Digitally colouring our historical monuments

 Digital technologies applied to Cultural Heritage offer a wide range of possibilities on preservation and research, as well as **new experiences** for the cultural tourism sector. Recently, we have assisted to the emergence of interesting projects with public success that, thanks to **video mapping** technologies, give alive historical monuments by digitally reconstructing their **original colours**. The research tells us that most of the Ancient Monuments, as the Parthenon, were depicted and colourful; can you imagine them? Video mapping and lighting technologies arrived to help our imagination. The application of such technologies enrich the visitor's experience thanks to a reconstruction that facilitates the comprehension of the monument as it was originally conceived. At the same time, ensures that this reconstruction does not physically affects the original monument, thanks to the virtual reconstruction using the latest technologies on video mapping.

Recently, two new experiences, with audience success and impact on the tourism sector, showed us the potential of these technologies applied to the CH sector:

Taull 1123, Catalonia (Spain). The mapping at Taüll applies the latest audiovisual technologies to Romanesque art. The paintings of ?**Sant Climent de Taüll?** church (declared world heritage site by UNESCO) it's one of the most important jewels of Catalan Romanesque art and are now presented through an **innovative video mapping** that recreates the original frescoes in the main apse. The original painting dates from the XII B.C century and they are preserved in the National Art Museum of Catalonia in Barcelona, ??MNAC.

The purpose of this mapping is to **restore virtually** and digitally the original paintings in their home place and be able to visualize and reproduce the full pictorial set as it was in 1123. The audiovisual presentation helps the visitor to understand the painting technique of Romanesque frescoes and discover various iconographic representations that make so famous this artistic and religious art piece.

 #Taull1123 is a multidisciplinary project, complementing research activities with the latest technologies, 3D laser scanning and animation techniques. The project has been awarded as the best multimedia project at "Museums and the W**eb"** international

conference (Baltimore, April 2014).

Detailed information about the project at pantocrator.cat

The Colours of the Ara Pacis, Rome (Italy). The project, conceived as an **event**, brings back to life the original colours of the monument through a sophisticated lighting system. Light projections on both the western front of the altar, with panels of Aeneas and the Lupercal, and on the eastern front, with those of Tellus, the goddess Roma and the great vegetal frieze, allow the audience to see ?The Colours of the Ara Pacis?.

If you want to take part in this experience, do not miss the next opportunity: **5-6 September**. Check the following link for more information.