

THE
BEST
IN



HERITAGE



*Presenters and Jury of the 2019 conference edition.
Click on the image to view the official conference photo gallery by Domagoj Režić*

The 18th edition of the event took place in Dubrovnik 25-27 September and gathered 160 colleagues from a wide scope of heritage professionals, coming from various geographical and working environments.

CONFERENCE LIKE NO OTHER

The Best in Heritage is a one-of-a-kind conference. It features the best, award-winning projects from the heritage sector in the preceding year and does so on the global level. It therefore offers unique panorama of quality achievements. This year forty laureates awarded in 2018 were featured in a packed, three-day programme, representing almost all aspects of best and, indeed, awarded, practices from some 50 prestigious award schemes and their juries. The presenters came from 5 continents. Since the beginnings in 2002, the strategy is simple: same time, same place, one-track conference with an intimate atmosphere and imperceptible organization.

VOTING FOR THE PROJECT OF INFLUENCE AWARD

To further affirm the excellence of featured projects, we designed our own recognition for the projects that made the best impact on the international professional audience. Therefore, our moderators, the last year's winners and the audience (all acting as a Jury), cast their votes to choose one project (in each of the two sessions) as the Project of Influence for the current year. The implied claim is that such projects have a potential to produce change and advance professional practices by their power of inspiration.



From left: Tomislav Šola from Best in Heritage, Ivor Crotty from RT, Monisha Ahmed from LAMO Centre, Brigitte Prager from Exponatec, and John Sell from Best in Heritage Advisory Board

Projects of Influence

In IMAGINES part of the programme (dedicated to multimedia and new technologies), our collective jury has chosen the **#Romanovs100 & #1917LIVE** - presented by Ivor Crotty from RT, to be the “IMAGINES Project of Influence” for the year 2019. This project was followed by **Songlines: Tracking the Seven Sisters Interactive** project by the National Museum of Australia - presented by Sarah Ozolins; and the third place by **#ArchiveLottery** project - presented by Adam Corsini from the Museum of London Archaeological Archive.

“A pair of all-in multi-platform media campaigns: a complex network of characters, rarely seen archive images - all sustained over time at extremely high production values. Historic accuracy mixed with witty references to contemporary digital culture.” ... Tim Powell, representative of the IMAGINES Jury

The core programme featured 27 out of 28 announced projects out of which the title of “Project of Influence 2019” went to the **LAMO Centre**, from Ladakh, India - presented by Monisha Ahmed. The second, joint, place by number of votes was shared by the **Detroit Historical Society**, from the U.S. - presented by Tracy Smith Irwin and Marlowe Stoudamire, and **State Museum of History of GULAG**, from Moscow - presented by Anna Stadinchuk.

“With professional perfection and personal dedication Monisha Ahmed has returned a degraded, suffering community in Leh, Ladakh, to life and hopes for prosperity. The project she directed developed a sustainable programme that includes contemporary artistic creation and was able to produce the needed developmental momentum. By its inspirational potential, this accomplishment is what jury, together with a good part of the audience, claimed to be a true project of influence.” ... Errol van de Werdt, representative of the core programme Jury

Both awards are recognition of excellence and professionalism proposed by an ambitious international professional public. The two Projects of Influence award winners will be invited to take part of our ongoing effort to present the excellence in profession and that of the conference. We present “The Best in Heritage” biannually at “Exponatec” (Koelnmesse, Cologne) and at the Chinese Association's Museum Fair -“MPT-Expo”. Our winners are invited to join by presenting their achievements at a prestigious stand and the programme we arrange for the occasion. Altogether four Projects of Influence, from 2018 and 2019 editions, will be invited to take part at at Exponatec, Cologne from 20-22 November 2019.

To assure continuity and insight, the presenters of the winning projects are offered to return as the key-note speakers at the next Best in Heritage conference edition.



IMAGINES programme focusing on use of multimedia and new technologies

PARTNERSHIPS

The conference was organised with the International Council of Museums (ICOM), as our main partner, and in partnership with Europa Nostra (supported by Creative Europe programme).

The invaluable support comes regularly from the City of Dubrovnik and Dubrovnik Museums. The enchanting atmosphere of UNESCO world heritage site is a happy circumstance. The IMAGINES event is sponsored by Meyvaert Glass Engineering - Showcases & Solutions. The conference enjoys continuous support from the Ministry of culture of Croatia, Exponatec Cologne and, locally, Museums and Galleries of Konavle.

YEAR ROUND CONFERENCE

All the presented project receive a certificate of attendance that proclaims them “members of the Excellence Club”, indeed, projects of influence by the fact of being chosen into the selection shown in Dubrovnik. Their contribution is part of our conference publication, figures on the conference web site and is offered on our YouTube Channel. The conference in Dubrovnik is only the brief social version of the conference that is then circulated on the web throughout the year in an archive of all presentations from the previous editions, - freely accessible here

<http://presentations.thebestinheritage.com/>

THE UNIQUE PLATFORM

Furthermore, though relatively small, this conference is quite unique in its global reach and in its ability to refer to the entire heritage sector. We bring in archives, libraries, virtual institutions, digitally born projects etc. We serve as unique platform for connecting official institutions, civil society and private activities & institutions, different temporary phenomena (pop-up institutions, campaigns, actions). This is why the most often used word by those who liked the conference experience is “inspiration”.



Core programme presentation at the Marin Držić Theatre, Anna Stadinchuk from GULAG History Museum

See you in Dubrovnik from 23-25 September 2020 !

