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GETTY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES GRANTS TO SUPPORT DIGITAL MAPPING OF IMPORTANT CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES

Projects for sites in Italy, Brazil and Turkey will be supported by the Foundation's Digital Art History initiative

LOS ANGELES – The **Getty Foundation** announced today four grants that will support a growing area of art historical research – the use of geospatial and digital mapping tools to document and analyze cultural sites around the world. As part of its **Digital Art History** initiative, the Foundation will support projects that are currently exploring the ancient sites of Pompeii in Italy and Çatalhöyük in Turkey, the social and urban evolution of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the flourishing years of Florence during the Italian Renaissance. The grants also represent a new approach that moves digital art history practice away from standalone solutions and toward shared learning opportunities.

"Technology is truly an area that benefits from collaboration, so we've brought this approach to our grantmaking," says Joan Weinstein, acting director of the Getty Foundation. "Funding scholars who work together in a common area, in this case digital mapping, can help them learn from one another and push the whole field forward."

Each of the four projects will create or expand a **GIS (Geographic Information System)** platform to manage geographic, cultural, and archival data. Several of the projects are also seeking to incorporate digital reconstructions, in the form of **three-dimensional models** and **augmented reality**, into their GIS platforms. Once created, these models will provide an enhanced understanding of the historical fabric of spaces, structures and artworks.

The project teams have already demonstrated success in initial stages, with the Foundation providing the resources now needed to take their work to the next level. In the coming years the four project teams will come together for Getty-led convenings that will offer an opportunity for collaboration and shared learning, the first of which will be held in May 2019.

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Below are descriptions of each project:

Revealing the Art and Architecture of Pompeii

Grant awarded to the **University of Massachusetts Amherst** *for the digital mapping project Pompeii Artistic Landscape Project*
Grant amount: $245,000

The University of Massachusetts Amherst, in collaboration with the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World at New York University, will complete a three-year project titled the Pompeii Artistic Landscape Project (PALP), a resource designed to contextualize detailed descriptions of Pompeii's artwork within its well-documented archaeological landscape. Drawing upon the existing Pompeii Bibliography and Mapping Project, PALP will enable users to locate artworks

Online Geographic Information System map of Pompeii that will serve as the base data for the Pompeii Artistic Landscape Project, which is supported by the Getty Foundation through its Digital Art History initiative. Image courtesy Eric Poehler and Sebastian Heath

geographically and make complex connections between them. Too often, Roman artworks are only known from (and studied as) singular objects, cherry-picked and divorced from their immediate surroundings. The project will allow researchers to ask the complex and imaginative questions that are essential in speculative research, from something as simple as searching for the location of every Pompeiian visual representation of the mythological figure of Hercules, to a complex query refining these representations by region, style, and architectural setting. Users will be able to view the artworks on a map, search the inventory by keyword, and explore different categories of spatial or iconographic relationships.

Exploring the Rise of Civilization in Turkey

Grant awarded to **Stanford University** *for the digital mapping project Living Archive of Çatalhöyük*
Grant amount: $220,000

For the past 25 years, Stanford University has led archeological excavations at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Çatalhöyük in Turkey, a large Neolithic settlement that flourished around 7000 BC. These excavations have revealed new information about the origins of human settlements, the rise of civilization, and the emergence of religion and early object-making, including wall paintings, sculpture, and figural ceramics. This data collected over two decades will now be made available through the Living Archive of Çatalhöyük (LAC), a GIS web application designed to serve as a database for archeologists, art historians, and the general public to explore the site and its associated artifacts. The web application source code will also be made available as open access software.
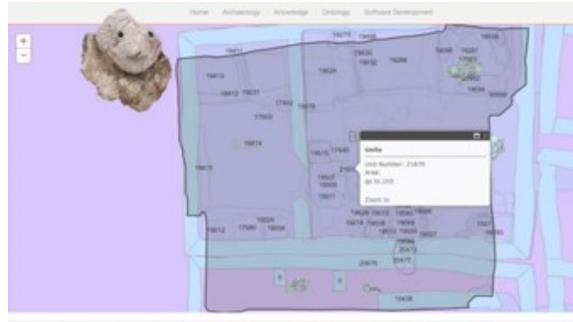
Example of data accessible in a prototype of the Living Archive of Catalhoyuk, which is supported by the Getty Foundation through its Digital Art History initiative. Shown here is a unit (layer) excavated in Building 77 at Catalhoyuk, overlaid on a map of other units, features, and burials. Image courtesy Ian Hodder

