Religious heritage
Europe’s Legacy for the Future

FRH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE
PARIS 11-12-13 OCTOBER 2018

Co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union
Bienvenue à Paris!

Religious heritage does not come in the form of churches and cathedrals, it actually imbues all forms of heritage.

Religious Heritage is one of Europe’s most defining characteristics. In many towns and villages across the continent churches are the most important landmarks, symbols of history and beacons of local identity. Here in Paris, the famous cathedral of Notre-Dame is France’s single most visited tourist attraction, receiving over 13 million visitors every year. Europe’s c 400,000 religious buildings – churches, monasteries, convents, chapels, synagogues, mosques, together with their sculptures, paintings, frescos, silver, vestments and libraries are a treasure from the past and a unique legacy for the future.

Although many communities take pride in their religious heritage and church tourism flourishes, many monuments have come under severe pressure. Dropping church attendance in most European countries and financial cut-backs make the future of numerous monuments uncertain. Many religious communities can no longer afford the upkeep of their age-old buildings. A growing number have become ‘redundant’, raising the challenge of finding new functions and different funding models.

The year 2018 has been declared the European Year of Cultural Heritage. This conference aims to address the pressing issues and explore the unique opportunities of Europe’s religious heritage. Speakers from politics, the heritage sector and academia will discuss topics such as: How to ensure the protection and sustainability of religious monuments, and how to avoid their unnecessary closure? How can the wider public be engaged in their preservation? What is the role of education and innovation in such processes? How can religious and secular uses be successfully combined?

Around AD 1000, the French monk Raoul Glaber famously stated that “a white mantle of churches” had descended over Europe. It is our task to ensure that our continent will not be clad in a mantle of empty and crumbling religious monuments at the beginning of the third millennium. This conference brings together new ideas, fresh perspectives, and above all people like you, who care about our common religious heritage as a legacy to future generations. We wish you many inspiring moments!

FRH Conference Committee
Heritage is for me, not only just the places or the culture that you come from or that you are trying to create for people to live and to thrive, it is the connections you make.

**Programme**

**WEDNESDAY | 10 OCTOBER 2018**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 20.00 - 20.30 | Pre-registration at Notre-Dame  
10, Rue Cloître de Notre-Dame, Paris |
| 20.30   | **Musique Sacrée à Notre-Dame de Paris**  
Welcome by:  
Msgr. Francesco Follo, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to UNESCO  
Concert by:  
Soloists from the Maitrise Notre-Dame de Paris (Yves Castagnet, organ)  
Works of:  
Marc Antoine Charpentier, André Campra, Henry du Mont, Claudio Monteverdi and Francesco Cavalli  
([More information on page 17]) |

**THURSDAY | 11 OCTOBER 2018**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 06.30 - 09.00 | Registrations at UNESCO  
7 Place de Fontenoy, 75007 Paris  
Conference entrance: 125, avenue de Suffren |
| 09.00 - 09.30 | **Welcome and official opening speeches**  
Tibor Navracsics  
European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport  
Daniel Janicot  
President, French National Commission at the UNESCO  
Representative  
Of the French Ministry of Culture  
Olivier de Rohan-Chabot  
Chairman, Future for Religious Heritage (FRH) |
| 09.30 - 09.45 | **FRH Torch Closing Ceremony**  
Lilian Grootswagers  
Honorary Secretary, FRH  
Philippe Toussaint  
President, Association Vieuxes Maisons Françaises  
([More information on page 19]) |
| 09.45 - 10.05 | **Keynote speech**  
Anna Sidorenko  
Programme specialist, Responsible for the UNESCO Initiative on Heritage of Religious Interest, UNESCO |
| 10.05 - 10.10 | **Film presentation on the state of religious heritage in Europe**  
Henrik Lindblad, Svenska Kirka and Future for Religious Heritage  
Half day chair: Celestine Bohlen  
Professor, Science Po-Paris School of Journalism, former New York Times foreign correspondent and columnist, Washington Post and Bloomberg news special correspondent |
Although I am a secular I know that religious heritage is somehow the one pillar of European values and European history it is a foundation, it makes also somehow the identity.
THEME 2 PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY

14.00 - 14.30
Session 4 | What is religious heritage’s contribution from a cultural, social, economic and environmental perspective?
Keynote Speech: Aaron Wunsch
Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA, USA)

14.30 - 15.30
Session 5 | European experiences: what can we learn from other heritage sectors?
Moderator: H. Becquart
Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Education and Culture European Commission

Case studies from the fields of military, industrial and landscape heritage
Military Heritage:
Raf Deroo, Atlantikwall Europe; EFFORTS
Industrial Heritage:
Adriaan Linters, General Secretary, E-Faith European Federation of Associations of Industrial and Technical Heritage
Landscape Heritage:
Dirk Gotzmann, Director CIVILSCAPE, European Landscape Organisation

15.30 - 16.00
Coffee break

16.00 - 16.15
FRH Photo competition Awards Ceremony
Mrs. Silvia Costa
MEP, Member of the European Parliament, S&D Group Coordinator Committee on Culture and education
(More information on page 21)

16.15 - 17.15
Session 6 | Religious Heritage and tourism: a curse or a blessing?
Moderator: Gianna Lia Cogliandro-Beyens
Secretary General ENCATC, the European network in the field of cultural management and policy

Presentations & Panel debate
Julia Pagel
Secretary General NEMO, Network of European Museum Organisations
Dr. Holger Kunde
Director and Curator of Vereinigte Domstifter zu Merseburg und Naumburg und des Kollegiatstifts Zeitz, Germany
Dominique Vanneste
Full Professor at the University of Leuven (KU Leuven, Belgium), Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, Division of Geography & Tourism
Valerie Humphrey
Director, Westminster Abbey Foundation, UK
For me, religious heritage is my life and religious heritage part of my culture and not only mine, but in the whole of Europe.

