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2013 International Panorama Conference in Switzerland – Save the date!

The 22nd International Panorama Conference will be held in Switzerland on November 22 to 24, 2013. Please excuse the short-term announcement. Due to lack of resources in IPC Secretariat the planning has been delayed.

The conference days will include visits to Bourbaki Panorama Lucerne, Alpineum Museum with its Alpine Dioramas and to Glacier Garden Museum with its optical spectacles. On November 25 a post-conference program rounds up the panoramic experience in the beautiful city of Lucerne and includes a trip to Einsiedeln to visit the Crucifixion of Christ Panorama. We are pleased to invite you to participate in the conference. Details and the invitation documents will be delivered in a separate mailing and can be downloaded from http://www.panoramacouncil.org/en/what_we_do/international_panorama_conference_s/upcoming_conference/.

Erkki Huhtamo's New Book Illusions in Motion Published!

Professor Erkki Huhtamo's new book *Illusions in Motion: Media Archaeology of the Moving Panorama and Related Spectacles* has been just published by the MIT Press. It is a major exploration of media culture between the eighteenth and the twentieth centuries. The centerpoint is the moving panorama, once a hugely popular media spectacle which has been nearly completely forgotten. The book brings it back to living memory, also discussing its relationships with other spectacles such as dioramas and magic lantern shows. It also investigates how panoramas inspired writers, scientists, philosophers and cultural commentators. The work took more than a decade to research and write, and is meant as a demonstration of what a media-archaeological approach can achieve. The book is richly illustrated with material from Huhtamo's media-archaeological collections, and was magnificently designed by UCLA Design Media Arts Chair Willem Henri Lucas and Jon Gacnik. It took Erkki Huhtamo more than 10 years of his life to publish this book. It is a major contribution to the cultural and historical understanding of different kind of panoramas and related art and media forms. For more see:

<https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/illusions-motion>

The MIT Press blog has also published a long interview in which Professor Huhtamo discusses the book and the process of writing it. It can be found at:

<http://mitpress.mit.edu/blog/ga-erkki-huhtamo>

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The International Panorama Council is a non-government and not-for-profit association, subject to Swiss law.

Asisi's New Panorama Leipzig 1813 Unveiled

Yadegar Asisi's new 360° panorama "LEIPZIG 1813 – Amidst the Confusion of the Battle of the Nations" is on display at the Asisi Panometer Leipzig, Germany since 3rd August 2013.

It is estimated that 600,000 soldiers fought against one another in this European battle, which took place in the October of 1813. The allies from Austria, Prussia, Russia and Sweden conquered the French troops, thereby ending Napoleon's campaigns of conquest in Europe.

However LEIPZIG 1813, with a surface area of approximately 3,500 square meters, circa 30 meters high and over 110 meters in diameter, is not just a battle panorama. It depicts the turning point of history from the point of view of the city of Leipzig and their citizens within its walls, in a highly troubled situation. From an ideal vantage point on the roof of St. Thomas' Church the visitor can look down and follow the events. Please find more information on http://www.asisi.de/index.php?id=7&L=1#asisi_index_id_73 and on <http://vimeo.com/69875987>.

New Panorama Painting in Belgium

A newly painted panorama of the city of Turnhout in Belgium is on view at the local Natuurpunt Museum. The 2.1 x 30 m panorama was created in 2012 by Laurent (Lau) de Vries, Godelieve (Lieve) Flour. It is not displayed in the style of a classical panorama. Due to restrictions in space, the Natuurpunt Museum has chosen a non-realistic presentation style. The presentation in the Natuurpunt Museum is limited until 31 December 2013. A documentary on the creation of the panorama de Vries is online on IPC's website http://www.panoramacouncil.org/en/what_we_do/resources/panoramas_of_the_world_database/panorama_de_vries_-_the_360_degrees_of_turnhout_belgium/?country=belgium

Reproduction of Bem in Transylvania Panorama on Display

A reduced in size copy of Bem in Transylvania panorama is on display at an open-air exhibition in the city of Miskolc, Hungary. This 1:3 copy (3x43 meters) was produced in 2009 for the city of Tarnow, exhibited there in 2010 and moved on to several cities in Hungary and Romania.

