



UNESCO Chair

UnitelmaSapienza

University of Rome

Intangible Cultural Heritage
and Comparative Law



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Chair

The Activities of the Central Institute for the Intangible Heritage

Between Knowledge, Safeguarding and Valorization

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Responsibilities of the Central Institute for the Intangible Heritage

According to the regulations in force, the institutional tasks of the Central Institute for the Intangible Heritage are:

- protection, safeguarding, valorisation and promotion, in Italy and abroad, of the assets that make up the Italian ethno-anthropological heritage
- advising other State bodies and public bodies in general on the identity, authenticity and value of the tangible and intangible assets constituting Italy's ethno-anthropological heritage;
- maintains relations and exchanges with heritage communities, Italian and international research bodies, as well as with public and private, national and international organisations specialised in the subject and interested in the protection and enhancement of ethno-anthropological assets;
- produces photographic, sound and film documentation of the intangible cultural heritage and develops cataloguing programmes and methodologies.

Activities of the Central Institute for the Intangible Heritage

In order to achieve its institutional tasks of knowledge, preservation and valorisation, the Institute is active throughout the country with various research, documentation and training projects, in which both traditional forms of anthropological research and documentation and new technologies for documentation and restitution are used.

Some of these projects are described below.

Mappatura delle rievocazioni storiche

Historical re-enactments mapping

The project includes mapping of the phenomenon of historical re-enactments, a cultural phenomenon marked by the use of costumes and reconstructions of environments and artefacts, for some communities of great participation, not necessarily related to the recovery and commemoration of events that actually took place, but nonetheless important because they are moments of meeting and sociability, important for the communities themselves that identify with the re-enactment event.

[\(https://icpi.beniculturali.it/tutela-e-salvaguardia-delle-rievocazioni-storiche/\)](https://icpi.beniculturali.it/tutela-e-salvaguardia-delle-rievocazioni-storiche/)



Mappatura dei presepi

Mapping of the Nativity scenes

The project aims to identify nativity scenes in Italy, including exhibitions, Nativity museums, streets of nativity scenes, living, mechanical, technological, artistic or traditional Nativity scenes.

The census focuses on the identification of traditional practices, faith and craftsmanship, which combine with the work of Nativity scene makers and local communities, because the Nativity scene is a heritage of identity and also expresses differences and peculiarities of cities and territories.

In fact, the transmission of knowledge and the social aspect that the Nativity scene plays represents a set of precious values for the vitality of communities.

<https://icpi.beniculturali.it/presepi-ditalia/>



Le rotte della cultura marinara

The Routes of Maritime Culture

A research and audiovisual documentation project dedicated to Italian maritime culture, carried out in cooperation with communities, local authorities, the Italian Coast Guard and the National Association of Italian Sailors.

One of the first results of the project was the opening of the 'Cantieri della civiltà marinara' exhibition space in Porto San Giorgio and the mapping of sea processions

(<https://www.facebook.com/cantieridellaciviltamarinara/>).

The Institute is currently working on the valorisation of Fano's seafaring culture and are collaborating with the UNESCO transnational candidature of lug sailing



Gli Italiani dell'altrove

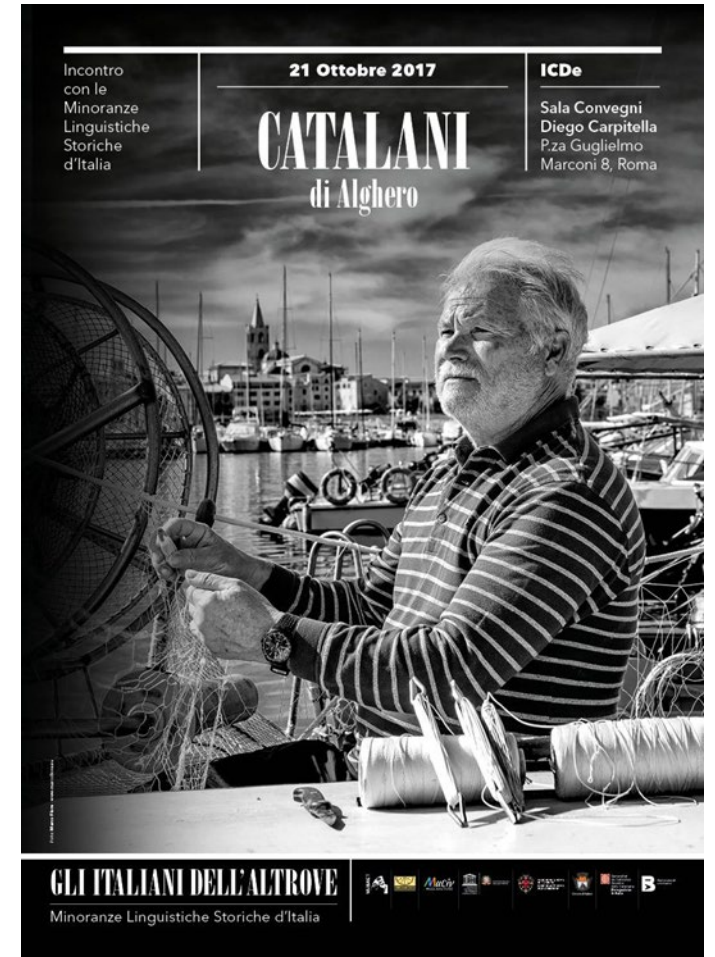
The Italians of elsewhere

Research and valorisation project for the dissemination of knowledge of the twelve Italian historical linguistic minorities protected by Law No. 482 of 15 December 1999.