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>17.30 - 18.30</td>
<td><strong>FRH 7th Annual General Meeting</strong></td>
<td>Open to all</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.00</td>
<td><strong>Concert and networking cocktail at Eglise La Madeleine</strong></td>
<td>Place de la Madeleine, 75008 Paris</td>
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<td><strong>Special Presentation</strong></td>
<td>Resonance, concert en quatuor</td>
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<td><strong>Networking at La Madeleine</strong></td>
<td>(More information on page 23)</td>
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<tr>
<td>**FRIDAY</td>
<td>12 OCTOBER 2018**</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.30 - 9.00</td>
<td><strong>Registrations at UNESCO</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Conference entrance</strong></td>
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<td>9.00 - 9.30</td>
<td><strong>Opening speech</strong></td>
<td>Sir Simon Jenkins</td>
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<td>British Author and Newspaper columnist and editor. Trustee of the Churches Conservation Trust.</td>
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<td><strong>Day chair: Charles Personnaz</strong></td>
<td>Project Manager, Heritage and Culture, l’Oeuvre d’Orient</td>
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<td>9.30 - 10.30</td>
<td><strong>THEME 3 CHERISHING HERITAGE</strong></td>
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<td>**Session 7</td>
<td>Heritage and community building**</td>
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<td><strong>Presentations:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lejla Hadzic</td>
<td>Executive Director, Cultural Heritage without Borders Albania</td>
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<td>Jorge Gutierrez</td>
<td>General Director for Youth of the Government of Cantabria, Spain</td>
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<td>Lionel Bonneval</td>
<td>Director, Foundation La Sauvegarde de L'Art Français, Programme; “Le Plus Grands Musée de France”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gila Oren</td>
<td>Head of Marketing studies, College of Management Academic Studies, Israel. Doctor of Philosophy, Heritage Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30 - 11.00</td>
<td>**Session 8</td>
<td>Cherishing heritage? Education is key!**</td>
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<td><strong>Presentations:</strong></td>
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<td>Agmar van Rijn</td>
<td>Strategic policy officer, project leader at Stichting Groninger Kerken, The Netherlands</td>
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<td>Constance de Magneval</td>
<td>Director, VMF France, Programme; “le patrimoine toute une histoire”</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00 - 11.30</td>
<td><strong>Coffee break</strong></td>
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THEME 4 STIMULATING INNOVATION

Session 9 | Are there innovative ways of governance and marketing for religious heritage? (1)

Moderator: Rodolphe de Looz Corswarem
Executive President, European Historic Houses Association

Presentations & Panel Debate:

Christian Ost
Professor, ICHEC Brussels Management School – Honorary Dean - Partner in CLIC Horizon 2020 project / Circular models Leveraging Investments in Cultural heritage adaptive reuse

Peter Aiers
Chief Executive, The Churches Conservation Trust, UK

Bastien Goullard and David Margairaz
Founder and General Director, Director Partnerships. Dartagnans Paris, France

Networking Lunch, UNESCO 7th Floor

Session 10 | Are there innovative ways of governance and marketing for religious heritage? (2)

Presentations:

Father Manel Gasch and Josep Altayó
Monastery of Montserrat

Silvia Aulet
Professor, Girona University, Spain

Robert Leblanc
President, Fondation Avenir Du Patrimoine à Paris, France

Karen Taïeb
City of Paris Council member in charge of Heritage, France
The Churches of Paris, a Treasure to Preserve

Suzanne Urban
Managing Director ShUM-Cities Association, Germany

Session 11 | Digital era and religious heritage

Presentations:

The internet contains an ever-increasing wealth of information. Digital platforms providing cultural and tourist contents to visitors

Michael Hoare and Michael Murray
M. Hoare, Council Member FFRH
M. Murray Director of Church Support, National Churches Trust, United Kingdom, Connecting European Religious Heritage Religiana

Michael Mail
Director, Foundation for Jewish Heritage, United Kingdom, Mapping Jewish Heritage
In my idea, if we cannot keep them in the functions they had in the past, at least we have to keep the sense and to keep the significance and to keep what they are, in order to understand cultural heritage.

— José María Ballester
International Civil Servant and art critic, Botín Foundation
Music has always been an important part of the Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris. At the Cathedral’s inception, the Notre-Dame Choir School filled its halls with magnificent polyphonies as the voices of the choristers rang in harmony with those of the builders. Ever since then, the Notre-Dame Cathedral has prided itself in upholding the highest standards in musical performance and training, and each generation in turn has added to the Cathedral’s musical history.

In order to preserve the Cathedral’s rich musical history and the high quality of musical instruction provided by the Notre-Dame Choir School (the Maîtrise), the State, the City of Paris, and the Paris Diocesan Association decided to found the association of Musique Sacrée at Notre-Dame de Paris in 1991.

Charged with the responsibility of coordinating all musical activities in the Cathedral on both administrative and artistic levels, the Musique Sacrée’s primary tasks are to teach music, train singers, organise the liturgy in the cathedral, prepare concerts and recitals, and research the musical traditions of Notre-Dame. It also plays an important role in the creation and circulation of new musical works.

From time to time, these groups perform with baroque or symphonic ensembles. The great organ, the choir organ, and their titular organists also play an important role in the organization.

In 2006, the Maîtrise Notre-Dame de Paris was awarded the prestigious “Prix de chant choral Liliane Bettencourt” by the Académie de Beaux-Arts.

FRH is particularly pleased to inaugurate its 2018 Conference on Religious Heritage: Europe’s Legacy for the Future with a concert in the choir of Notre-Dame de Paris. The advent of polyphonies and Notre-Dame’s musical heritage spanning more than 8 centuries is witness today of the importance of the transmission of culture.

I think that religious heritage can act as a bridge between the Europe of the present and helping us understand the Europe of the past, where we come from, which can also point the way where we need to go in the future.

Michael Mai – Founder of the Foundation for Jewish Heritage
FRH Torch

Inspired by the Olympic Torch of Athens, and to raise awareness and safeguard the importance of Europe’s rich religious heritage, FRH has launched the **Torch of Heritage and Culture** initiative.

Part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage, the FRH Torch is a memory treasure box, containing personal letters. These letters, describing personal memories about religious heritage, will be presented to the European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, Mr. Tibor Navracsics. Contributions can come in many forms, including: personal experiences, memories, opinions, ideas or even drawings or photographs!

The FRH Torch Initiative is open to everyone. Every memory is equally important, as they all add up to the vital sense of community built around religious heritage. We live with memories and stories so share yours with us and let it be heard!

Your testimony is still welcome until the 31st of December 2018! Visit our website: [www.frh-europe.org/projects/frh-torch](http://www.frh-europe.org/projects/frh-torch) and upload your letter (click on the “SEND US YOUR LETTER” button) or you can also contact us at: info@frh-europe.org

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Maestro Placido Domingo – President of Europa Nostra
FRH Photo competition

In the framework of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 FRH organized a Photowalk – a unique event that took place on the 6th of May simultaneously in 3 European cities, Asti (Italy), Middelburg (The Netherlands) and Paris (France) – and a Summer Photo Competition.

Designed to reward photographers for the best photos contributing to the promotion of religious heritage, photographers could submit a maximum of 3 pictures per category. These categories included: Artifacts; People and Events and Religious Buildings.

We were extremely pleased with the level of participation, with more than 100 photographs from 28 countries. Within the 3 categories, a total of 17 pictures were selected for the final. The winner of each category will participate in the Award Ceremony which will be lead by MEP Mrs Silvia Costa, S&D Group coordinator Committee on Culture and Education of the European Parliament.

