

# PALIMPSEST Project

[ *Newsletter* ]

Vol.12 [ March 2022 ]



University  
of Ioannina



University  
of Bari Aldo Moro



Region  
of Epirus



Province  
of Lecce



Municipality  
of Ioannina

## About PALIMPSEST

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.

PALIMPSEST 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.

## PALIMPSEST Project

[ *the Book* ]



Ioannina, March 2022

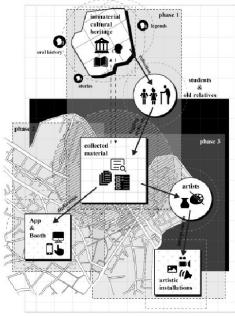

**Name** PALIMPSEST Project: the Book




**Place** Ioannina, Greece

**Date** 25.03.2022

PALIMPSEST Team is really happy that “PALIMPSEST Project: the Book” is released! The book describes the PALIMPSEST experience and as such, is itself a work in progress. It highlights certain aspects and certain moments, but it doesn’t reveal all the layers that remain veiled and suspended in this particular instance and linger in limbo. In order to make the book feasible it was

imperative to not include all the events that took place, but we tried hard to include as much as possible in order to give the reader a holistic approach of a project so multi-faced as PALIMPSEST!

<p>PALIMPSEST Project [ The Book ]</p> <p>PALIMPSEST reconsiders concepts such as the Archive and the Museum with the intention of reconsidering them, by embracing their fluid, participatory and bottom-up, contemporary version. The intention is to reactivate and revitalize the city's palimpsest by incorporating forgotten events, stories and legends that allegedly took place in the city's urban web. The narratives are retrieved as part of an oral history and tradition and transformed into an open, common and editable archive and a public, interactive, multisensorial and Imaterial museum. The Museum and its archive are both post-productions that constitute an extra stratification in the city's public space, augmenting and hybridizing it.</p>  <p>Fig.2 phase diagram</p> <p>The project's first stage involves an initial archive, created with the participation of schools and trans-generational collaboration. Students seek stories and memories related to the urban fabric of the city, from older people in their familiar environment. They transcribe them, guiding the narrators to points that interest them and they tag, categorize and archive them. Tags used related to content are partly defined freely by</p> <p>[14]</p>	<p>01. [ The Concept ]</p> <p>the students and partly by the selection from a given tank of tags; while at the same time chronological and locative tags are also requested. Media used to record the stories are chosen by the students but must include text.</p>  <p>Fig.3 proposal for the art installations</p> <p>Subsequently the collected material is uploaded on a digital application open for the public. The users can search for stories and events using filters; can add stories following a similar procedure; can add comments to stories that already exist; and can suggest links among stories. This archive has all the features of a post-alphabetic archive, that is, a hybrid archive, which combines top-down rules and pre-existing structure with bottom-up, unrestricted and unforeseen development.</p> <p>During the next stage, PALIMPSEST 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.</p> <p>[15]</p>
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<p>PALIMPSEST Project [ The Book ]</p> <p>[ Athina Pavlou-Benazi ]</p>  <p>About the installation</p> <p>"I constructed an installation in the arcade next to the central gate of Ioannina, using video projections and absorbing slides with a filter. I created figures of people from the past who are lost in a path, evoked by time.</p> <p>The friction with the history of Ioannina and the expulsion of the Jewish people of Ioannina created the need for me to depict them as a moving monument. The castle was predominantly an area where many Jewish citizens of Ioannina lived, as it was an area with different mentalities, but until 1944 they all coexisted together.</p> <p>[148]</p>	<p>04. [ The Elements ]</p> <p>Through this work I want to show the course of these people in today's reality. History may be the past of a city but it never ceases to move into the present and shape its culture and beliefs."</p>   <p>[149]</p>
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**Name** Post in Interreg Volunteering Youth blog  
**Place** Interreg Volunteering Youth blog  
**Date** 18.03.2022  
**Link** [https://www.interregyouth.com/single-post/preserving-oral-cultural-heritage-through-artistic-interpretationand-attracting-high-quality-tourism?fbclid=IwAR3Rfv0JB1jV\\_oJxMKx1Qey-I\\_bgSMdXA8wwlWSo0-SpHCHPKczdD-PmOWI](https://www.interregyouth.com/single-post/preserving-oral-cultural-heritage-through-artistic-interpretationand-attracting-high-quality-tourism?fbclid=IwAR3Rfv0JB1jV_oJxMKx1Qey-I_bgSMdXA8wwlWSo0-SpHCHPKczdD-PmOWI)

The article of our Interreg Volunteers, “Preserving oral cultural heritage through artistic interpretation and attracting high quality tourism”, was published in the official blog of the Interreg Volunteering Youth, and everyone in the PALIMPSEST Team is excited!

The article describes how our volunteers experience the whole IVY and PALIMPSEST experience and according to their words “Through the IVY initiative, and especially through the PALIMPSEST Project, we’ve become familiar with what EU does to support local communities, and surely the opportunity to become a volunteer has been a lifetime experience as it provided us with a new point of view and a fresh perspective!”

learn more in

**[www.palimpsest.eu](http://www.palimpsest.eu)**

-  [gritpalimpsest](https://www.facebook.com/gritpalimpsest)
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-  [palimpsest2018@gmail.com](mailto:palimpsest2018@gmail.com)

*Interreg V-A Greece-Italy Programme is a European Territorial Cooperation Programme that aims to help public institutions and local stakeholders to develop cross-border projects and pilot actions and to create new policy, products and services, with the final goal to improve the citizens' quality of life.*

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