The PALIMPSEST Project Newsletter

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PALIMPSEST

Post-ALphabetical Interactive Museum using Participatory, Space-Embedded STorytelling

Our project will develop an interactive, open-air museum experience in urban spaces. PALIMPSEST aims to restore lost layers of the city’s past, and thus, revitalize urban spaces and attract high quality tourism.

The project attempts to discuss the urban palimpsest as it is constructed by oral history and revived by art and culture as an open and progressive process, which involves many actors and takes place at the urban public space, configuring a new collective and participatory way to address culture and incite artistic creation.

PALIMPSEST addresses the common challenge of promoting tourism in less-developed areas, by animating the urban public space and recuperating cultural heritage assets through bottom-up, participatory procedures and artistic interventions that as a result create new cultural assets. It does so by developing an in-situ, localized archive of story-telling assets, which leads to an interactive, immaterial, open-air Museum experience in the urban space of the city, with the involvement of artists selected through an art competition.

PALIMSPEST aims to transform the urban public space’s experience to a museistic, story-telling, interactive, thematic condition, which will revive the city and attract high quality tourism and at the same time it aspires to test in practice the way digital technologies affect and distort typical dipoles such as the author-audience, but also categories and typologies such as the museum and invite us to rethink their structure and characteristics.
Members of the PALIMPSEST Team discussed its progress and its future perspectives with representatives from national and local authorities, collaborating schools, cultural and commercial organizations and members of the Press during a working luncheon in Ioannina (GR). The luncheon started with a greeting from the Project’s Manager Prof. Xenofon Bitsikas (UOI) and followed by a presentation of the project by the Project’s Communication Officer Prof. Polyxeni Mantzou (DUTH).

The main topic that dominated the discussion was how the Project will be spread among the local community and its continuation and evolution be preserved, even long after the completion of the Programme. The interest from the local authorities and various organizations was great, a rather hopeful sign for the Project’s future!
Call for Papers:  
“ICT-based, Innovative, Museum and CH Experiences”
City of Ioannina

Ioannina, GR
27th January 2020

A call for papers with the title: “ICT-based, Innovative, Museum and CH Experiences” was announced! The collected contributions will be published in an e-book as part of the PALIMPSEST project.

ICT offers new opportunities to rethink and redesign the way Cultural Heritage is experienced, Archives are organized and Museums are deployed and managed. Participation, interpretation and connection on one hand and personalization, re-contextualization, interaction and immersion on the other, are key elements of the change that is occurring in cultural heritage assets and the institutions traditionally associated to them. Big Data and Artificial Intelligence can be used to adapt and personalize museum experience whereas human-machine interaction methodologies and advanced immersive technologies allow the emulation and the augmentation of the physical world by creating a surrounding, immersive, multisensorial feeling.

In addition, as ICT allows the integration of various layers of space, including smart physical spaces and virtual spaces, the museum is now able to transcend the physical limits of its enclosed rooms and its fixed locations and invite people to share
augmented, animated, intense everyday experiences in the common, public spaces of the hybrid cities, where present and past can coexist.

This e-book aims to gather some of the most promising experiences and proposals of innovation through the use of digital technologies, in the Museum environment and the Cultural Heritage field. The objective is to identify new paths for the rediscovery and enhancement of new possibilities to relate to cultural heritage that can provide benefits in the social and economic sphere.

Editors of the e-book are Prof. Polyxeni Mantzou, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece, Prof. Xenofon Bitsikas, University of Ioannina, Greece, Prof. Giuseppe Pirlo, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, Italy and Prof. Fausta Scardigno, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, Italy.

Call for Artists
University of Ioannina

As part of the research project PALIMPSEST (Post-ALphabetic Interactive Museum using Participatory, Space-Embedded, Story-Telling) funded by the European Programme Interreg Greece-Italy, there is an open call for graduates of Schools of Fine Arts and similar schools or graduates of Architecture Schools, with the aim of producing art installations in the city of Ioannina.

During this stage, PALIMSPEST focuses on the creation of art installations in the urban space of the city. At first, the artists will select stories from the archive and
then they will reinsert them as art installations in the city’s public space appending them to their original location. The art installations will not significantly affect the physical condition of the city at its present condition. These settings, activated by visitors, will be interactive and multi-sensory, with no visible footprint in the urban area.

PALIMPSEST has a thematic approach, it creates a spectacular experience of the city, but at the same time it engages artists who instigate and reinterpret situations, in which the visitor is not a passive recipient but a participant, an agent. Along the same line, PALIMPSEST is a hybrid between spectacle and thematization practices on one hand and on the other, an art-driven, situationists’ approach regarding the subject and its relation to the city.
The PALIMPSEST Project

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