In addition, as part of the Award, we are pleased that Arctic World Archive-Piql has offered to save, store and protect the winning photographs in the safest place on the planet, the Arctic Archipelago of Svalbard, in order that they remain geographically and geopolitically secure and available for future generations.

All 17 pictures selected for the final will be presented during the ceremony.

FRH thanks all the participants for their contributions.

The 17 finalists are:

Stavroula Chrousala
Fabio Cova
Fani Gargova
Baruch Gian
Vicenzo Giuliano
Jan Kurek
Helene Magne
Bernabe Della Mattia
Marcus van der Meulen
Sina Mohammedi
Leily Nekookar
Jaime Rodriguez Pantoja
William Richardson
Valentina de Santis
Anna Santovito
Minna Sirnö
Liz Wood
Musique & patrimoine

Resonance : Illuminations

Samuel Cattiau, countertenor singer, Quentin Dujardin, guitarist and composer, Matthieu Saglio, cellist, invites you to discover the ancient lyrics and the illumination of new compositions with their new production; “Illuminations”. They will be accompanied by a virtuoso young violinist: Léo Ullmann.

This new album continues the research started with the first work “Resonance”, developed around texts of ancient music from the Western repertoire. “Illuminations” highlights our heritage – our cultural and artistic legacies as musicians of the 21st century. The sonic architecture of the remarkable places we encountered in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Morocco, India, ... determines an approach that brings to life a great tradition of the world of classical music: “unwritten” music.

Beyond the divisions and musical classifications - medieval, renaissance, baroque, classical, contemporary, jazz, world music, contemporary music – it is ultimately about good music. Each place is for us a sound dimension discovery of the texts, compositions and repertoires we are working on. We grasp harmonies from these spaces and volumes. These were built through eras for vocal art and music. Our repertoire is particularly adapted to cultural heritage, beauty, and sound architecture. Indeed, our music instruments are: churches, chapels, priories, cathedrals, basilicas, castles, ancient palaces, medinas, etc. but also secular and industrial buildings can be an idealistic setting for sounds and shows. We bring particular attention to each of those buildings in order to share our common passion for cultural heritage during our concerts:
- discover the resonances of the structures
- vibrate with the audience through a unique acoustic experience!

Their sources of inspiration and the foundation of their compositions are ancient lyrics, intersected with guitar melodies and other instruments. The sacred and profane texts come from a vast period of time going back to the 11th to the 17th century, in France, Belgium, Holland, Northern Europe, England, Spain, Italy, Portugal...

FRH is pleased to welcome Resonance and its musical performance at the La Madeleine Soirée Networking cocktail. In keeping with La Madeleine’s centuries-old tradition of musical creation, Resonance will illuminate La Madeleine’s soaring dome with its compositions.

Coproduction : Estrella, Agua music and Noirlac Abbey - Cultural Meeting Center
La Madeleine, an atypical parish in Paris

The parish of Madeleine wants to ensure a visible presence in the heart of Paris and listens to our contemporary needs. The Foyer de la Madeleine serves more than three hundred meals every day at lunchtime with the aim of encouraging the meeting of people who work, live or spend their time in the neighborhood.

Building

The Église de la Madeleine is situated between Place de la Concorde and the Palais Garnier opera house in Paris. Its construction started in 1764 and finished in 1842. Its appearance is atypical of that of a religious building, in the form of a Greek temple without any crosses or bell-towers. The building is surrounded by Corinthian columns. Inside there are sculptures, paintings and the famous neo-Byzantine mosaic created by Charles Joseph Lameire. It also contains a magnificent church organ designed by Aristide Cavaillé-Coll. Throughout the year the church programmes quality classical music concerts.

FRH looks forward to joining the Parish of La Madeleine at its Soirée and networking cocktail. FRH will discover La Madeleine’s initiatives to remain its neighborhood in Paris while working on architectural restoration, social actions, pastoral activities and contemporary creation.

“Culture is the necessary way to keep us together to fight the fear and fight the hatred which are tearing us apart, and it does not make sense because only together we will find the solution.”

Lydia Koniordou – Greek Minister of Culture

“Photo by Lilian Grootswagers”
Biographies

Peter Aiers

Peter Aiers is the Chief Executive of The Churches Conservation Trust. After joining in 2007, Peter had a specific role of finding sustainable solutions to complex urban churches within their collection and to enable more community involvement in the care of their churches. Peter became Director for the South East in 2012 and Director of the North region in 2016. After a career start at English Heritage, Peter worked as a local authority conservation officer and sat on the Peterborough Diocesan Advisory Committee. He became the first Conservation Officer employed in the Church of England, for the Diocese of London, before becoming a Project Development Manager supporting parishes in the maintenance of the buildings in their care and finding sustainable solutions for historic churches through grant aid and commercial development.

Silvia Aulet

Silvia Aulet, Ph.D. is professor at the Faculty of Tourism of the University of Girona teaching subjects in the Degree of Tourism and in the Master of Cultural Tourism. Her research line is cultural tourism, including from conceptualization to management. In this field, she has focused her research in two areas: pilgrimage and religious tourism and gastronomy tourism, both as cultural expressions. Besides different publications on these topics, she is member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal on Religious Tourism and Pilgrimage, the Uniserve UNESCO Chair "Culture Tourism and Development and the Chair in Gastronomy, Culture and Tourism Calonge-Sant Antoni from the University of Girona. She has carried out several research studies both as an academic researcher and as a consultant. She has participated in several European Projects, including SPÉRIT-Youth. In addition to teaching and researching, she has managed tourism services for various sanctuaries of the Bishopric of Girona, and currently cooperates with different institutions related to religious tourism, such as Monistèrric Monastery, mainly organizing courses and seminars and developing research programs.

Hughes Becquart

After graduating in translation and film studies, Hughes Becquart started his career at the European Commission as a translator. He then worked for ten years in the film sector, mainly for the EU support programme MEDIA and the French CNC (National Film Centre), later moving to the EC Culture and Creativity Directorate, where he developed EU-Asia cultural policy dialogues as well as the new EU strategy on international cultural relations. He is now in charge of the architecture sector in the Creative Europe programme and of the EU initiative "Heritage in Transition" (adaptive reuse of built heritage) as part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018.

Celestine Bolhën

Celestine Bolhën is an American journalist, now based in Paris, where she teaches journalism at Sciences Po. She was a former foreign correspondent, first for the Washington Post, and then for the New York Times in Moscow, Rome and Budapest for over 17 years. She was also an international affairs correspondent at Bloomberg News in Paris, and a columnist at the International New York Times until the end of 2016.

