POMPEII –SUSTAINABLE PRESERVATION PROJECT: First Summer Academy in the Porta Nocera Necropolis starts!

In Pompeii (Porta Nocera) two new exciting efforts are about to begin: a new Campaign for Sustainable Restoration and Research in Conservation Sciences and the first edition of the International Advanced Summer Academy for Restorers of the Pompeii Sustainable Preservation Project and its key Partners.

The POMPEII SUSTAINABLE PRESERVATION PROJECT continues its work in Porta Nocera, Pompeii using our cultural sites’ potential to create knowledge and preserve the World Heritage (www.pspp-pompeii.org). After its successful preliminary survey in 2014, the project announces its first campaign on conservation sciences and the beginning of its teaching program from 7th September to 4th November 2015.

One of the highlights of this year is the first edition of the Summer Academy with 9 young professionals (post grad- and doctoral students) from Syria, Spain, Italy and Germany. The specialists of the PSPP and its key Partners (Fraunhofer Institute for Building Physics, Technical University Munich, IBAM CNR, ICCROM), in close collaboration with the Soprintendenza, intend to use Pompeii’s infinite potential as a classroom to create knowledge and train high-level specialized restorers.

Additionally, the project is working on the installation of the prototype of a shelter roof that experts of the TUM have designed to protect the tomb monuments: Only monuments that are protected from rain can be restored in a long-lasting manner. The new prototype is anti-seismic and will not need any maintenance for several decades. The Centro Nazionale delle Ricerche with ist Istituto per i beni archeologici e monumentali will also continue its already successful digitalization project of the tombs with the creation of a 3D model of the necropolis and a digital archive for the storage of the project data. The cutting-edge research efforts of the IBAM CNR are also directed towards non-invasive investigations of the tombs in order to identify layers of facings and the state of their structural conservation.

The central goal of the 2015 campaign, however, remains the preservation of ancient decorated surfaces of the tombs that are now highly endangered: Our team will work toward this goal by integrating into its daily efforts the young professionals from the summer academy that will be trained in the latest restoration techniques.
Finally, the outreach activities of PSPP continue: tours for school classes, teachers of Latin and Greek, and restorers from other sites have already been planned. “The sustainable restoration of our cultural heritage is a public matter! With the PSPP we want to increase people’s awareness for the necessity of safeguarding World Cultural Heritage. This is the first, necessary step against vandalism and destruction that unfortunately is happening in other parts of the world” says Albrecht Matthaei (Fraunhofer IBP Archaeologist and coordinator of the Project).

The 2015 campaign was made possible by the generous donations of the Alan and Linde Katritzky Foundation (USA)) and by the constant support of the Soprintendenza .

Our efforts to raise more funding to finance this pioneer project continue with new initiatives that can be found in our website.

We are our history: Help us shaping the future of culture and cultural heritage.

Our Partners:
- Fraunhofer Institut für Bauphysik IBP
- Lehrstuhl für Restaurierung, Kunsttechnologie und Konservierungswissenschaft der Technischen Universität München
- Istituto per i Beni Archeologici e Monumentali del CNR (CNR IBAM)
- International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)
- Soprintendenza Speciale per Pompei, Ercolano e Stabia

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For further information please visit our homepage: www.pompeii-sustainable-preservation-project.org.
The Team of the first Summer Academy of PSPP visits the excavations of Université Lille in the necropolis of Porta Nocera. © Fraunhofer IBP
The work starts with an evaluation of the status quo of the monuments. © Fraunhofer IBP

Practical work and theoretical training: PSPP experts discuss regularly with the participants in the Summer Academy. © Fraunhofer IBP

Building physics is one of the keys to a successful building project. The Fraunhofer Institute for Building Physics IBP focuses its work on research, development, testing, demonstration and consulting in the various fields of building physics. These include noise control and sound insulation in buildings, the optimization of auditoria acoustics and solutions for improving energy efficiency and optimizing lighting technology. Fraunhofer IBP’s work also covers issues of climate control and the indoor environment, hygiene and health protection, building material emissions, weatherproofing and protection against heat and moisture, preservation of building structures and the conservation of historic monuments.

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