

Colloque international
Art et Connaissance : recherches à partir de Raymond Abellio
Porto 2015

SECTION A: Art and digital technologies

DIGITAL MAPPING OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AT URBAN PARKS OF PORTO

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Abstract

The aim of this presentation is to present a 3D inventory of the urban art of some urban parks, belonging to the municipal heritage of the city of Porto.

This project will feature an initial survey of some art works in these parks, with accurate information on geographic location. Also, the works in question will be modeled three-dimensionally, with digital photographs and graphic computer technologies. The modeling process is based on digital software of photogrammetry. In order to enrich the understanding of the work, will be also made the historical and artistic context of cultural property.

This initial survey is therefore focused not only in the art work, but aware of its environment too, for it is concerned with the geographic location of each piece, and at the same time aiming to create a 3D representation of every single piece, which is completed by a historic and cultural study of both artwork and context.

The second phase of the project will involve the material study of the art works as well as through evaluation of the conservation status. In the last step, will be designed a web-based platform, a Virtual Museum, to make public the project results. It should be noted that in the first phase, the initiative has the support of the governing body of the city of Porto, in particular the Urban Parks Division of the Porto.

The four steps of studying the work of art and its context presented in the first phase of the project (artwork-environment-representation-embodiment) follow Raymond Abellio's methodological approach, representing its first stage (vision), while the second phase concerned with the evaluation of its material conservation status, intends to guide some practical actions aiming to preserve and maintain its good conservation, being the third stage of Raymond Abellio's methodology (art) represented by the creation of a Virtual Museum, in order to make public the results of the project, thus modifying the initial perception of Porto's urban park artistic collections of both public and expertize observers, by retrieving and entering new and more pertinent aesthetic/symbolic values and social meanings/uses.

This investigation is one of the fields of research of the Research Center in Science and Technology of the Arts (CITAR), Catholic University of Portugal (UCP).

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