Amalia Bonacci

Ma graduated in Medieval Art History (UNFE), Amalia is attending a master in Cultural Management (UNFE). Her academic background is based on Medieval iconography and Museum studies. In the last few years she enthusiastically got involved into audience research and strategies for museums. She believes in the importance of developing proper dialogue between stakeholders and museums, especially in places of worship. From 2015 to 2016, she has worked as assistant curator for Santa Maria Novella Museum in team with Ms. Bardini. Their cooperation led to the creation of SMN-Audience Lab. Co-authors of her paper are Marco Turini, a museum professional with an extensive career in communication and interpretation for museums and heritage sites and Maria Elena Bardini, Cultural Manager & Audience advisor. Co-authors of the paper are Maria Elena Bardini (museum professional and co-founder of Culture-RPublic) and Marco Turini (museum professional with an extensive career in communication and interpretation for museums and heritage sites).

Lionel Bonneval

After a career in publishing, Lionel Bonneval launched a consultancy agency specialized in philanthropy and patronage in 2003. He supports project holders to apply for funding, assists enterprises to develop charity programs, and provides trainings on philanthropy for practitioners and the general public. Lionel holds a seminar to Master 2 students in Public Affairs at Sciences Po. In 2016, at the age of 34, he became the General Director of a renown non-profit organization: la Fondation pour la Sauvegarde de l’Art Français.

Becky Clare

Becky is Director of Churches and Cathedrals at the Church of England and Secretary of the Church Buildings Council and Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England. She trained as an archaeologist and has an MA in Heritage Management from the Ironbridge Institute and an MBA from Warwick Business School. Becky previously worked for English Heritage in the planning policy team and Chief Executive’s Office, and before that at the National Trust’s Stourhead estate. She is Treasurer of the Society for Church Archaeology. Becky grew up in Birmingham and now lives in London, where she attends a local Baptist church.

Giannaluca Cogliandro

Giannaluca Cogliandro Beyens, has been since 2004 the Secretary General of ENCATC, the European network in the field of cultural management and policy. She is also the administrator of the Thomassen mobility programme and serves on several boards. With more than 20 years of experience in international relations, Giannaluca is an expert in advocacy, cultural policy and strategic management.

Silvia Costa

Silvia Costa is currently S&D Group Coordinator Committee on Culture and education of the European Parliament. She has been Chair of the Committee on Culture and education of the European Parliament (2014-2016) and rapporteur for the European Parliament of the Creative Europe Programme 2014-2020. She has been Lazio regional councillor responsible for education, educational rights and training policies since 2015 and member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies for three parliamentary terms; member of the Committee on internal affairs, the Committee on culture, science and education and the Committee on general guidance and monitoring of radio and television services (1985-1993). State secretary at the Ministry for universities, scientific research and technology (1993-1994). She has been invited to the European advisory committee on equal opportunities during the 1996 Italian Presidency of the EU and head of the EU delegation to the annual session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (1996). Co-founder of the ‘telefano Azzurro’ NGO for missing children; member of the board of management of the Donne in Musica Foundation (2002-2005), President of the Academy of Fine Arts, Rome (1995-2005).

Jonas Danckers

Jonas Danckers obtained a PhD in archaeology at the Universities of Bologna (Italy) and Leuven (Belgium). Currently, he works as an advisor on management and the future of parish churches in Flanders within the Immovable Religious Heritage Department of the Centre for Religious Art and Culture (CERC, Belgium). He dedicates specific attention to the so-called “Church Policy Plans” and participation sessions. As a member of the church committees of Langdorp and Wulfsdonk (Aarschot, 50 km’s east of Brussels), he has been involved for many years in the organisation of processions, restorations and touristic activities on religious heritage in these Flemish villages.

François Decoster

François Decoster was born and raised in Saint-Omer in 1973. After having graduated in Public Services at Sciences-Po in Paris, he obtained an LLM degree specialised in export regulations and an MA in European Studies and Administration at the College d’Europe in Bruges. His career started alongside François LEOTARD at the UDF, he was then an MEP assistant between 1998 and 2002. For 10 years, François served as a Diplomatic Adviser to Ministers at the Ministry of Equipment alongside Gilles de ROBEN, the Ministry of National Education, and finally the Ministry for Higher education and Research with Valérie PECRESSE. Most recently, François was Deputy-H cabinets to the Secretary of State in charge of French Nationals abroad and worked as a Senior Executive Advisor to the Hill-Knowlton Strategies in Brussels until 2014. Since 2014, François is the mayor of Saint-Omer (Pas-de-Calais, 15 000 inhabitants) and a member of the Town council since 1997. In 2014, he was appointed the President of the Communauté d’agglomération de Saint-Omer which in 2017 became the Communauté d’agglomération du Pays de Saint-Omer (105 000 inhabitants). In accordance with this role, he is part of the Board of Directors Assemblée des communautés de France (aCoF). He then became the vice chairman of the Hauts-de-France region with Xavier BERTRAND. Furthermore, François DECOSTER is the head of the French delegation to the Committee of the Regions, where he represents the instances of French local communities to the European Union.

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Celestine Bolhën is an American journalist, now based in Paris, where she teaches journalism at Sciences Po. She was a former foreign correspondent, first for the Washington Post, and then for the New York Times in Moscow, Rome and Budapest for over 17 years. She was also an international affairs correspondent at Bloomberg News in Paris, and a columnist at the International New York Times until the end of 2016.

Amalia Bonacci

Ma graduated in Medieval Art History (UNFE), Amalia is attending a master in Cultural Management (UNFE). Her academic background is based on Medieval iconography and Museum studies. In the last few years she enthusiastically got involved into audience research and strategies for museums. She believes in the importance of developing proper dialogue between stakeholders and museums, especially in places of worship. From 2015 to 2016, she has worked as assistant curator for Santa Maria Novella Museum in team with Ms. Bardini. Their cooperation led to the creation of SMN-Audience Lab. Co-authors of her paper are Marco Turini, a museum professional with an extensive career in communication and interpretation for museums and heritage sites and Maria Elena Bardini, Cultural Manager & Audience advisor. Co-authors of the paper are Maria Elena Bardini (museum professional and co-founder of Culture-RPublic) and Marco Turini (museum professional with an extensive career in communication and interpretation for museums and heritage sites).
Raf Deroo
Raf Deroo (1968) leads the EFFORTS (European Federation of Fortified Sites and Defence Lines) secretariat in Brussels. He is the author of ‘A l’Assaut de la Hague’ (GREP/Yselee 2016) on the Atlantic Wall heritage in the La Hague peninsula in Normandy, his heritage project successfully formed the set-up of the European Commission Creative Europe EYC’2018 Cooperation project ‘Atlantikwall Europe’, a grouping of 20+ and growing Atlantic wall sites in 7 European countries, focusing on today’s relevance of the WWII heritage, through actions like European Bunker Day and of which he does its European project coordination. Before, Raf Deroo worked 17 years at the European Parliament and European Commission. He has now a consultancy (‘People and Ideas’) on EU heritage, funds, innovation and events in Brussels, Belgium.

