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# CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE DIGITAL ERA

NEW TOOLS FOR THE INVESTIGATION, DOCUMENTATION, PRESERVATION AND DISSEMINATION OF THE CULTURAL PAST



#### CETI

- 1998 Founded in Xanthi, Thrace as an independent Institute
- Under the auspices of the General Secretariat of Research and Technology - Ministry of Development
- November 2003, joined the Research Center 'Athena'

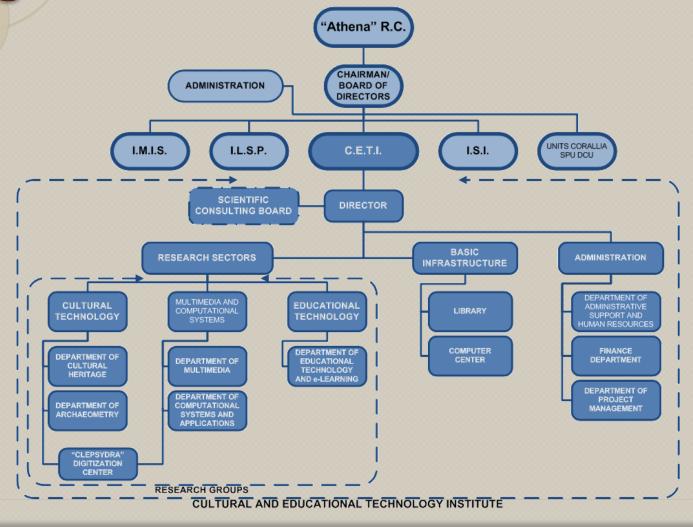


#### Main objectives

- strengthening of research and technological activities
- application of new technologies to humanitarian sciences, culture and education.



#### Organizational Structure





#### **CETI** Research Sectors

#### Cultural Technology Sector

 Research related to the study, preservation and promotion of the versatile and multi-dimensional character of Culture and Heritage with the usage of technology

#### Educational Technology Sector

 Development of instructional tools and pedagogical applications like tele-education, distance learning and training, education-ondemand

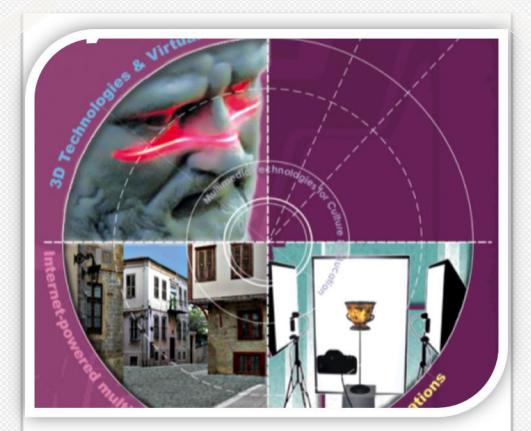
#### Multimedia and Computer Systems Sector

 Information technologies, multimedia and their applications in the fields of Education and Humanities

# Digital Heritage

#### Focus on Cultural Heritage in the Digital Era

- ✓ 3D scanning, archiving, retrieval and presentation of cultural objects, monuments, archaeological excavations, urban areas and open spaces
- ✓ Multimedia Databases (MPEG7, CIDOC)
- ✓ GIS systems
- ✓ Multimedia content analysis and retrieval
- ✓ Advanced pervasive VR systems for education and heritage dissemination



Multimedia technologies for cultural heritage and education

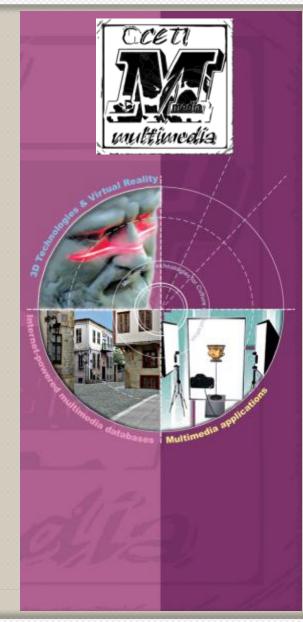
# **Multimedia Department**





#### Multimedia Dept.

- Techniques for 2D/3D digitization
- Techniques for digital data storage, archiving and dissemination (publishing)
- Multimedia applications, CD/DVD-ROM titles, Web sites
- Virtual reality applications / interactive 3D visualizations
- Internet-powered multimedia databases
- GIS applications for cultural heritage applications
- Metadata models and descriptions (MPEG-7)
- Imaging: image processing, segmentation, analysis, compression





