

International Conference

Icons in the making

8-10th December 2021

This conference-workshop invites art historians, conservators and conservation scientists to collectively analyse how visual effects in icons are created by the accumulation of layers, which, visible or invisible, participate fully in their final appearance. How to bring into dialogue different methods of analysis, historical, stylistic, iconographic and material, in order to understand the emergence of forms and the processes of creation? It is a question of concretely apprehending gestures of creation and re-creation of icons through time, workshop practices, interventions linked to maintenance, repair and, more generally, to the transformation of icons, in order to write their history on the long term, and to make technical art history participate in a history of social and religious practices. The conference-workshop follows the workshop organized in December 2019 in Athens by Greek institutions (University of the Aegean, ArticonLab-University of West Attica, Directorate of Conservation of Ancient and Modern Monuments-Hellenic Ministry of Culture, Benaki Museum) and INHA, focusing on the Greek and Ethiopian cases. It is designed to broaden the subject to the Mediterranean area and the Slavic world. The themes addressed should make it possible to review current research, applied or fundamental, on the questions of creation and transformation of icons, for updating or maintenance and, more recently, for conservation-restoration; the dissemination of icons as well as possible transfers of materials, techniques and models between the various traditions. Eventually, the question of attribution to an author, a workshop or a centre can also be addressed. This two-day conference will also be an opportunity to review recent updates of icon collections in France - purchase, conservation-restoration, exhibition.

In partnership with : INHA, Petit Palais – musée des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Paris, musée du Louvre, University of the Aegean, l'université West Attica University

Scientific Committee

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