Sophie Gherardi
A Sciences Po Paris trained senior journalist, Sophie Gherardi was Editor in chief of the famous French daily newspaper Le Monde from 2005 to 2008. Previously she was Editor of Courrier International, a French weekly (2001 to 2005) and after that Director of the business daily La Tribune. Together with her husband Jean-Luc Pouliot, a specialist in religious studies, she founded a think tank called Centre d’étude du fait religieux contemporain (Cefrelco). Since 2012, Sophie Gherardi has specialized in the social, political and economic developments of religion in the French society, especially in the workplace.

Dirk Gottmann
Dirk Gottmann (born 1963) is a Geographer and Landscape Ecologist. Between 1986 and 2009 he founded and managed as an entrepreneur a number of companies. During this time his advisory was fed by a wide spectrum of projects from regional planning, tourism development, nature conservation, integrated environmental protection, energy transition to cultural management. Since his school time, his engagement also includes building conservation and culture. Since 2009, he is member in advisory groups on federal level. 2010 he became the Director of CMILSCAPE, the network organisation of 132 organisations and institutions in 32 countries. Over the last years, he organised or was involved in projects in most of these countries. He is member of the EYCH2018 consultations of the European Union.

Bastien Goullard
Bastien Goullard is a 31 years old entrepreneur from Lille. After graduating from SKEMA in 2011, he started his career as an auditor at the prestigious E&Y firm. After 4 years of work in the professional services sector, where he developed solid financial competencies and management skills, he launched his own company. In 2014, the start-up Dartagnans was built from one of his partnerships at SKEMA. The start-up immediately became of the leading firms involved in the preservation of cultural heritage in France. In 2017, Dartagnans’ innovative ideas allowed the largest cultural heritage bulk purchasing in the world, with a record of 1.8 million invested in just 2 months.

Lilian Grootswagers
FRH Council Secretary and owner of Erfgoed.nu, a heritage consultancy in the Netherlands. She is also Vice-President of the Task Force Toekomst Kerkgêbouwen, which is a national and independent citizen’s movement aiming to re-establish religious buildings as living elements of the urban and rural landscape of communities. Before working in heritage, she had a career in financial management.

Ruth Ellen Gruber
Award-winning writer and researcher Ruth Ellen Gruber has worked on Jewish heritage issues and chronicled Jewish developments in Europe since the 1980s and directs the web site www.jewish-heritage-europe.eu. Her books include “Jewish Heritage Travel: A Guide to Eastern Europe” and “Virtually Jewish: Reinventing Jewish Culture in Europe.” The recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, Poland’s Knight’s Cross of the Order of Merit and other awards and honors, she was the Distinguished Visiting Chair in Jewish Studies at the College of Charleston, SC, in 2015.

Jorge Gutierrez
Originally from Torrelavega (1980), he has a degree in Industrial Engineering (University of Cantabria) and has developed his professional career in a private company during the last years, especially in departments of Projects and Studies. He has been linked to the representative bodies of the University of Cantabria, being a member of the Senate, Government Council, Social Council and President of the Student Council. Since 2015, he has been General Director for Youth and Development Cooperation of the Government of Cantabria. The functions entrusted as Director General of Youth are: The coordination of the comprehensive youth policies of Cantabria, the encouragement and promotion of youth activities, the provision of information services for youth and the management of programs of which the integral development of young people, as well as the promotion of youth associations.

Lejla Hadzic
Lejla Hadzic - an architect specialised in conservation and built heritage management, and is working with Cultural Heritage without Borders (CHwB) since 2003. As a native of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), she has been working on reconstruction of cultural heritage in BiH, and have further moved to manage conservation and cultural development projects in the region of Western Balkans. Together with her team she has initiated CHwB’s flagship, multiple award-winning program Regional Restoration Camps (RRC). Lejla has founded and is currently managing the CHwB Foundation in Albania which is led by a team of experts in multiple programs aiming at conservation, education and awareness-raising. In her words: Dealing with the complexities of cultural heritage issues is a choice I made for my life. Caring for, honesty about and passion for our heritage is something that inspires me on a day-to-day basis. I believe that people and monuments should never be targets.

Michael Hoare
Michael Hoare is the current treasurer for Future for Religious Heritage. Former Chairman of the National Churches Trust, in London, currently Trustee of the Architectural Heritage Fund (UK), Heritage of London Trust (UK), La Sauvegarde de l’Art Francais (Paris), and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe. A graduate of INSEAD, he previously had a career in industry and financial services in France.

Valerie Humphrey
A Californian by birth, Valerie has lived in the UK since 1989. She has worked for over 25 years raising funds for some of the UK’s finest heritage buildings. She currently works as Director of the Westminster Abbey Foundation where they recently raised over Euro 25m for the new Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Galleries which included building a new tower- the first physical addition to the Abbey in over 275 years. She previously worked for The National Trust in London and FAI-Fondo per l’Ambiente Italiano (the Italian National Trust) in Milan. She is also a trustee of various heritage organisations in London and New York.

Daniel Janicot
Daniel Janicot is the current chairperson of the French National Commission for UNESCO and an honorary State Counselor. He has served as the UNESCO Deputy director and as the chairperson of the think tank ProCulture. After his service in prestigious institutions in France, including the direction of the advertising and posters of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs and the Camondo Museum, Daniel founded the first national museum of Arts and Fashion. He was then nominated Delegate General of the American Center in Paris. In February 1990, Ibrans was built from one of his partnerships at SKEMA. The start-up immediately became of the leading firms involved in the preservation of cultural heritage in France. In 2017, Dartagnans’ innovative ideas allowed the largest cultural heritage bulk purchasing in the world, with a record of 1.8 million invested in just 2 months.

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Robert Leblanc

After his studies at the Ecole Polytechnique in France and a PhD in strategic planning, Robert Leblanc launched his career in financial services and global insurance at Accenture. Robert has worked at the Paris Bourse, later directing an AXA subsidiary and an independent insurance brokerage firm. Since 2009, he is the CEO of Aon, the most prominent insurance and reinsurance broking services firm at the global level, and a leader consultancy group in risk management. Robert Leblanc became the Chairperson of the Medef’s Ethics committee in 2008. He served as the Head of Entrepreneurs of French Entrepreneurs between 2010 and 2014. He is now a member of Comité Médicis, an organization aiming to promote socially responsible investment.

Adriaan Linters

lic.(–MA) history (University Gent, 1973) since 1971 active in industrial archaeology and historic preservation. Chairman of Vlaamse Vereniging voor Industriële Archeologie (Flemish Association for Industrial Archaeology), general-secretary of EFAITH (European Federation of Associations of Industrial and Technical Heritage).

