**THE HISTORY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN EXCHANGE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURISM**

**The main goal of the Mediterranean Exchange of Archaeological Tourism is to promote sites and destinations of great archaeological value, to facilitate marketing, to help deseasonalization, to increase economic opportunities and employment effects.**

The Exchange is **the only event in the world, with the patronage of Unesco and Unwto, UN’s government bodies for Culture and Tourism**, where this extraordinary section of cultural heritage can meet professional business, travellers, enthusiasts and schools.

Moreover, it is important to underline the development of intercultural dialogue and cooperation among people that the event pursue with the participation and the exchange of experiences with Countries not only of the Mediterranean area and Middle East and with the annual presence of about **25 Foreign Countries, one of which Official Guest: over the years, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Syria, France, Algeria, Greece, Libya, Peru, Portugal, Cambodia, Turkey, Armenia, Venezuela, Azerbaijan, India.**

**THE MOST IMPORTANT MEETING HELD IN THE 25 EDITIONS FROM 1998 TO 2023 1998**

* **Opening Conference** with **Giampaolo D’Andrea** Undersecretary for Cultural Heritage.

# 1999

* **Opening Conference** with **Giampaolo D’Andrea** Undersecretary for Cultural Heritage.

# 2000

* **Opening Conference** with **Nehad Abd El Latif** Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Official Guest Country;

# Twinning between the site of Volubilis (Morocco) and the National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano.

**2001**

* **Opening of Museo Narrante dell’Heraion di Foce Sele** at the presence of **Giuseppe Proietti** General- Director Archaeological Heritage of the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities;
* **Mediterranean Forum Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation “Education and research in the sector of cultural heritage”** by European University Centre for Cultural Heritage of Ravello, European Union EUROPEAID, Unesco, Council of Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CNR, Countries of the Mediterranean area with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Assistant Director-General for Culture of Unesco.

# 2002

* **Conference “Integrated management of tangible and intangible heritage: cultural diversity as foundation of enduring development” and Issuing of the Paestum Chart for the managing of tangible and intangible heritage** with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Assistant Director-General for Culture of Unesco by Province of Salerno with MiBAC, Ministry of Environment, Unesco, Countries of the Mediterranean area.

# 2003

* **Opening Conference** with **Saadalla Agha Al Kalaa** Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, Official Guest Country;

# Presentation of the Archaeological Chart of Italy by the Exchange;

* **Presentation of Community project** “Strabon – system of multilingual and multimedia information for cultural heritage and Euro-Mediterranean tourism” by National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano and Foundation “Maison des Sciences de l’Homme – Paris”;
* **International Conference “Cultural heritage and tourism in the minor sites of the Mediterranean area. From experience to education for a consistent management”** with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Assistant Director-General for Culture of Unesco by European University Centre for Cultural Heritage of Ravello, Unesco, Icomos Italia.

# 2004

* **Opening Conference** with **Loic Hennekinne** Ambassador of France, Official Guest Country;
* Management of Archaeological Parks in France and Italy in collaboration with Embassy and Ministry of Culture of France;
* Bilateral meeting between **Carabinieri Command for the Protection of Cultural Heritage** and OCBC “Office Central de lutte contre le trafix des Biens Culturels” of France;
* Conference of Community project “Strabon – system of multilingual and multimedia information for cultural heritage and Euro-Mediterranean tourism” by National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano and Foundation “Maison des Sciences de l’Homme - Paris”.

# 2005

* **Opening Conference** with **Antonio Martusciello** Vice Minister for Cultural Heritage and Activities;
* **Conference “Unesco for a new culture of preservation: Preventive Archaeology and the conservation of the most important world’s heritage Mediterranean sites”** with **Mounira Baccar** Unesco Cultural Heritage Division, **Jean-Paul Demoule** President Inrap France **by Unesco and Inrap France;**

# Public Hearing by the European Social Economic Committee “Tourism and Culture: two forces for growth”;

* Presentation of Project CUSPIS Cultural Heritage Space Identification System – Programma Galileo, VI Programma Quadro dell’Unione Europea by Arcus SpA and MiBAC;
* **Study meeting “Verona Chart and Segesta Declaration use of historical archaeological spaces for performance events”** by Council of Europe, European University Centre for Cultural Heritage of Ravello and MiBAC;
* Presentation of the results of Project Archeomar, census of underwater archaeological heritage on the sea bottoms of the coasts of regions Campania, Basilicata, Puglia e Calabria by MiBAC;
* **Meeting “Italian archaeological missions abroad as moment of cultural policy: strategies, collaborations, interventions”** by General Direction for Promotion and Cultural Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