### Multimedia Dept. (cont.)

- Current Research Activities
  - 3D imaging: scanning technologies
  - GIS: 3D web-based GIS applications
  - MPEG-7 metadata descriptions for 3D data
  - Advanced methods for 3D data visualization and search by content
  - Game engines, culture and education
  - Advanced user interfaces, VR, ambient and ubiquitous intelligence



Cutting edge technologies & research for cultural heritage digital recording

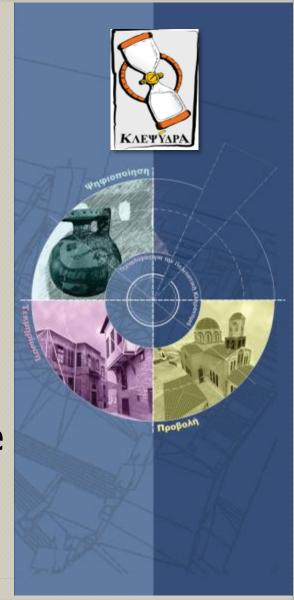
# **CLEPSYDRA Cultural Heritage Digitization Center**





# Clepsydra

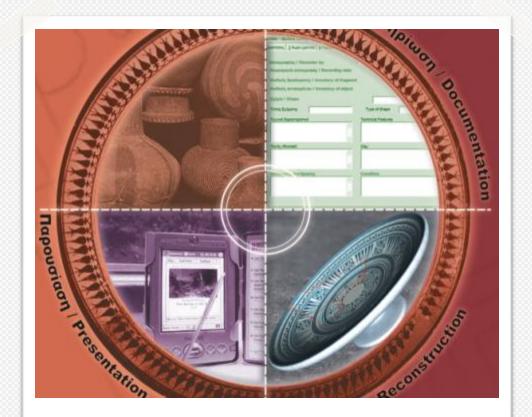
- Established 2006 (IST project
  - Greece)
- Focus on digital recording
  - Digitization, preservation, organization, management, dissemination, replication, reproduction of Cultural Heritage





# Clepsydra (cont.)

- Services of high added value
  - Digitization of documents, manuscripts, books, films and audiovisual content
  - 3D digitization of cultural heritage objects, monuments, urban areas, open spaces
  - Digital curation, documentation, organization, management
  - Display and dissemination of information



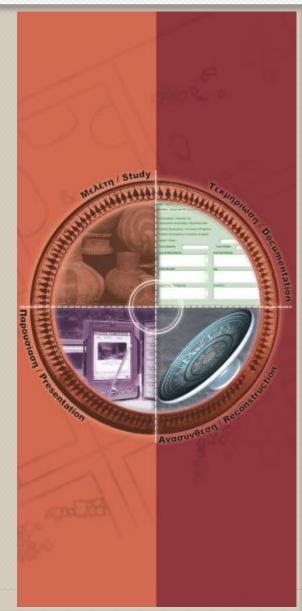
From the wheel to CD Cultural Heritage in the Digital Era

# **Cultural Heritage Department**



# Cultural Heritage Dept.

- Established 2002
- Principal goal: preservation, protection, dissemination of cultural heritage
- Interdisciplinary research in the field of culture and humanities
- Aims to be a certified center in Cultural Technology





## Cultural Heritage Dept. (cont.)

#### Activities

- Documentation, archival, study, presentation and publication of Cultural Heritage with traditional methods and new technologies
- Research in the field of Archaeology and Museology
- Research and publication of ancient pottery through the application of modern technologies and archaeometry
- Cultural Databases
- 3D reconstructions
- Archaeological GIS
- Introduction of new technologies in museums and sites
- Participation in an archaeological excavation (Karabournaki)





#### Infrastructure

- 2D scanners
  - Hi-res flatbed
  - Film/microfilm
  - Book/newspaper/ poster
- Digitizers



Film printers







#### Infrastructure

- Hi-res Photographic studio
- Multispectral imaging
- Digital audiovisual studio