The original panorama was finished in 1898 for the ceremonies of the Hungarian Millennium. Painted by Styka and some Hungarian painters, it was exhibited in Budapest for 10 years. In 1907 it was moved to Warsaw and after the exhibition there cut into fragments and disappeared. The Museum in Tarnow (home town of the painter Josef Bem) identified 32 fragments and owns 14 of them.

Panorama of the Thames Project

In 1829 the London publisher Samuel Leigh produced a panorama which depicted both banks of river Thames between Richmond and Westminster in one continuous painting. The work covers about 15 miles of the Thames and is about 60ft in length. It was very popular in its day and since its publication this panorama has become a valuable record of the late Georgian riverside. The Panorama of the Thames project will bring Leigh's panorama into the 21st century. Using a unique photographic process, this project will create a contemporary version of the Leigh panorama, showing the Thames riverside as the great river follows

its course through Greater London from Hampton to Tower Bridge. These modern, high resolution panoramas follow the meanders along 26 miles of river – 52 miles of riverside – and will provide an archive of today's river landscape much as you'd see walking the towpath or from a boat. Details of the main features along the river, and their heritage, will be provided by local groups in each of the riverside communities. The project will create a website to display the panoramas, showing the major settlements and landmarks along the riverside, including all 33 Thames bridges in London and the inhabited islands. As a tribute to the 1829 Samuel Leigh publication the project will also include a new digital restoration of the Leigh Panorama, which is underway at the moment with independent funding.

The project team has been working very hard in the past months and the digital restoration of the Leigh panorama is now completed. The descriptions of the riverside buildings are being written at the moment by a team of historians and should be ready by 27th September for adding to the database. The software development has been scoped and is now commissioned and underway. It requires very special, innovative software as the panorama is extraordinarily wide and we need it to work on small screens such as mobile tablets and phones in addition to conventional computers; this has introduced some new technical challenges for the software team. After completion of the software the website development is scheduled to commence in October. If there are no unexpected major delays the team anticipates the Leigh (1829) part of the project will be completed around the end of this year and will be launched shortly afterwards. <http://www.panoramaofthethames.com>

Bursa, Turkey to Have a New Panorama Museum

The city of Bursa in Turkey is to have a "Panorama Bursa 1326" museum. The museum will depict the Ottoman Empire and its establishment years and will also exhibit wax sculptures of Ottoman sultans. The municipality has said the museum is expected to be ready within three years. The museum is expected to be established at the Ebu İshak History and Culture Foundation and will cover 2,500 square meters of land.

Former Gettysburg Cyclorama Building Demolished

In March 2013 the Cyclorama building created in 1962 by the architect Richard Neutra was demolished. The Cyclorama Building at Gettysburg was a historic modernist concrete and glass Mission 66 building dedicated by the U.S. National Park Service to serve as a Gettysburg Battlefield visitor center, to exhibit the 1883 Paul Philippoteaux Battle of Gettysburg cyclorama and other artifacts. In 2005, the Gettysburg Cyclorama was removed for restoration (reopened in the new Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center in 2007), and the Neutra Cyclorama Building was closed to the public.

Velaslavasay Panorama Online

The Velaslavasay Panorama has two short videos online associated with their panoramas. Effulgence of the North (360-degree panorama): <http://vimeo.com/vpanorama/effulgence>
The Grand Moving Mirror of California (Moving Panorama - 270' long): <http://vimeo.com/vpanorama/gmmoca>

King's Balcony Scene in Panorama Mesdag

One of the new rooms at Panorama Mesdag (The Hague, Netherlands) presents a mini panorama of 22 meters wide and 4 meters high, showing the balcony scene on Dam Square (Amsterdam) on April 30, 2013, after the inauguration of the Dutch king Willem-Alexander. It consists of 720 images (10 rows of 72 photos) stitched together to one 3.6 Gigapixel image, delivering the illusion of being there. Sound effects add to the atmosphere of the scene by the Dutch photographer Jan van der Woning (1949). The mini panorama attracts lots of free publicity and will be on show through November 4, 2013.

Van der Woning's Amsterdam Dam Square and Balcony Scene Panorama is part of an exhibition of the International VR Photography Association (IVRPA). Its members had a show at Panorama Mesdag five years ago, and they are back now by popular demand, with new images from around the world. The IVRPA has 300 members worldwide, creating interactive computer models from panoramic images and objects. The exhibition at Panorama Mesdag shows their work in two dimensions. This results in odd-looking images, showing impossible views on our world. The audience constantly needs to adapt to each new image: What do I see? Where am I? Does right connect to left? It is both alienating and liberating to view these refreshing views on reality.