John Ljungkvist

John Ljungkvist, PhD/Docent. With experience from contract archaeology and museum work at Swedish History Museum, he has since 2006 been a lecturer and researcher at Uppsala University. Here Ljungkvist has been involved in numerous research projects, primarily focused on the late 1st millennia AD in Scandinavia and Europe. During the last decades he has directed research on Old Uppsala, a large pre-Viking royal center that housed the first archbishops’ seat of Medieval Sweden. This multi-faceted project has generated several spin-off effects. One of these was teaming with a game designer, which enabled Ljungkvist and colleagues to make reconstructions by virtual visualizations of historic sites, all within the frames of Disir productions Ltd, a company supported by Uppsala University. The Disir-team has visualized several sites, from Bronze Age villages to 17th century towns. Each project has generated new thoughts about the value and role of visualizations in heritage landscapes.

Rodolphe de Loos-Corswarem

Rodolphe de LOOS-CORSWAREM has had a career as a business entrepreneur, as a Director General and CEO representing major companies (KIS Group, Nestlé Group, Business Europe). He has been Executive President of the European Historic Houses Association for 8 years, which he has helped develop, notably by promoting the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage. He is also involved in the Boards of the European Landowners Organization (ELO) and of the Friends of the Countryside (FCS), and has thus become a key figure in the network of private land ownership and cultural heritage management with an exclusive network at decision-level in Brussels. He is also involved in the FAIB, defending international associations based in Brussels. He is also involved in other organizations promoting cultural heritage, notably the Belgium-Bavarian Association, President of an International Master Class in Classical Music and President of the Societé Internationale d’Enghien – IMUSE, and is also currently Board and Council member of Europa Nostra.

Constance de Magneval

Since the beginning of her career, Constance de Magneval, 40 years old, worked in the field of associationism. In 2004 she became the director of the association Veilles Maisons Françaises (VMF) and its Foundation. For more than 60 years, VMF – a team of 15 workers based in Paris, 7th arrondissement- promoted the protection and valorization of built and landscape heritage, by representing 17 000 subscribers spread in 95 departmental delegations and 13 regional delegations. Constance re-launched a new strategy to recover the mission and the vision of VMF for the next decade. Furthermore, she is a full member of the Commission Professionnelle des métiers du patrimoine, part of the Ateliers d’Art de France, the largest exclusive network at decision-level in Brussels. She is also involved in other organizations promoting cultural heritage, notably the Belgium-Bavarian Association, President of an International Master Class in Classical Music and President of the Societé Internationale d’Enghien – IMUSE, and is also currently Board and Council member of Europa Nostra.

Michel Magner

Michel Magnier (born in 1960) graduated from the Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris (1981) and the Ecole nationale d’Administration (1986). He started his professional career in the French public service, serving as a “sous-préfet” in the French West Indies and in the Provence. He joined the European Commission in 1992, as a member of the then President Jacques Delors’ private office. From 1996, he held various positions in the European Commission services, in particular in the Directocrates-Generals in charge of human resources, budget, competition, and home affairs. He has been a director since 2008, and took up his current post of Director for Culture and Creativity in January 2013.

Michael Mail

Michael Mail studied law at Strathclyde University in Glasgow followed by Jewish Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Brandeis University in Boston. He has a 35-year career in the charity sector with senior roles in several leading UK-based charities. Michael sits on the Board of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Places of Religion and Ritual, the Executive Committee of ICOMOS-UK, the Governance Committee of Future for Religious Heritage, and was Vice-Chair of Jewish Heritage UK. Michael assists the European Association for the Promotion of Jewish Culture on its cultural routes programme under the Council of Europe, is a Trustee of the Garthellith Synagogue Preservation Trust, a member of the Advisory Board of the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies, and sits on the Editorial Committee of Jewish Renaissance magazine. Michael is also an award-winning author with three published novels, and he produced a contemporary photography exhibition entitled ‘Scots Jews: Identity, Belonging and the Future’, which is currently touring. Michael is the Founder of the Foundation for Jewish Heritage.

David Margarits

A graduate in International Marketing, David Margarits started his career editing classic books and tourism guidebooks. For a few years, he was manager at an SME specialized in LED lightings. When he joined SWITCH MADE, David was nominated business manager, and ran a 40-member team for the Swiss and French units. After this period, he became consultant and later Director of the Dartagnans group, an organization that aims to build partnerships between private owners and companies working on cultural heritage in France. By engaging with communities, dioceses, private owners and heritage networks, the final goal of Dartagnans is to provide high quality services to improve visibility, gather funding and increase tourism for cultural heritage sites. The challenges and opportunities of each site encourage the team at Dartagnans to find innovative solutions, new private-public partnerships and competitive strategies to promote cultural and touristic heritage.

Marco Medici

Marco Medici, M.Arch. and Ph.D. in Architecture, is research fellow and Adjunct Professor of Freeform Modelling at the University of Ferrara, Department of Architecture. He is collaborator of the DAPRM-Technhub research center since 2013, where he has been involved in several research and training projects, as well as technology transfer activities. He developed advanced skills in the digitization of built environment, focusing in particular on BIM modeling applied to Cultural Heritage. On these topics, he took part in international conferences and is the author of national and international scientific papers. In the last years, he’s also developing research activities on web-based technologies, virtual environment and algorithm-aided design for architectural modeling.

Michael Murray

Michael Murray is the Director of Church Support and the Deputy Chief Executive of the National Churches Trust. Michael joined the National Churches Trust in December 2015. He leads the Church Support team, which manages the charity’s grant programmes, and its tourism and maintenance services. Michael has led the development of the Trust’s new ExploreChurches and MaintenanceBuddy services. He also led the development of the Trust’s new 2019-2023 Strategic Plan. Michael is a member of the HBRA Steering Group, the Historic England PWG Forum and Expert Advisory Group, and the Wales Heritage Group. Prior to joining the Trust, Michael worked for the Heritage Lottery Fund for 6.5 years as the Development Manager for the London Region. Michael previously worked as the London Manager for AdviceUK, and was a Grants Officer with the Big Lottery Fund. Michael has an MA from the University of Toronto in International Relations, and an MSc in Sustainable Heritage from University College London.

