#### PROGRAMME and BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

of the Sixth International Conference:

# CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE CONSERVATION, PROMOTION AND ADAPTIVE REUSE OF THE INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

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In collaboration with:

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"ION MINCU" UNIVERSITY OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM



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## Welcoming Note from the Organizing and Scientific Committees 6th International Conference: Challenges and Opportunities in the Conservation, Promotion and Adaptive Reuse of Industrial Heritage September 21-22, 2023, Bucharest

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of both Organizing and Scientific Committees of the International Conference: *Challenges and Opportunities in the Conservation, Promotion and Adaptive Reuse of Industrial Heritage* 2023, in Bucharest (Romania), we are honored and delighted to welcome you for its sixth edition. The first edition of conference was held in December 2014. Until 2023 the conference was called "Industrial Heritage – Conservation, Cultural Promotion and Intelligent Reuse".

This scientific event aims to ensure a good framework to present the complex issue of industrial heritage (inventory, conservation, promotion, adaptive reuse), with the participation of specialists from different related fields. We also consider this scientific event as an opportunity for scientific collaboration focused on the conservation and adaptive reuse of historical industrial monuments and sites.

The objective of the conference is to highlight the current trends in the field of industrial heritage management. We shall focus the economic changes, the environmental problems related to industrial heritage, the conservation and adaptive reuse and promotion of industrial heritage.

Our agenda is also focused to the analysis and promotion of the industrial heritage which reflects our concern to highlight the importance of the European Capital of Culture program developed with European Union support for a yearlong celebration of art and culture. In 2023 there are three European Capitals of Culture: Elefsina (Greece), Timisoara (Romania) and Veszprém (Hungary). City of Timisoara is developing the cultural project that also involves the conversion of several industrial heritage assets for their cultural use for the benefit of general public.

This edition has facilitated the participation of more than 50 attendees from 18 countries, with the presentation of 32 abstracts that are included in this book into 6 scientific sessions dedicated to: 1) Good practice models for the conservation and intelligent re-use of industrial heritage (including historical industrial monuments under the protection of UNESCO); 2) Railway heritage: in-between representations, memory and transformation; 3) Challenges in conservation and adaptive re-use of industrial heritage; 4) Mining heritage between history and redevelopment; 5) Assessment of the pluri-values of industrial heritage; 6) Industrial heritage and sustainable urban development. To these sessions is added a Workshop intitled "Cultural heritage: dynamics, management and impact on territorial planning".

As always, University of Bucharest is honored and pleased to welcome its colleagues and inviting specialists sharing the precious research work aimed to contribute to the preservation, reuse and promotion of industrial heritage assets.

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### THE HERITAGE OF STONE INDUSTRY: BETWEEN HISTORY AND FUTURE THE CASE STUDY OF ALENTEJO MARBLES (PORTUGAL)

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**Abstract.** Marble quarrying, like other decorative stones, is an ancient activity that in Portugal received its modernizing impetus at the beginning of the 20th century.

We can find the country's geological reserve in the Alentejo region, in the south of Portugal, where a crystalline limestone of great quality and aesthetic beauty exploited since Roman times (1st century) throughout many quarries at the municipalities of Vila Viçosa, Borba and Estremoz. Its quality and polychromy have led to its prolonged use throughout all historical periods until the present day, with exports spreading to all continents in the last two centuries.

The modernization of marble extraction took place after the First World War, with the arrival of numerous quarrying companies. Equipped with the necessary capital, techniques and machinery, and in a context of technological transfer (helical wire, steam, compressed air, cranes, electricity) they transformed this activity in a modern industrial sector.

In the last century, this industry has allowed these territories to develop greatly, with the opening of around four hundred quarries, huge employment in their exploitation, technological modernization, electrification and exports, giving rise to greater economic dynamism and transforming an agrarian territory of cereals, cattle and cork into an area of intense industrialization.

At the same time, however, it has faced challenges as a result of its industrialization, namely changes to the landscape, territorial disorder and a high concentration of waste. This activity is an exemplary case of the industrialization of an agrarian territory, where the importance of its geological resources has given rise to interesting factory complexes and a constantly changing landscape.

The required a large workforce of this industrialization led to the construction of a very particular identity, based on the experiences of its workers, their families and the community in general. The structures and machinery has given rise to a material industrial heritage.

In this sense, because this industry still has significant economic relevance today (despite its cyclical crises) and tremendous future potential, it was necessary to study and understand this sector from a history and heritage point of view.

The studies carried out over the last decade have uncovered an important historical memory that must be preserved and promoted as an element of culture, industrial and tourist development.

The research began with a study of the sector, covering various disciplines, from classical and industrial archaeology, the history of techniques and technologies, art history, economics and oral history, which has allowed us to trace the evolution of marble exploitation, its use and its players over the last two millennia.

At the same time, they have made it possible to transfer knowledge of industrial tourism in order to improve the "marble route", which promotes the territory and therefore its product.

As a result, the study has evolved and today, in the light of recent events, research on this subject has enabled the team to discuss current problems in the area, such as accidents and road restrictions, the problem of waste and the intensive use of water in the environmental context, as well as the economic future of the sector with the need of more added value, design introduction, diversification of produts and digital integration of the sector.

Keywords: Marble, Portugal, Alentejo, History, Heritage

#### **Curriculum Summary**

Armando Quintas is PhD in History from the University of Évora (2021), with a thesis on Alentejo Marble, History, Heritage and Cultural Valorization (1850-2020).

He holds a Master in Management and Enhancement of Cultural and Industrial Heritage from the Universities of Paris I, Padua and Évora (2012). He is a researcher at CECHAP Studies Center in Vila Viçosa, and CIDEHUS - University of Évora, Portugal.

He has been developing research on the heritage and history of the industry, namely marble industry, being author of several articles and book chapters.

Complete curriculum available at: <a href="https://www.cienciavitae.pt/portal/en/2F12-6785-298F">https://www.cienciavitae.pt/portal/en/2F12-6785-298F</a>