The photos are often more than 360 degrees, so there is a repetition of a part that already has been taken. Small changes in the time that passed, result in a shift in time, a transformation of time and space. The images give an 'impossible' view of our world. Jan van der Woning likes to shoot landscapes, cityscapes and people, and often focuses on the nicest moment of the day, the twilight zone sunrise or sunset and the darkness of the night that precedes or follows it. He is very conscious on how to put a three dimensional world into a two dimensional photograph, combining the strange and different character of the light with the extraordinary scope, seeing 'panoramic', with a surplus. In the Antarctic and in northern Alaska the sunrise and sunset last for hours or do not occur at all because the sun stays above the horizon, so these places were a real Eldorado to the Dutch photo professional, who also travelled Middle and South America and Borneo, Indonesia for WWF, Greenpeace and Readers Digest to make panoramas of illegal logging.

'Big Air Panorama' by Christo in Germany

Describing an environmental work of art as 'an extraordinary experience of shape, space and light' may well indicate a panorama. In Oberhausen (Germany) however it describes the inside of a former gas tank, converted into 'the largest indoor sculpture in the world' by internationally acclaimed artist Christo, filling the Oberhausen Gasometer with his 'Big Air Package'. This 'virgin territory' panorama is made from 20,350 square meters of semitransparent polyester fabric and 4,500 meters of rope. The inflated envelope is more than 90 meters high and 50 meters in diameter. It has a total weight of 5.3 tons and a volume of 177,000 cubic meters and is on view from March 16 to December 30, 2013.

Like a Barker patent panorama, the 'Big Air Package' nearly spans the distance from wall to wall of the Gasometer, leaving only a small passage to walk around the sculpture. Unlike it, two air fans creating a constant pressure of 27 pascal (0.27 millibar) keep the package upright. Airlocks allow visitors to enter the package. Illuminated through the skylights of the

Gasometer and 60 additional projectors, the work of art creates a diffuse light throughout the interior. Shape, space and light are the only ingredients of the experience: there is no painting or other way of imaging whatsoever provided. Christo: "All interpretations of our works are legitimate, but there is no purpose other than to create something beautiful." This Big Air work of art is the first one Christo realized without his late wife and artistic partner Jeanne-Claude. Christo and Jeanne-Claude realized their first sculpture involving air in 1966 in the Dutch town of Eindhoven. Their last air package was erected at documenta IV in Kassel in 1968. It stood 85 meters tall, with a diameter of 10 meters and a volume of 5,600 cubic meters. Christo now has again returned to Germany 18 years after the wrapping of the Reichstag and 14 years after the installation 'The Wall', both in Berlin. 'Big Air Package' is accompanied by an additional exhibition in the ground floor of the Gasometer, which shows a selection of the most important projects Christo and Jeanne-Claude realized during the last five decades at various places around the world. Large-sized photographs, films and sketches revive those fascinating but always temporary works of art. The many photographs by Wolfgang Volz show the projects' beauty and visionary approach. Volz, who helped realizing many of Christo and Jeanne-Claude's past projects, is the project director of the 'Big Air Package'. In 1999, Christo and Jeanne-Claude created their first indoor installation for the Gasometer Oberhausen: a wall made from 13,000 oil barrels, 26 meters high and spanning the distance from wall to wall of the Gasometer. The mosaic of colored barrels left a huge impression on the visitors, who entered the dark gas tank. The Gasometer Oberhausen, Europe's highest exhibition space, is the first location selected by Christo twice for realizing a work of art. During the period of the exhibition, seven original design drawings of the Big Air Package are on display in the cabinet of the LUDWIGGALERIE in Schloss Oberhausen. These predominantly large-format works provided the model for the Big Air Package. They were produced in Christo's New York studio and show the development of the idea during the years 2010 up to its implementation in 2013. Peter Pachnicke is the curator of this retrospective exhibition. The LUDWIGGALERIE in Schloss Oberhausen can be reached easily at a short walking distance from the Oberhausen Gasometer.

