

18th Image and Research Conference



Image and Research Conference 2024

The new edition of the [Image and Research Conference](#)] (18th Antoni Varés Conference) will be held in Girona from **November 20th to 23rd, 2024**. The event is organized by one of the founding members of PHOTOCONSORTIUM, [Ajuntament de Girona](#)], which has been dedicated to protecting, promoting, and disseminating Girona's photographic heritage since 1997.

The Conference is a biennial event to reflect on and share knowledge about the **management of photographic and audiovisual heritage**. The presentations will take place at the [Palau de Congressos](#) on November 21 and 22 and the workshops will be held at the [Municipal Archive of Girona](#) on the 20 and 23.

[You can now register for the presentations sessions and workshops.](#)

This year the Conference presents a format change: it will be distributed in four thematic blocks through the morning and afternoon time slots, with the purpose of providing a broad response to the following questions:

- How do we use technology?
- How do we engage people?
- What are the business strategies?
- What is the state of the issue regarding conservation and historical research?

Each block includes two keynote speakers and various communications on related topics. Block 3 offers a round table related to the topic of the presentation.

Call for papers

Papers will be included in each of the thematic blocks: for each block, there will be two keynote speeches and 10-minute papers on related topics.

[The form and submission conditions are now available.](#)

Deadlines:

Submission of a proposal of 140 words: **30th June 2024**

Submission of the final text: **31st July 2024**

Program

Block 1: TECHNOLOGY. November 21 (from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Emanuele Frontoni. A Picture of the Future: Generative AI's impact on photography, archives and authenticity.

Hrvoje Stancic. Incorporating AI in the Digitization Process.

Communications linked to the topics: artificial intelligence, semantic web, management software, speech recognition and transcription, digital preservation, metadata, 3D technology, etc.

Block 2: CITIZENSHIP. November 21 (from 3 to 6 p.m.)

John Balean. Story-seeing: methods of creating Visual Impact when promoting Photographic Collections.

Bernardo Riego. A new look at the History of Photography in times of Artificial Intelligence and postmodern culture.

Communications linked to the topics: creation of narratives, dissemination of funds and collections, archives and creativity, exhibitions, citizen participation, image ethics, etc.

Block 3: HERITAGE AND BUSINESS MODELS. November 22 (from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.).

Rita Scartoni. Enhancing the Alinari Archives: a business strategy for accessible and sustainable public heritage management.

Round table: Photographic archives as a business source. Rita Scartoni (Alinari Foundation), John Balean (TopFoto), Sergi Griñó (Album). Moderator: Fina Navarrete (CRDI).

Communications linked to the topics: business models, image banks, intellectual property, image rights, economic sustainability in management, collecting, etc.

Block 4: CONSERVATION - ÁNGEL FUENTES MEMORIAL. November 22 (from 3 to 6 p.m.)

Claudio Ogass. Towards sustainable preservation. Changes in the approach and criteria for preventive conservation.

Communications linked to the topics: climate change, sustainable conservation, state of the art in conservation, preventive conservation criteria, restoration of photographs and films, history of photography, digitization, etc.

Closing conference: Valentín Vallhonrat: The role of photography in the construction of our visual culture.

WORKSHOP 1. November 20 (from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m.)

Automating Description of Image Collections Using AI.

Trainers: Hrvoje Stancic

Language: English.

WORKSHOP 2. November 23 (from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.)

The description of the photographic and audiovisual image.

Trainers: Fina Navarrete, Cristina Feixas, Pau Saavedra.

Language: Catalan.