Photography and Topography in Rio de Janeiro

Grant awarded to **Rice University** *for the digital mapping project imagineRio*
Grant amount: $216,000

The Humanities Research Center (HRC) at Rice University will collaborate with the Instituto Moreira Salles (IMS) in Rio de Janeiro on a two-year project to digitally integrate historical photography and cartography into imagineRio, a platform that charts changes in the city's landscape and topography over time. The project will digitize 4,000 photographic views of Rio de Janeiro from the 19th and 20th centuries in the IMS collection and incorporate them into the existing model, greatly expanding the number and variety of geo-located visual representations of Rio accessible to researchers. The project contributes to the understanding of the evolution of Rio de Janeiro and its built environment, and by extension

User interface mockup for extracting geospatial information from a photograph by Georges Leuzinger (1813-1892), *Largo do Paço and Chafariz do Mestre Valentim*, c. 1865. Image courtesy Gilberto Ferrez Collection, Instituto Moreira Salles

other cities, through the integration of their photographic and cartographic heritage. The photographs will be digitized in an open-source repository, and will include street views, panoramas, stereograms, and natural landscapes captured by photographers Georges Leuzinger, Marc Ferrez, Revert Henry Klumb, Rodrigues and Co., and Guilherme Santos, among others. Using innovative technologies such as monoplotting, photographs can be geo-referenced down to the level of individual pixels. The project will also develop new models to generate a 3D version of imagineRio from archival data and digitized historical photographs.

Mapping the Renaissance in Florence

*Grant awarded to the **University of Exeter** for the digital mapping project Immersive Renaissance*
Grant amount: $230,000

The University of Exeter will collaborate with the University of Cambridge and the University of Toronto on a two-year project that will integrate elements of three existing platforms to construct a layered and interactive view of the art and architecture of Renaissance Florence: a project that provides access to historical census data through a GIS platform based on the 1584 Buonsignori map of Florence; a 3D modelling project; and a GPS-enabled mobile application. This new resource will open up interpretive possibilities for the multitude of Florentine

Virtual 3D reconstruction of San Pier Maggiore, by Donal Cooper in collaboration with The National Gallery and to be incorporated in Immersive Florence, supported by the Getty Foundation as part of its Digital Art History initiative. Image courtesy Faculty of Architecture and History of Art, University of Cambridge, Miguel Santa Clara and National Gallery, London

artworks dispersed in museum and gallery collections worldwide, by representing the artworks in their digitally reconstructed original settings. The platform will highlight important buildings that have been demolished or altered and recreate lost spatial and architectural environments for displaced artworks. A "time-slide" feature will also display the urban landscape at different moments in time. Additionally, a mobile augmented reality app with GPS capability will allow users to examine these reconstructions in situ and permit researchers to annotate the platform's 3D models while exploring contemporary Florence on foot.

More information about the Getty Foundation's Digital Art History initiative can be found here - http://www.getty.edu/foundation/initiatives/current/dah/index.html.

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The J. Paul Getty Trust is an international cultural and philanthropic institution devoted to the visual arts that includes the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Research Institute, the Getty Conservation Institute, and the Getty Foundation. The J. Paul Getty Trust and Getty programs serve a varied audience from two locations: the Getty Center in Los Angeles and the Getty Villa in Pacific Palisades.

The Getty Foundation fulfills the philanthropic mission of the Getty Trust by supporting individuals and institutions committed to advancing the greater understanding and preservation of the visual arts in Los Angeles and throughout the world. Through strategic grant initiatives, the Foundation strengthens art history as a global discipline, promotes the interdisciplinary practice of conservation, increases access to museum and archival collections, and develops current and future leaders in the visual arts. It carries out its work in collaboration with the other Getty Programs to ensure that they individually and collectively achieve maximum effect. Additional information is available at www.getty.edu/foundation.