The project began with meetings with the communities, which were invited to introduce themselves and tell about themselves at the Institute's headquarters in Rome. These opportunities for first acquaintance were followed by research activities and photographic documentation in the field, the publication of which is planned in the ICPI's 'Ricerche' series.

Three volumes have been published to date. The first is dedicated to food and wine traditions, the second to the minorities in Trentino, the third to the women of the Arbëreshë minority in Calabria.

[\(https://icpi.beniculturali.it/435/\)](https://icpi.beniculturali.it/435/)



Italia dalle molte culture

Italy of many cultures

A research, documentation and valorisation project, aimed at deepening knowledge of new immigrant communities and their relations (of integration or rejection) with local communities.

The project currently focuses on a few case-studies, namely the Sikh community in Agro Pontino, the Kurdish community in Monte Amiata and the foreign communities in the Casilino quarter of Rome.

(<https://icpi.beniculturali.it/italia-dalle-molte-culture/>)



Presentazione del progetto

ITALIA DALLE MOLTE CULTURE - Casa MigrArti

A partire dall'arrivo

INCONTRI / PROIEZIONI / MUSICHE / LETTURE

Tocatì. Un patrimonio condiviso

Tocatì. A shared heritage

Valorisation and training project for play communities to safeguard traditional games.

In addition to documentation and field research activities, the project consisted of meetings with game communities, during which the communities discussed the games they play and their practices of safeguarding and transmitting knowledge and game practices.

The Institute's support was important in improving the safeguarding practices of the many play communities and this contributed to the successful candidature to the UNESCO Register of Best Safeguarding Practices.



Tocati. Un patrimonio condiviso

Tocati. A shared heritage



<https://tocati.it/>



Un patrimonio sulle spalle

A heritage on the shoulders

A project to promote and enhance the celebrations of the Great Shoulder Machines, which have been on the UNESCO representative list of intangible cultural heritage since 2013.

The work was based on the audiovisual documentation of the festivals, with the use of new technologies, for an immersive and engaging video restitution.

The filmic choice also enhanced the formal and aesthetic aspect of visual documentation, bringing ethnographic documentary closer to forms of video art.

In addition to the four UNESCO-listed festivals, the project oversaw the audiovisual documentation of Corsa dei Ceri in Gubbio.