Tibor Navracsics

EU Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sports. Before his mandate, he served as Head of the Prime Minister’s Office in Hungary, member of the Hungarian Parliament, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Administration and Justice and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In the 1990s, Tibor Navracsics started to teach at the University of Economics in Budapest. From 1997 until taking up office as European Commissioner, he taught at the Elithis Lor University’s Faculty of Law and Political Sciences in Budapest.
Gila Oren

Gila Oren (PhD), Chair of Marketing and Strategy department, School of Business Administration, College of Management, Israel. Gila Oren is a B.A & M.A graduate in Business Management and holds a PhD from the management faculty of Ben Gurion University. Her research focuses on the emotional experience of heritage sites visitation. Gila is a marketing and strategy lecturer for undergraduate and graduate students at the College of management and Ben Gurion University. She is a specialist in marketing and customer’s experience, especially in the field of heritage sites. Gila brings extensive experience in the marketing and advertising industry. In the past she officiated various managerial, strategy and research roles in advertising agencies (Publicis, BDBD), Television (Keshet broadcasting ), Internet (Nana 10), Journalism (Jersusalem Post), sectorial advertising and research institutions. Nowadays, Gila also serves as an external consultant to business and public companies in marketing and customer’s experience. Likewise, Gila is an active member in various tender committees.

Christian Ost

Christian Ost is a heritage economist. He graduated from Université catholique de Louvain (Ph.D.), Georgetown University, and University of Geneva. He is full Professor at (and former Dean of) INHEC Brussels Management School. He is guest lecturer at the Raymond Lemaire International Centre for Conservation in Leuven, Ecole d’Architecture Paris-Belleville, Université catholique de Louvain, and Burgundy Management School in Dijon. He has been developing the field of economics applied to cultural heritage since the 1980s, under the direction of late Professor Raymond Lemaire. He collaborated with many cultural organizations around the world—ICROM, UNESCO, the Getty Conservation Institute (chair of the International Economics Scientific Committee 2000-05), The World Bank, and the European Commission.

Julia Pagel

Julia Pagel is secretary general of NEMO, the Network of European Museum Organisations (www.ne-mo.org). NEMO acts as European umbrella for the national museums organisations and museums in 40 countries. Through its members the network speaks for over 30.000 museums in Europe. Julia graduated with a master’s degree in Art History and Latin American in 2004. She worked as tutor at the Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla/Colombia. Before she started to work for NEMO in 2007, Julia worked at the Berlin Film Market for the Berlinale Film festival and for the publishing company “BibelSpider”. From 2013-2017 Julia was member and Vice-President of the Executive Committee of Culture Action Europe. She has edited several European Union-related publications about life-long learning and has actively and been involved in numerous EU-funded projects in the culture, learning and research sector.

Charles Personnaz

Senior official and historian, Charles Personnaz is in charge of the volunteering mission for culture at the E2ure d’Orient and a member of the scientific committee for the Christiens d’Orient exposition at the Institut du monde arabe. He is the author of several articles and books, including Néophore Piscia, Byzance face à l’Islam (Berlin Editions) and Sauver la rue de Valois ? Relancer la politique culturelle (Lemieux éditeurs).

Sneika Quaedvlieg Mihailović

Sneika Quaedvlieg-Mihailović (1963) has been working for Europa Nostra for more than 25 years. In 2000, she was appointed as Secretary General. In this capacity, she works closely with EU institutions, the Council of Europe, the UN, UNESCO and other international and European governmental and non-governmental bodies on heritage matters. Since the creation of the European Heritage Alliance 3.3. in 2011, she acts as the Coordinator of this informal platform of European and international networks active in the wider field of heritage. She has played a prominent role in promoting the European Year of Cultural Heritage (EYCH) and now actively contributes to the EYCH Stakeholders Group. She is a regular speaker at European conferences and meetings on cultural heritage and is author of numerous articles on Europe and cultural heritage (most recently she contributed to the special edition of “Cartildattia” dedicated to 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage” (2017)). She has also contributed to the preparation of the European Report “Cultural Heritage Counts for Europe” (2015). Sneika Quaedvlieg-Mihailović obtained a degree in International Law in Belgrade (former Yugoslavia) and in European Law and Politics in Nancy (France). Prior to joining Europa Nostra, she worked for EU institutions in Brussels and then for the European Commission Delegation in Belgrade. In 1991, she was one of the founders and the first Secretary-General of the European Movement in Yugoslavia.

Agmar van Rijn

Agmar van Rijn is strategic policy officer and project leader at the “Stichting Oude Groninger Kerken”; Foundation of historic churches in Groningen. This non-profit heritage organization situated in the north of the Netherlands owns ninety churches and exists, founded in 1969, almost fifty years. Our goals is the preservation of old churches and to constantly promote interest and support, in many ways. Education is one of these ways, and an important one for the future of heritage. If there are no willing heirs, who can cherish our monuments? Involving children is key. Both the tangible and intangible side of our collection churches is worthy material, as will be shown in this session. Van Rijn likes to discuss how education can be used by church owners and heritage organizations: how do you turn the key, and how does the door open to children’s perception?

Olivier de Rohan Chabot

Olivier de Rohan Chabot, President of FRH, was born in 1941 in Brittany from where his family is originated. In 1965 he was graduated from the ESCP (Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Paris), one of the three major business school in France. He then joined the navy for his military service and then serving in its reserve until becoming an honoring captain being made a knight of “L’Ordre National du Mérite” in 1968 he joined Nestle as marketing manager in which he became a consultant for various major companies until 1977. In 1978 he joined Korn Ferry International, the most important consulting firm for Human Resources in the world being responsible for its European Operations. He remained in that field until 1984. When the French government decided to create in favor of French National Heritage, La Fondation du Patrimoine, he became its executive officer until retirement. Meanwhile he has been President of les Amis de Versailles and Honorary President of the American Friends of Versailles during 22 years deeply involved in fundraising. For the last 10 years he has been President of the Foundation La Sauvegarde de l’Art Français, created in 1921, and presently the most important private donor for the preservation of historic churches. Olivier de Rohan Chabot is Officer in the Légion d’Honneur and Commander in the order of Arts et Letters.

Anna Sidorenko

Anna Sidorenko is in charge, as a Programme Specialist, of the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, as well as in Italy and Holy See. She has initiated and coordinated, in close collaboration with numerous international organizations, the Advisory Bodies and international expert networks, two worldwide UNESCO thematic initiatives. Since 2011, Anna Sidorenko is responsible for the UNESCO Initiative on Heritage of Religious Interest and also a member of the joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS/ICROM/KUNA learning group on the protection of heritage of religious interest. Since 2005, she is also responsible for the implementation, in collaboration with the International Astronomical Union, of the Thematic Initiative “Astronomy and World Heritage”.

Frank Strolenberg

Frank Strolenberg (1957) has been working for some 30 years in heritage. The leading theme in his work is how heritage can be made use of in contemporary society. So, he turned the former concept of ‘giving the past a future’ into ‘giving the future a past’. This perspective shifts the focus from looking at the past, towards temporary issues and future generations for which heritage can be made of use. From that line of thinking he worked on different programs promoting use and adaptive reuse of old buildings, structures and landscapes. Within this work there is a special focus on religious heritage. Since 2008 he has been working with representatives of the churches, governmental and public parties and heritage experts on a nationwide agenda to create a sustainable future for all the churches in the Netherlands. Hopefully by the end of 2018 agreements will be reached on such an agenda, supported by the national government for the years 2015-2021. Frank Strolenberg now works for the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands and next to that, he has his own office for cultural advice and creation www.frankenvrij.net.