Panoramic Film Installation

For the exhibition 'T. J. Wilcox: In the Air', the New York-based artist has created a remarkable new panoramic film installation, which will fill up most of the second floor of the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City, USA. Here Wilcox revisits the "cinema in-the-round" panoramic presentations that appeared at the dawn of film history in the late 19th century, bringing the concept up to date with state-of-the-art technology to create an immersive cinematic environment. The panoramic was shot from Wilcox's studio with its 360-degree views of Manhattan from high above Union Square. (Source: Whitney Museum of American Art, New York City, USA)
The exhibition is on display until 9 February 2014.
<http://whitney.org/Exhibitions/TJWilcox>

Panoramic Drawings of Iconic Cities

Stephen Wiltshire is a UK artist who draws and paints detailed cityscapes. He has a particular talent for drawing lifelike, accurate representations of cities, sometimes after having only observed them briefly. The

artist was born in London in 1974. As a child he was mute, and did not relate to other people. Aged three, he was diagnosed as autistic.

Stephen Wiltshire has created several famous panoramas of iconic cities all around the world. Starting with Tokyo in 2005, he has drawn Rome, Hong Kong, Frankfurt, Madrid, Dubai, Jerusalem, London and New York on large canvasses. His most recent trips took him to Sydney, Shanghai and Brisbane.

<http://www.stephenwiltshire.co.uk/>

Reviving the Art of Moving Panoramas on a Small Scale

There is a small group of artists in the US reviving the art of moving panoramas (on a small scale) called crankies. Seattle had its first crankie festival on February 14, 2013. The crankie festival concert sold out. There is a short movie online with excerpts of the performances.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2QrfZUOLug>

<http://www.thecrankiefactory.com>

Contemporary Panorama and Diorama Interpretations

Artist Jeffrey Isaac has created a few contemporary interpretations of panoramas and dioramas.

Panoramas:

<http://www.jeffreyisaac.com/paintings/pages/1985-08%20metropolitan%20twins%20330%28diam%29x107cm.htm>

<http://www.jeffreyisaac.com/paintings/pages/1985-08%20metropolitan%20twins%20900x107cm.htm>

<http://www.jeffreyisaac.com/paintings/pages/1989-10%20-%201990-2%20Bazzano%20Superiore%201800x200cm.htm>

<http://www.jeffreyisaac.com/paintings/pages/1994-04%20subway%20250x1830cm.htm>

Dioramic Cabinets, 1997:
<http://www.jeffreyisaac.com/paintings/pages/1997%20large%20dioramic%20cabinet%2095x215x162cm.htm>

5 Volume-Book with Panorama-Related Historical Sources Published

A new compendium of historical sources to 19th century panorama history in Britain and the United States has been published:

Garrison, Laurie et al. (ed.), *Panoramas 1787-1900. Texts and Contexts*, 5 volumes, London 2012 (2,000 pages), 248x174mm, ISBN 1848930151

<http://www.pickeringchatto.com/titles/1072-9781848930155-panoramas-1787-1900>

content:

Volume 1, *Stable Panoramas in Britain, Part I: Brief Biographies, List of Extant Programmes, Informational and Biographical Texts, Panoramas at Leicester Square and the Strand*

Volume 2, *Stable Panoramas in Britain, Part II: Panoramas at Leicester Square and the Strand*

Volume 3, *Stable Panoramas in Britain, Part III: Panoramas at Leicester Square and the Strand, Stable Panoramas in Competing Venues*

Volume 4, *Moving Panoramas in Britain: Moving Panoramas by Messrs Marshall, Charles Brees's Panorama of New Zealand, Moving Panoramas at the Egyptian Hall*

Volume 5, *American Panoramas: Descriptive Pamphlets and Contextual Materials*

Quarterly IPC Newsletter Lottery

With the 25th edition of the IPC Newsletter we introduced a 'panorama lottery' for enrolled IPC members only. With each issue of our Newsletter a specific panorama related book or other item will be put forward for lottery among our members. It may be brought in by ourselves or by one of our members in consultation with Patrick Deicher. Ideas for lottery items are most welcome.

At this third occasion we raffle one copy of a rare collector's publication including articles in German and English on panorama in general and on Swiss panoramas in specific.

Swissair (ed.), "The Panorama – Das Panorama – Le Panorama", in: *Swissair Gazette* 9/1986, Zuerich 1986, 42 pages (airline magazine)

IPC enrolled members can participate in this free lottery by sending an email to lottery@panoramacouncil.org until 15 September 2013. We wish you success!