

Conservation News

Updates from the Getty Conservation Institute

October 2026



Antonia Diewald, 2025–2026 Getty Graduate Intern, uses a tablet to record condition information on a digital, isometric diagram of one of the objects in Donald Judd's *100 untitled works in mill aluminum*.

PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

International Course on the Conservation of Modern Heritage

Application Open

Online: April 1–June 17, 2027

In-person: July 11–24, 2027, Los Angeles

Designed for mid-career heritage professionals, the course explores the broad range of contemporary issues involved in the conservation of modern heritage—from theoretical and methodological approaches to the technical aspects of materials conservation.

Participants will learn from an international roster of well-established professionals and experts in the field, gaining diverse perspectives and practical insights into the challenges and opportunities of conserving modern heritage.

[Read course details and apply online](#)

Deadline to apply is October 19, 2026.



Getty Graduate Internship Application Open

The Graduate Internship program provides training and work experience in departments across Getty that prepare graduate students for visual arts careers.

Graduate internships are offered in the Getty Museum, Getty Conservation Institute, Getty Research Institute, Getty Foundation, Getty Publications, Getty Digital, Communications, and Development. Placements are typically available in areas such as curatorial, education, conservation, research, publications, web and new media, public programs, digital projects, and grantmaking.

[Read details and learn how to apply for 2027–2028 internships](#)

Deadline to apply is November 3, 2026.



Getty Post-Baccalaureate Conservation Internship Application Open

The Getty Post-Baccalaureate Conservation Internship program aims to increase the number of students from underrepresented backgrounds preparing to enroll in graduate degree programs related to museum conservation.

The internships are the first nationwide effort to provide yearlong financial support and hands-on conservation experience to underrepresented post-baccalaureates who are preparing to apply to conservation graduate programs.

[Read details and learn how to apply for 2027–2028 internships](#)

Deadline to apply is November 3, 2026.



RECENT ACTIVITIES

New Collaboration with the Chinati Foundation

The Chinati Foundation has announced plans to restore Donald Judd's Artillery Sheds, which house his installation *100 untitled works in mill aluminum*. In conjunction with this restoration, *100 untitled works in mill aluminum* will be relocated for the first time in 40 years. The Conservation Institute is partnering with Chinati on the plan for movement and conservation of the 100 works.

The temporary relocation of the works will allow the joint team to examine previously inaccessible areas, deepen their understanding of the works' construction and condition, and establish a comprehensive record for future care. "Extensive documentation and material analysis preceding this once-in-a-generation intervention will deepen understanding of their condition and inform long-term care," Chinati Foundation shared.

Work to date has included developing a digital documentation workflow tailored to these repeated minimalist forms, investigating condition phenomena, identifying works for treatment, and exploring how temperature fluctuations inside the sheds may affect the installation.

[Read more about this project in *The Architect's Newspaper*](#)



Ellen Moody, conservator at the Conservation Institute, and Antonia Diewald, Getty Graduate Intern, set up a microscope to examine surface conditions. Photo: Courtesy of Chinati Foundation

Modern Architecture Conservation in India Course

The second iteration of the Modern Architecture Conservation in India course began at the end of August, bringing together 25 professionals from or working in India and neighboring countries, including Bangladesh, Nepal, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, and South Korea.

A collaborative initiative of Getty, the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, and CEPT University's Professional Programs, the course introduces participants to the conservation of modern architecture with an emphasis on learning technical and practical skills through the use of case studies. The course begins with five modules of online instruction running through November 3, followed by one week of in-person instruction from November 29 to December 5 at CEPT University in Ahmedabad, India. The time in Ahmedabad will include lectures and insights from local and international experts, a class exercise on a case study building, site visits to significant modern heritage sites in Ahmedabad, and hands-on demonstrations.

[Learn more about the course](#)



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Getty and Historic England Mark More Than a Decade of Partnership Advancing Arches

Since 2013, the Conservation Institute and Historic England have partnered to advance the documentation, management, and protection of cultural heritage worldwide. This collaboration has helped shape and support Arches, the open-source heritage data management platform used to date by more than 130 organizations and projects around the world.

Historic England has played a key role in shaping the Arches platform through its expertise in heritage data standards and inventory practices, and uses Arches to support its own heritage protection mandate, including managing data of England's National Record of the Historic Environment,



England's National Marine Heritage Record,
and the Greater London Historic Environment
Record.

[Learn more](#)

Interested in learning more about the Arches
platform?

[Read the September Arches bulletin to learn
about new implementations, upcoming
events, community highlights, presentations,
and more](#)

Recording Available: Art and Science in Dialogue Symposium

In June, the Conservation Institute and the
Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei hosted a
half-day symposium, "Art and Science in
Dialogue," at Villa Farnesina, home to
significant wall paintings by Raphael,
Baldassare Peruzzi, Sebastiano del Piombo,
and Il Sodoma.

The symposium addressed recent scientific
research conducted at Villa Farnesina,
including studies addressing conservation
issues through non-invasive investigative
methods, and strategies for conserving and
protecting the site into the future.

