**



**PIERO BAGLIONI - CSGI**  
COORDINATOR



**ISELLA VICINI**  
Warrant Group



**PATRIZIA ZITELLI**  
CSGI



European  
Commission

**René Martins**  
DG Research and Innovation  
[rene.martins@ec.europa.eu](mailto:rene.martins@ec.europa.eu)

**<http://www.ehc.eu>**





# THANK YOU

[baglioni@csgi.unifi.it](mailto:baglioni@csgi.unifi.it)