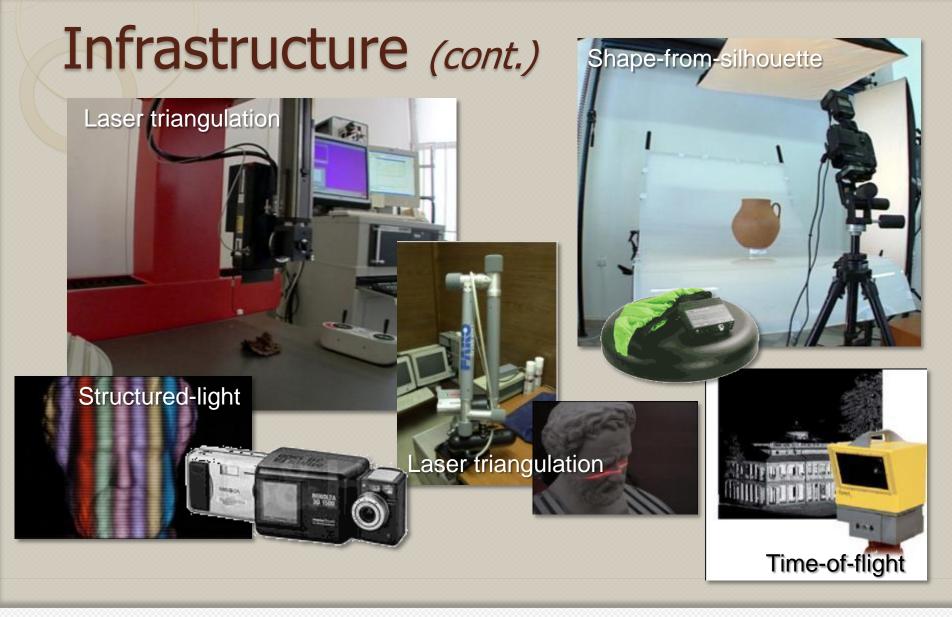














#### Personnel

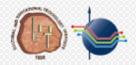
Position	Number
Researchers	3
Technical staff	I
External contractors	2
PhD candidates	2
Postgraduate students	I
Students / trainees	3
TOTAL	12



# Selected Projects

- Application domains
  - 3D digitization (objects, monuments, sites)
  - Virtual tours / reconstructions / museums
  - Integrated archaeological site management platform
  - Museum guides
  - Museum educational toolkits
  - Digital utilities

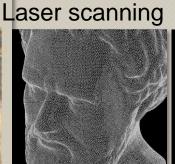




# 3D digitization of objects

















3D reconstruction based on partial laser scanning

Shape-from-silhouette





# 3D digitization of objects (cont.)



Shape-from-silhouette scanning



## 3D digitization of monuments

- Byzantine churches of Mani
  - Photogrammetry









#### 3D digitization of monuments (cont.)







#### 3D digitization of sites





#### Virtual tours

- Avatars
- Content-based retrieval

http://polymnia.ipet.gr/akoutsou/xanthi

www.ipet.gr/vrchat









#### 3D reconstruction of historic sites

 Argostoli, Kefalonia, Greece (destroyed by earthquake in 1952)

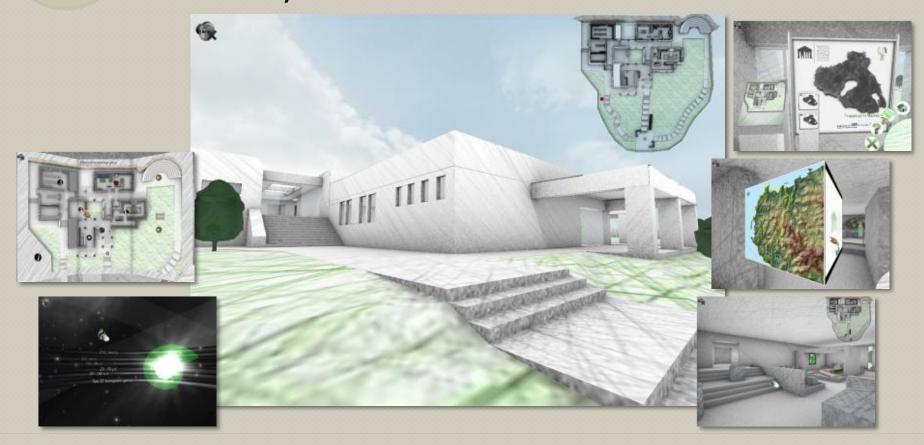






#### Virtual museums

Natural History Museum of the Lesvos Petrified Forest





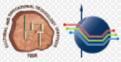
#### Virtual museums (cont.)

