European Heritage, Dialogue and Digital Practices

*European Heritage, Dialogue and Digital Practices* focuses on the intersection of heritage, dialogue and digital culture in the context of Europe. Responding to the increased emphasis on the potential for heritage and digital technologies to foster dialogue and engender communitarian identities in Europe, the book explores what kind of role digital tools, platforms and practices play in supporting and challenging dialogue about heritage in the region.

Drawing on fieldwork involving several European museums and heritage organisations, the chapters in this volume critically engage with the role of digital technology in heritage work and its association with ideas of democratisation, multivocality and possibilities for feedback and dialogic engagement in the emerging digital public sphere. The book also provides a framework for understanding dialogue in relation to other commonly used approaches in heritage institutions, such as participation, engagement and intercultural exchange. The authors map out the complex landscape of digitally mediated heritage practices in Europe, both official and unofficial, by capturing three distinct areas of practice: perceptions and applications of digitally mediated dialogues around heritage within European museums and cultural policy, facilitation of dialogue between European museums and communities through participatory design approaches and non-official mobilisation of heritage on social media.

*European Heritage, Dialogue and Digital Practices* will be of interest to both scholars and students in the fields of heritage and museum studies, digital heritage, media studies and communication, the digital humanities, sociology and memory studies. The book will also appeal to policy makers and professionals working in a variety of fields.

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**Critical Heritages of Europe**

Series editors: Christopher Whitehead and Susannah Eckersley, both at the University of Newcastle, UK

The *Critical Heritages of Europe* series seeks to explore the cultural and social politics of the European past in the present. Bridging theoretical and empirical research, the series accommodates broad understandings of Europe – a shifting and historically mutable entity, made both of internal tensions and exogenous encounters, re-imaginings and influences. ‘Heritage’ too is taken as an expansive paradigm, made in myriad practices where the past is valorised for the present, from folk traditions to museums and memorials, the management of historic sites and traditions, and everyday matters such as education, political discourse, home life, food consumption and people’s relations with place.

Books in the series engage with European heritages in *critical* times – in all senses – when Europe and mobilizations of its heritages and memories are called upon to solve problems, and when contests over the meanings of the past are part of wider social and political relations and tensions. Heritage practices are variously informed by civil and uncivil visions, the politics of difference and co-presence, difficult pasts, relations with the ‘outside’, borders, margins, and migrations. Critical questions include:

- What is the European past made to do in the present and for the future?
- What counts as European heritage? To whom, and why?
- How and why do relationships with, and attitudes to, the past inform identity positions, social orders and moral values in, or in relation to, Europe?
- When and where in the (wider) world do European heritages configure identities?
- What are the contemporary meanings and effects of global encounters, mobilities and trajectories in which Europe has played roles?
- What theoretical and critical perspectives can be articulated to contribute new understandings of European heritages? How might these be made relevant for current and future heritage practice?
• What are the relations between theory, criticality, ethics and heritage practice in the European dimension?

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European Heritage, Dialogue and Digital Practices

Edited by Areti Galani, Rhiannon Mason and Gabi Arrigoni
To our transnational families
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We would like to thank the cultural institutions and organisations and all individual members of staff who contributed to this volume as interviewees or through hosting activities and facilitating our visits to their institutions. The research that underpins all contributions to this volume would have not be possible without their generosity. We also extend our gratitude to all research participants, co-creators, co-designers, friends and members of the public who, through their participation in our activities, workshops and public events, allowed us to gain insights into their practices around heritage, dialogue and digital technologies and shaped our understandings of the issues examined by this volume.

We thank all the authors of this volume for their thought-provoking contributions, their commitment to a tight schedule and the attention and patience with which they engaged with the reviewing and editorial process. We also extend our thanks to the Routledge editorial board for supporting this project as well the anonymous reviewers of the original book proposal, who helped us to focus our ideas and tighten the structure of the volume.

We also acknowledge that this book was possible only as part of the larger CoHERE research project and collaborative effort undertaken by all the project partners and researchers. In particular, we acknowledge the contribution of the project leaders and our colleagues, Professor Chris Whitehead and Dr Susannah Eckersley, who guided us through the development of the book proposal and the editorial process. Our collaborations and discussions with our partners in Work Package 4 have informed our thinking and inspired the contents of this volume. CoHERE has received funding from the European Union Horizon 2020 programme under grant agreement NO 693289.

The ideas expressed in this volume started occupying our conversations almost five years ago, when Rhiannon and Areti were awarded two small grants from Newcastle University’s Institute for Social Renewal (NISR) and Institute for Creative Arts Practice (NICAP), respectively, to carry out