



NOVEL PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL METHODOLOGIES FOR THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

IV EDITION

FROM THE ITALIAN TRADITION TO INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS AND SCHOOLS
DEDICATED TO PROF. ANTONIO SGAMELLOTTI (1939-2025)

Rome, 12th November, 2025

Organizing Committee

FRANCESCA GABRIELI (*Amsterdam*), GENNARO MARINO (*Naples*),
ANTONIO SGAMELLOTTI † (*Perugia*), FRANCESCA CASADIO (*Chicago*)

Aims

This is the fourth workshop that features Italian scientific experts from some of the most renowned museums and academic institutions in the world. The series provides a platform to showcase innovative chemical and physical methodologies currently used in the field of heritage science by prestigious institutions. In addition, the speakers and panelists share insights into their professional journeys, going from the great Italian tradition of cultural heritage science education to their current roles in museums and academic institutions. They highlight differences in approaches between these aspects, creating a foundation for discussions on potential contributions and collaborative opportunities. Prof. Sgamellotti was a master who gave a profound characterisation to these activities and inspired meetings. His sudden death left us astonished. Our duty is to dedicate this meeting to him, as part of our contribution to his memory and heritage.

Language

To enable international dissemination of the conference content, presentations will be given in English, but questions can also be asked in Italian. The final panel discussion will be in Italian.

Programme

10:00 Opening address

VINCENZO AQUILANTI, *President, Accademia Nazionale delle Scienze detta dei XL, Lincoo, In memory of Antonio Sgamellotti*

FRANCESCA CASADIO, *The Art Institute of Chicago, In memory of Austin Nevin*

FRANCESCA GABRIELI, *Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam*



Part I

Italians with experience in universities or educational institutions

Chair: BRUNETTO BRUNETTI, *Università degli Studi di Perugia*

10:30 **Paths in Heritage Science: Research, Academic Careers, and the Power of Interdisciplinary Exchange**

CLARIMMA SESSA, *Technical University of Munich – insiTUMlab, Munich*

10:55 **The Conservation of Decorated Surfaces of Immovable Heritage: Methodologies, Challenges, and Training Strategies**

FRANCESCA PIQUÉ, *University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI)*

11:25 **From Academia to Museums: the challenges, opportunities and life journey of a Conservation Scientist**

VALENTINA PINTUS, *Louvre, Abu Dhabi (Remote participation)*

Break

The voice of the younger generation:

Chair, LAURA CARTECHINI, *Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche*

11:45 **Optimization of a non-invasive approach for the study of wax-resin lined paintings**

FABIANA DI GIANVINCENZO, *Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam*

12:15 **A matter of environment and internal structure: understanding the degradation mechanisms of heritage glasses and metals, from fundamental to applied research**

VALENTINA VALBI, *CNRS, Paris*

Lunch 12:45 – 14:00

Part II

Italians in museum environment

Chair: COSTANZA MILIANI, *Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche*

14:00 **From Neo-Assyrian writing boards to Tahitian dyes – challenges of organic material characterisation in an encyclopaedic museum**

DIEGO TAMBURINI, *British museum, London*



- 14:25 **Black or white? New insight into the materials and artistic process of Robert Rauschenberg**
ELENA BASSO, *Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York*
- 14:50 **Bridging the gap between research and practice in built heritage studies**
DAVIDE GULOTTA, *Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles (Remote participation)*
- 15:15 **Scanning X-ray fluorescence for the re-examination of the composition underneath Paul Gauguin's *Nevermore* in the Courtauld Gallery**
SILVIA RITA AMATO, *The Courtauld Institute of Art, London*

Part III

Panel discussion

Chair: Marco Leona, *The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Linceo*

- 15:40 **Panel discussion with** DIEGO TAMBURINI, *British museum, London*; FRANCESCA PIQUÉ, *University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland (SUPSI)*; DAVID BUTI, *Institute of Heritage Science CNR-INSPC*
- 16:30 **Conclusions and remarks**
GENNARO MARINO, *Accademia Nazionale delle Scienze detta dei XL, Linceo*
- 17:00 **End of Meeting**

The live stream will be available on the Academy's official [Youtube channel](#)