 Dynamic museum of traditional Greek musical instruments



Dynamic content management





## Integrated site management

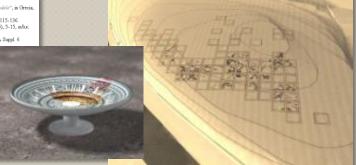


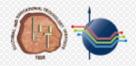




#### general bibliography

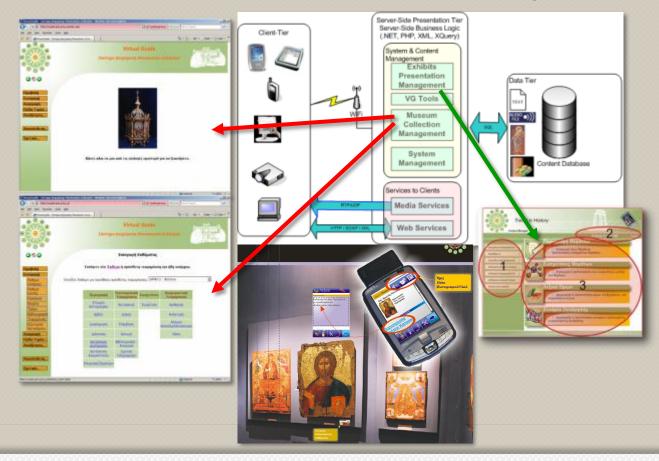
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## Museum guides

Virtual Guide (PDA based museum guide)





### Educational applications

 Nautilus (historic information through a sailing trip from Thrace to Cyprus with a cargo ship in ancient Greece - a game for primary school children)



 Museum toolkits (folkloric dresses of Thrace, Aegean islands and Cyprus - a game for primary school children)



### Educational applications (cont.)

επιλογές

 The Village (info for the life in the country – Kozani folkore museum)

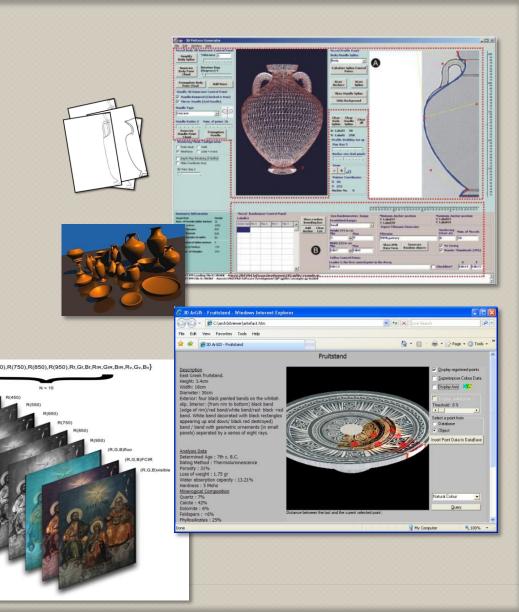






# **Digital Utilities**

- qp Experimental 3D pottery design software
- 3D GIS for archeological objects
- Multispectral recording data, cluster analysis and pseudo-G.I.S. implementation





#### **Cultural Databases**

 Stone masons in Thrace, the Aegean and Cyprus

 The Art of Refugee Heirloom

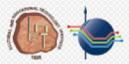
 Thrace in the Greek Parliament





# **Development Strategy**

- Department targets
  - Pervasive and ubiquitous 3D technologies/VR in culture and education
- Future planned projects
  - Game engines and cultural/educational apps
- Collaboration capacity & target
  - Research/government/private organizations
  - Private sector/industry



#### Ideas

- Game technologies and artificial intelligence
  - Maximization of the user acceptance
- Pervasive technologies
  - Maximization of the impact
- Ubiquitous/ambient technologies
  - Maximization of user-friendliness for museum and onsite applications
- Design for all (D4A)
  - Maximization of accessibility



Cultural & Educational Technology Institute "Athena" Research Center

Thank you