



RenEU
RENAISSANCE
IN EUROPE

New Renaissance in Europe

International Conference

24 March 2015
Casa das Artes, Porto

Presented by:



GOVERNO DE
PORTUGAL

SECRETARIA REGIONAL
DE CULTURA

CULTURA
DO NORTE

setepés

Co-funded by:



***RenEU: New Renaissance in Europe
International Conference***

24 March 2015

Casa das Artes, Porto PT

RenEU: New Renaissance in Europe starts from these reflections and intends to make the most of the cultural heritage related to the Renaissance, strenghtening the European dimension of this phenomenon, with a boost for a reinterpretation coming from the place standing at the heart of the Renaissance, Tuscany Region (project's co-ordinator) and involving other four countries (co-organisers): Patronato de la Alhambra y Generalife (ES), Villa Decius Association (PL), SETEPÉS (PT) and Mision Val de Loire (FR).

Reestructure the debate on the Renaissance period in order to encourage an European wide reflection on the spreading of a new cultural process involving the whole continent.- a New Renaissance age - is the aim of this project and this conference.

RenEU: New Renaissance in Europe International Conference is part of a series of local conferences to be promoted by the project partners. This first conference assumes a dual purpose - informative and participatory. It intends to be part of and encourage a paradigm - that cultural heritage can and must be at the centre of the debate and reflection on European citizenship and the European project.

At this conference, it'll be also presented the project, with special emphasis on the Portuguese itinerary, "Monastery of Serra do Pilar: A Window on Europe". This itinerary was created under the project, in partnership with the North Region Directorate for Culture (DRCN). The Monastery of Serra do Pilar, part of the Porto Historical Center UNESCO World Heritage, was chosen to host the Portuguese route for its unique Renaissance characteristics in the region and even in Europe.

The immense cultural heritage left to Europe by the Renaissance is famous across the world. But do we, as EU citizens, know enough about its European value both in historical terms and as a foundation of our present day union?



Programme:

9.30 am
Registration

10.00 am
Opening.

10.30 am
Keynote Speech

Pedro Galera Andreu - Art Historian and University Professor, Universidad de Jaén

10.45 am
Coffee Break

11.00 am
Presentation of “RenEU: New Renaissance in Europe” project.

Gian Bruno Ravenni - Regione Toscana

11.30 am
Presentation of the Monastery of Serra do Pilar.

Susana Abreu, Universidade do Porto

12.00 am
Presentation of Itinerary - “Monastery of Serra do Pilar: Window on Europe”

Elvira Rebelo, DRCN

12.30 am
Q&A

1.00 pm
Lunch

2.30 pm
Presentation of the Short Doc “A New Narrative for Europe”

3.00 pm
Discussion Panel “Cultural Heritage: A Window on Europe”:

Moderator: Susana Marques - SETEPÉS

Benedict Schofield - University Professor at King's College London and A Soul for Europe Strategic Group Member

Rémi Deleplancque - Coordinator of Education and Culture of Mission Val de Loire

Elvira Rebelo - DRCN

Gian Bruno Ravenni - Regione Toscana

4.00 pm
Debate

4.30 pm
Closing remarks



“A New Narrative for Europe”

Short Docs

End 2014, the project “A New Narrative for Europe” - promoted by the European Commission Representation in Portugal in a strategic partnership with the Jacques Delors European Information Centre (CIEJD-DGAE/MNE) and management by SETEPÉS - went to meet some of the members of the Cultural Committee for “A New Narrative for Europe” in the European cities where they live and work.

From these meetings, resulted a documentary that was held in Barcelona, Brussels, Copenhagen, The Hague, Lisbon and Prague.

Kathrin Deventer, Luísa Taveira, Olafur Eliasson, Paul Dujardin, Peter Matjašič, Sneška Quaedvlieg-Mihailović and Tomáš Sedláček are seven European citizens who shared their views on the future of Europe, confident that their testimony can stimulate discussion among European citizens and institutions that represent this community of over 500 million people.

For them, a new renaissance and a new cosmopolitanism are two cultural ideals that inspire them and they consider vital to the Europe of today and tomorrow.

The documentary is presented in this conference bringing the voice of those authors who believe in a future of Europe, based on a strong collective commitment and that inspire “citizens to make their voices heard and participate in the European public space for debate, sharing their stories and concerns. These narratives will tell the story of what it means to be European in the XXI century.”



“Monastery Of Serra Do Pilar: A Window On Europe”

Itinerary

The Monastery of Serra do Pilar was the historic site chosen to host the Portuguese itinerary under *RenEU: New Renaissance in Europe* project for their unique Renaissance characteristics in the region and even in Europe.

The itinerary “Monastery of Serra do Pilar: A Window on Europe” results from a partnership between SETEPÉS, as the promoter of *RenEU: New Renaissance in Europe* project in Portugal and the North Region Directorate for Culture (DRCN) .

The monastery combines in its genesis a set of architectural, religious and astronomical knowledge and practices like any other medieval building in Portugal. Furthermore, it was designed to be an “*imago mundi*” building - a representation of the cosmos on earth, a place where heaven and earth merge. An window of the world overlooking the world itself.

Thus, the Monastery of Serra do Pilar is a privileged place, where is possible to see the two shores of the Douro and a great part of its surrounding heritage and to widen our horizons.

In the monastery, is impossible just to revise the Renaissance period, bring it back and relive it through reflection and imagination is inevitable.

Whatever we seek for other times, we certainly never leave our own. So, we let’s take advantage of that: in this window of the world, the *view* can also be European. Enjoy the *view*!





©2015 RenEU is a co-funded by the Culture Programme
2007-2013