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FASHION VICTIMS ?

Restoring and Inventing Ancient Vases in the Nineteenth Century

OBJECTIVES

The project is devoted to the restorations and alterations carried out in the nineteenth century on ancient vases unearthed at that time in Etruscan necropolises. It seeks to highlight the heritage value of these early restorations and to demonstrate their fundamental importance for research.

PROGRAM

Through the study of a group of ceramics from historic collections preserved in Switzerland and Italy, the project proposes :

1. The development of a methodology for the study and characterization of nineteenth-century restorations present on ancient vases.
2. The application of this methodology to a corpus of vases from nineteenth-century collections.
3. The recognition of the heritage value of these material testimonies. Restoration practices were analyzed through the lens of a dual influence: on the one hand, the reception of Etruscan art at the moment of its rediscovery; on the other, the geopolitical dynamics underlying the formation of Etruscan art collections in the nineteenth century.

RESULTS

While comprehensive climate modelling is beyond the FRAME project's scope, meteorological and exposure data collected will support future predictive modelling within the overarching CRCH project. The study will generate practical recommendations for monitoring, preventive maintenance, and conservation strategies, fostering inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration and laying the groundwork for enhancing Switzerland's metal-built heritage resilience.

Fig. 1 : Urne étrusque composite (remaniée au XIXe siècle) Yale University Art Gallery (1913.221) © Yale University Art Gallery

Fig. 2 : Poste de travail

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PROJECT LEADER

Hortense de Corneillan

PARTNERS

Musée cantonal d'archéologie et d'histoire de Lausanne,
École française de Rome
Musées du Capitole (Rome)
Museo Nazionale etrusco di Villa Giulia (Rome)
British Museum Londres

DURATION FRAME

24 months
2024 – 2026