

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the XXI *CIPA Heritage Documentation* International Symposium in the monumental city of Athens.

The theme of this Symposium is *AntiCIPAting the Future of the Cultural Past*, an idea which all of us involved in the documentation of cultural heritage continually address. The selection of papers and posters reflect this, with many giving working examples of successful approaches to recording and management of this information. We need to remember that what we do now may be used by people in another century to repair, rebuild or conserve the buildings, monuments, artefacts and landscapes that seem important.

Recent events like earthquakes, fires and insurrection show that we can never be too prepared for damage to, and loss of, the physical and non-tangible elements of cultural heritage. One role that CIPA plays in this is to provide a forum for scientists, conservators, archaeologists, architects and historians to share ideas, experiences, needs and problems. This Symposium is one example, there have also been recent workshops, joint meetings and training courses.

CIPA continues to become more and more active, thanks mainly due to the activities of the members and Delegates. We are also in the process of reviewing the CIPA Statutes in line with the ICOMOS Eger-X'ian Principles to broaden our membership and expertise base, further strengthening CIPA's role in heritage documentation.

One sad piece of news this year was the untimely passing of Robin Letellier, a long running member of CIPA and Vice President, a tireless worker for the documentation of cultural heritage and an instigator of the RecorDIM initiative. Robin will be greatly missed by many people in many countries. His efforts will be continued by CIPA.

On a happier note, the Symposium Directors, Prof. Andreas Georgopoulos and Architect Nikos Agriantonis, along with the local organising committee, have prepared an excellent conference, with a mix of scientific, social and cultural activities. I would like to thank them on behalf of CIPA for their efforts.

I wish you all a successful, rewarding and inspiring Symposium.



Cliff Ogleby
President

CONGRESS DIRECTOR'S FORWARD

Athens, October 1st 2007

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

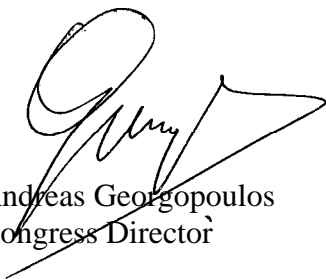
On behalf of the CIPA Organizing Committee, the co-organizers of the Symposium, i.e. the Acropolis Restoration Service, the Technical Chamber of Greece and the Hellenic Association of Surveyors, I have the great honour and pleasure to welcome you to Athens for the XXI CIPA International Symposium.

This is the third time that our country is hosting this Symposium, and we think quite justifiably so, as we are fortunate to be surrounded by an immense wealth of monuments covering thousands of years of human history. Even the venue of this Symposium is a magnificent building of the recent Greek history.

The theme of the Symposium, "*AntiCIPAting the future of the cultural past*" intends to reflect the intense and never ending involvement of CIPA in technically supporting the documentation, monitoring, preservation and management of the world's Cultural Heritage. On the other hand, it also has the ambition to attract and involve the community of the curators and restorators in our deliberations, in order to try and blend a bright future for our main cause. I think this effort is also reflected by the wide range of subjects, both technical and non-technical, covered by the Symposium programme.

Around 170 papers of high quality, submitted by more than 250 authors and the 20 sessions attended by the nearly 300 participants covering all continents of the globe, together with the useful discussions will definitely contribute positively to the way we think and act about our Cultural Heritage.

I thank all authors and participants for contributing to this event.



Andreas Georgopoulos
Congress Director