Karen Taieb

Advisor to the city of Paris since 2001, Karen Taieb was elected deputy Mayor in charge of heritage on September 24th, 2018. She is also advisor to the 4th arrondissement, in charge of health, disability and culture. A doctor in dental surgery and a medical journalist, she co-founded the Oise Bruge festival in the 11th arrondissement of Paris in 1996.
Paul Tighe was born on the 12th February 1958. He was ordained a priest of the Dublin Diocese in 1983. From 1990 to 2007, he taught Moral Theology at the Mater Dei Institute of Education in Dublin. In 2004, he was appointed to the Communications Office of Dublin Diocese and he established the Office for Public Affairs. In 2007, he was appointed as Secretary of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications. In that capacity, he was involved in promoting Church reflection on the importance of digital culture and in the launch of some of the social media initiatives of the Holy See. In 2015, he was nominated to the Pontifical Council for Culture and as titular Bishop of Drivastum. At the Council, he follows questions related to digital culture (artificial intelligence etc.) and contemporary literature. He also supports the activities of the Council in the areas of religious heritage and Church art and architecture.

Philipe Toussaint

Philipe Toussaint is the current president of the association Veillees Maisons Francaises (VMF) since 2002. The association was created in 1958 and represents 18 000 subscribers based in 95 departmental delegations and 13 regional delegations. The association has the objective of observing, protecting and showcasing the French built and landscape heritage. Philippe presides the VMF Foundation, a foundation created in 2009 that aims to foster patronage of endangered heritage. He is also member of the executive board of the Fondation du patrimoine and Europa Nostra. At the end of his schooling at ENA in 1972, Philippe was at first a finance inspector inspecteur des finances and then a technical consultant alongside Christian Bonnet (at first at the ministry of Agriculture and then of interiors 1976-1978), and finally project manager alongside the CEO of Credit National (1978-1983). After he joined Credit du Nord in 1983, he covered several positions before the beginning of his Directorate (1983-1987) and becoming president of the Paribas group (1997-1999). Later, he created the ASF bank online banking, today called Altice bank (1999-2006). Finally, Philippe Toussaint bought the Villebadin castle (VMF) in the Orne, of which rehabilitation took nearly 20 years. He created in 1983 he created a music festival called le Septembre Musical de l’Orne. Since 2005, he directed the Orchestre Régional de Normandie and was elected Deputy Mayor of Villebadin and vice-president of the Communauté de Communes d’Argentan Intercom.

Susanne Urban

Susanne Urban, Ph.D., is since 11/2015 Managing Director for the Association of ShUM-Cities Speyer, Worms and Mainz. Before this, she was since 2000 Head of Historical Research and Education in the International Tracing Service, Bad Arolsen. She worked between 2004 and 2009 in Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, where she was in 2004 Research fellow. In Israel she was assistant to Prof. Dov Kula in the Hebrew University Jerusalem. Between 1990 and 2004 she was in the Jewish Museum Frankfurt in the Exhibitions and Educational Dept. She has published on e.g. Anti-Semitism, Emigration of young German Jews and Displaced Persons. She curates also exhibitions and creates teaching material. Her recent research – apart from the ShUM-sites and Monuments – focuses on child survivors, early testimonies and spaces of memory. Her new book will come out in October 2018 in forms as early testimonies.

Dominique Vanneste

Dominique Vanneste is Full Professor at the University of Leuven (KU Leuven, Belgium), Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, Division of Geography & Tourism. She is involved in the research groups of Human Geography and Tourism and is the director of a Research Unit ASTOR (Association for Tourism Research) as well as program director for the Erasmus Mundus Master in Sustainable Territorial Development. She represents KU Leuven with the UNITWIN-UNESCO network ‘Tourism, Culture, Development’. Her main research interests and lecturing topics are: Economic geography (regional and local development and planning), Historical geography (relationship between landscape, heritage, identity and conservation) and Tourism (heritage tourism, geo-tourism, tourism as a lever for sustainable development). She is particularly interested in the spatial component of heritage sites and therefore in their sense of place.

Pance Velkov

Macedonian and French, Pance Velkov studied civil engineering and historic preservation in Skopje, Lyons, Paris and at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. In 1998 he created the Makedondida Foundation for Cultural Heritage Education, Promotion and Preservation in and Skopje, Macedonia, and has been the acting President of the foundation ever since (makedonida.org). He has been teaching on historic preservation at the School of the Art Institute in Chicago and has been lecturing on cultural heritage of Macedonia in numerous academy in Europe and in North and South America. He has also been working in the field of heritage and fine art photography and has also showed his photos in museums and galleries in Skopje, Bitola, Novi Sad, Sofia, Caen in Normandy, Dresden, Berlin, Chicago, Philadelphia and Montevideo, to name a few.

Todd Weir

Todd Weir is Professor of History of Christianity and Modern Culture and Director of the Centre for Religion and Heritage at the University of Groningen. Prior to his move to the Netherlands in 2016, Weir taught history for nine years at Queen’s University Belfast. His chief research focus is the interaction of secularism and religion in modern European history and in 2014 he published the prize-winning book Secularism and Religion in Nineteenth Century Germany: The Rise of the Fourth Confession in 1444 with Cambridge University Press. His next major research project is a transnational history of the term worldview/Weltanschauung.

Aaron Wunsch

Aaron Wunsch holds a B.A. in History from Haverford College, an M.A. in Architectural History from the University of Virginia, and a Doctorate in Architectural History from the University of California, Berkeley. He has curated an exhibition on Laurel Hill Cemetery at the Library Company of Philadelphia and written several scholarly articles and encyclopedia entries. He is the author of Palazzo’s of Power: Central Stations of the Philadelphia Electric Company, 1900-1930 (Princeton Architectural Press, 2016) and Cemetery City: Death, Commerce, and Reform in the Landscape of Antebellum Philadelphia (forthcoming). At Penn, Aaron regularly teaches three courses in the Preservation Program: a survey of American architecture, a seminar on the same topic, and a course on the documentation of historic sites. His scholarship focuses on nineteenth-century American architecture and urbanism. Special interests include: antebellum suburbs and cemeteries, infrastructure and industrial architecture, Quaker aesthetics, and the politics of commemoration. He serves as vice president of Philadelphia’s Woodlands Cemetery and has been active on other nonprofit boards. His preservation advocacy work has received various forms of recognition, including the Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia’s Public Service Award for Preservation in the Public Interest, shared with Mayor Wilson Goode, Sr., in 2015.
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