Lucigrafie

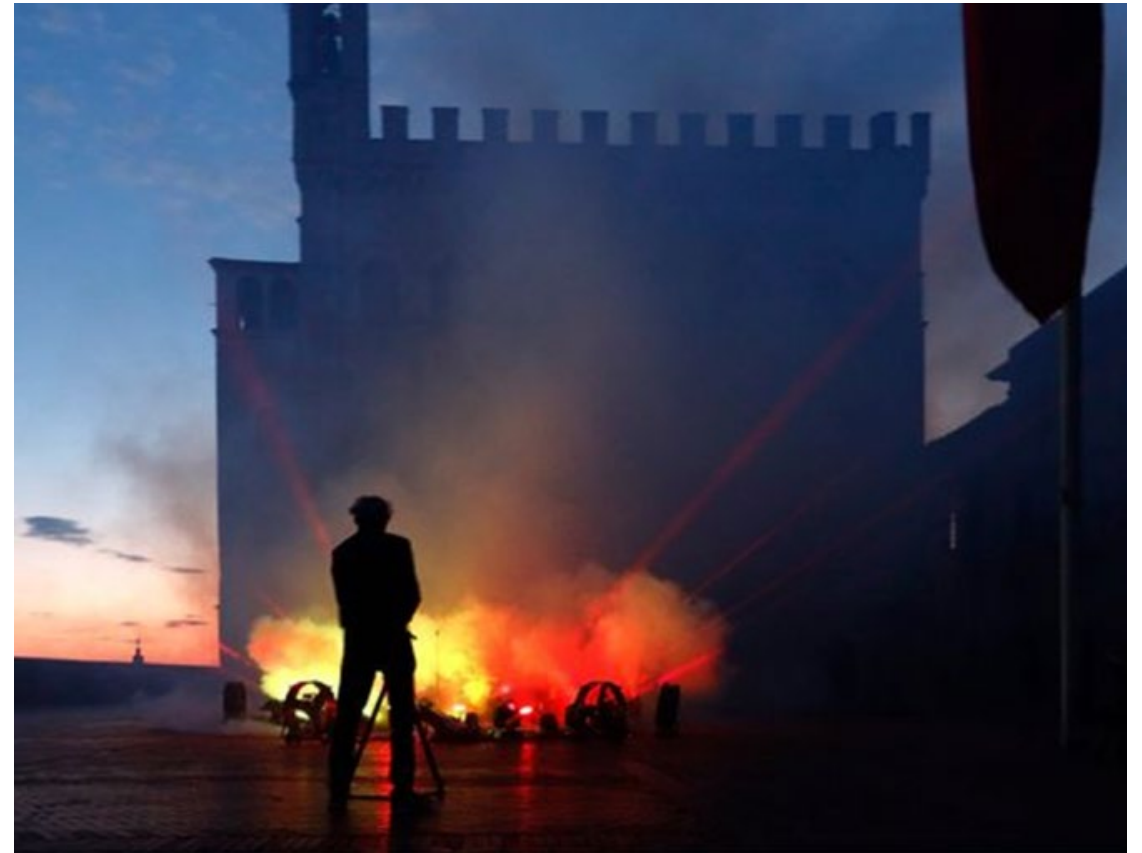
Lucigraphies

During the covid-19 pandemic crisis, many festivals did not take place.

With the *Lucigrafie* project, the Institute aimed to document the absence of the festivals, offering communities an ideal compensation, based on forms of expression close to video art.

At the same time, we documented the absence of festivals, an absence that in many cases it has been unique in history.

<https://www.facebook.com/ilnostrotempoinfinitoesospeso/>



Racconti invisibili

Invisible Tales

An exhibition project, realised in cooperation with Italian Embassies and Cultural Institutes, for the promotion abroad of the national intangible cultural heritage, through a comparison of intangible cultural heritage, contemporary artistic production and video art.

<https://www.raccontinvisibili.com/>



Geoportale della Cultura Alimentare - GeCA

Geoportal of Food Culture - GeCA

-GEC A

Esplora

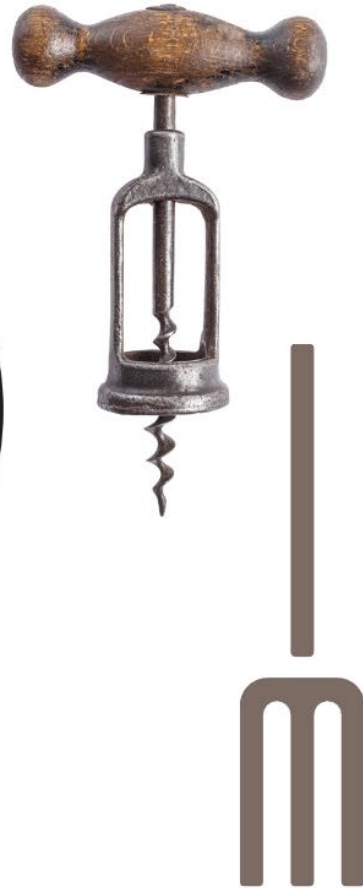
Storie

Eventi

Partecipa

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Q Cerca nel sito



GeCA – Geoportale della Cultura Alimentare. Il racconto, aperto e vivo, della tradizione italiana del cibo

Geoportale della Cultura Alimentare - GeCA

Geoportal of Food Culture - GeCA

The Food Culture Geoportal project was born in the context of EXPO Milan 2015 "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life", where the theme of the fundamental link between economy and culture in relation to agri-food heritage was addressed.

In 2022, the Geoportal has been completely redesigned to become a showcase for the attractiveness of territories:

- Graphic redesign
- More immediate communication
- Improved ease of consultation
- Presence/interaction on social channels

<https://www.culturalimentare.beniculturali.it>



Geoportal of Food Culture - GeCA

Some objectives – Digital storytelling of intangible heritage

Today, Italian demo-ethno-anthropological cultural heritage is considered a fundamental asset not only for human knowledge and history, but also a capital, as a vital reservoir for the economic development of the country, in the sense of an intelligent and aware tourism.

One of the objectives of the Geoportal is to stimulate a shared approach to the narration of the territory that is more attractive from the tourism point of view, becoming a development driver for an entire region.

Through the data and documents collected in the Geoportal or accessible through its web pages, the aim is to tell the story of a food or product, linked to a territory, in a clear and inclusive manner.



Geoportal of Food Culture - GeCA

Focus - Micronarrations

The Geoportal hosts and promotes digital storytelling videos, created to collect and transmit the intangible enogastronomic heritage in a concise and effective way.

In 3 minutes and in 3 simultaneous panels, a witness tells the story of:

- The gastronomy
- The territory
- The community
- The product

The witness is chosen for his competence and communication skills.

Some examples of micronarration

https://www.culturalimentare.beniculturali.it/assets/data/ethnographic_source/media/20613/fvg_caffe.mp4

<https://culturalimentare.beniculturali.it/sources/il-culatello-di-zibello>