[Watch the symposium on the Accademia
Nazionale dei Lincei website](#)



Photo: Giovanni De Angelis

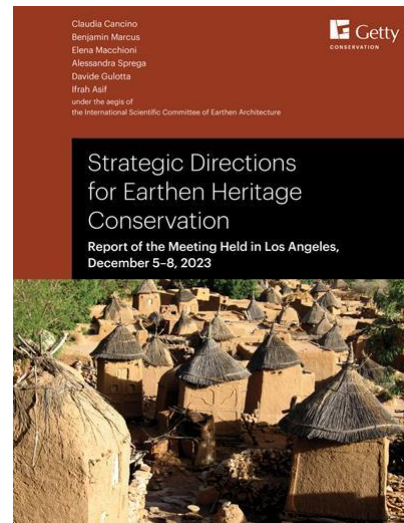
PUBLICATIONS AND RESOURCES

Strategic Directions for Earthen Heritage Conservation: Report of the Meeting Held in Los Angeles, December 5–8, 2023

In December 2023, the Conservation Institute brought together thirty international practitioners for a four-day collaborative meeting to discuss the conservation of earthen heritage. Organized by the Institute's Earthen Architecture Initiative under the aegis of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Earthen Architectural Heritage, the meeting aimed to define common strategic directions in the field of earthen heritage conservation, develop thoughtful responses to current challenges, and foster mutual exchange among conservation professionals.

The results of the meeting are compiled in this publication to provide a reference for the field, and to inform our forthcoming five-year strategy for the conservation of earthen heritage.

[Download the free PDF edition](#)



Korean Translations Available

Korean translations of *Values and Heritage Conservation* (2000) and *Economics and Heritage Conservation: A Meeting Organized by the Getty Conservation Institute, December 1998* (1999) are now available from Anchor Lab.

These publications represent our efforts to advance understanding of conservation's role in society and strengthen the capacity of the conservation field to enrich cultural life and the visual arts in societies worldwide.

Korean translations available for purchase through Kyobo Books

[*Values and Heritage Conservation*](#)

[*Economics and Heritage Conservation: A Meeting Organized by the Getty Conservation Institute, December 1998*](#)

Download the titles in English from the Getty website

[*Values and Heritage Conservation*](#)

[*Economics and Heritage Conservation: A Meeting Organized by the Getty Conservation Institute, December 1998*](#)



New in the Conservation Collection

Recent additions include books investigating interdisciplinary art techniques, 1920s-'30s cinema architecture, the preservation of design materials, the stylistic evolution of the mosaic, paper recycling in the 18th century, preserving works from St. Anne's Museum, photography in advertising and marketing, and Indian block printing.

[Read the full list of new titles](#)



AATA Fall Update

The fall 2026 update includes abstracts on conserving canvas and manuscripts, climate change, and proceedings from the World Congress on Earthen Architecture, the American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, and the ICOM-CC Triennial Conference in Valencia, Spain.

[View the update](#)



Abstracts of World Congress on Earthen Architecture Proceedings Now Available in AATA

AATA now includes abstracted and indexed articles from the proceedings of the World Congress on Earthen Architecture, also known as the Terra Conference, beginning with the first meeting in Yazd, Iran, in 1972, through the 13th meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico in 2022. With this addition to AATA, more than 50 years of research, case studies, and conservation experiences from the international earthen heritage community become accessible to scholars, practitioners, and students worldwide.

[Search the database](#)



Replastering of the Great Mosque of Djenné, Mali, during the 10th International Conference on the Study and Conservation of Earthen Architectural Heritage, 2008

IN THE NEWS

100 Unanswered Questions About Ourselves, Our World and Our Universe

The New York Times asked 100 scientists about unsolved problems in their fields. Scientist Francesca Casadio, John E. and Louise Bryson Director of the Conservation Institute, was among those queried.

[See her reply](#)



Image originally published by The New York Times in *100 Unanswered Questions About*

Tim Whalen and Antoine Wilmering Receive ICOM-CC Medal

Under the theme “Cultural Connections in Conservation,” last month's 21st ICOM-CC Triennial Conference in Oslo brought together conservators, scientists, curators, and museum professionals from around the world to explore how conservation can foster collaboration, strengthen cultural understanding, and address global challenges.



Tim Whalen (left) and Antoine Wilmering.

One of the highlights was the presentation of the prestigious ICOM-CC Medal 2026. Among the recipients were Tim Whalen, former John E. and Louise Bryson Director of the Conservation Institute, and Antoine Wilmering, former Getty Foundation Senior Program Officer. Since 1993, the medal has honored members whose dedication and leadership have played a vital role both within ICOM-CC and the field of conservation at large.

An Investigation of a Self-Portrait by Edgar Degas

When a hazy white film appeared on the surface of Edgar Degas's *Self-Portrait*, Getty conservator Devi Ormond set out to uncover its cause and gain insights on the artist's materials and techniques.

To investigate, she collaborated with Conservation Institute scientists to identify the chemical elements present in the painting, providing clues about the pigments Degas may have used. Chemist Karen Trentelman and graduate intern Thomas Boers used macro-XRF scanning, generating maps showing the distribution of individual chemical elements present.



Self-Portrait, about 1857–58, Edgar Germain Hilaire Degas. Oil on paper, laid down on canvas, 8 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. Getty Museum, 95.GG.43

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Mission Statement

The Getty Conservation Institute works internationally to advance conservation practice in the visual arts - broadly interpreted to include objects, collections, architecture, and sites. The Institute serves the conservation community through scientific research, education and training, field projects, and the dissemination of information. In all its endeavors, we create and deliver knowledge that contributes to the conservation of the world's cultural heritage.

About Conservation News

Conservation News is published six times a year with updates on our activities and timely information for conservation professionals.