# 2006

* **Opening Conference** with **Andrea Marcucci** Undersecretary for Cultural Heritage and Activities;
* **“The 50 years of Iccrom in the Mediterranean area: the actions of education and awareness”** on the occasion of the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the resolution 4.15 of the General Conference of UNESCO who marked the starting point for the foundation of ICCROM in Italy and the **Paestum declaration by ICCROM** during the **“Forum for professionality of enhancement of cultural heritage in the Mediterranean area”** with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Director-General Iccrom;
* “**Mediterranean education and cooperation: a shared path for the development of cultural heritage”** by Iccrom nell’ambito del “Forum for Italian Cooperation 2006” promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
* “From Greece to Italy from Italy to Greece. Ancient movements and modern researches” by MiBAC, Ministry of Culture of Greece and Italian School of Archaeology at Athens;
* Italy-Greece Meeting “The testing of new forms of management and communication of cultural heritage” by Ministry of Culture of Greece and Fondazione Paestum;

# Conference by ANSAmed “Tourism and cultural heritage: a value for the Mediterranean area”.

**2007 - 10th Anniversary**

-  **Opening Conference and Conference “Cultural heritage and tourism for cooperation and development” in collaboration with ICCROM** with **Taleb Rifai** Deputy Secretary-General of UNWTO**, Mounir** **Bouchenaki** Director-General of Iccrom, **Ammar Mabrouk El Tayef** Secretary-General of Tourism of the **Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya**, Official Guest Country;

- “Project Coins: a virtual detective” by EPOCH European Project;

- “Interdisciplinary curricula for cultural heritage” getting ready for the challenges of the digital world of tomorrow” by European Projects EPOCH and CHIRON;

- “ArchaeoVirtual: results and perspectives of virtual archaeology in Spain and Italy” by MiBAC and Virtus Virtual Laboratory University of Seville;

-   National Congress of the Consuls of Touring Club Italiano “More quality for Italian toruism: a possible mission?”;

- **Meeting** with **Ehud Netzer,** University of Jerusalem author of the discovery of the tomb of Herod and with

**Piero Angela** host of Superquark;

**- First International Meeting of archaeological magazines;**

**- Conference by ANSAmed “Media and Cultural Heritage: role and responsability of the information system in the promotion of cultural heritage”.**

# 2008

* **Opening Conference** with **Taleb Rifai** Secretary-General of UNWTO**, Mounir Bouchenaki** Director-General of Iccrom.

# Meeting with Klaus Schmidt author of the discovery of Goebekli Tepe, the first temples of humanity.

**2009**

* **Opening Conference** with **Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al-Khalifa** Minister of Culture of the Kingdom of Bahrain, **Mounir Bouchenaki** Director-General of Iccrom, **Eugenio Yunis** Chief Sustainable Development of Tourism Unwto, **Elìsio Summavielle** State Secretery of Culture of Portugal, Official Guest Country;
* **Workshop “Stachem”** Infrastructures for the Digitalisation of Archaeological and Cultural Heritage of Eastern Mediterranean Sea” by Cyprus Institute (CyI-STARC, Nicosia) and MiBAC;
* Institution of **Associazione Province UNESCOSudItalia**.

# 2010

* **Opening Conference** with **Khon Thong** Minister of Tourism of Cambodia, Official Guest Country and

**Mounir Bouchenaki** Director-General of Iccrom;

* “An Italian window on Ancient Mesopotamia: the Virtual and Real Museum of Baghdad” **by Iraq Task Force of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of CNR**.

# 2011

* **Opening Conference** with **Ertugrul Gunay** Minister of Culture and Tourism of Turkey, Official Guest Country;

# General States of Archaeology “The profession of the archaeologist. Who does archaeology today in Italy”

called by the General Direction for Antiquities of the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities

* “Italy in the valorisation of archaeological and cultural heritage of Iraq” by **Iraq Task Force Iraq of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of CNR**;

# Visit of Mintimer Sharipovich Shaimiev President of Tatarstan, Republic of the Russian Federation from 1990 to 2010 upon invitation of Mounir Bouchenaki Director-General of Iccrom.

**2012**

-  **Opening Conference** with **Arev Samuelyan** Deputy Minister of Culture of Armenia, Official Guest Country, **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO, **Stefano De Caro** Director-General of Iccrom;

-   **Perspective for archaeological missions in view of the development of the Southern shore of the Mediterranea Sea with the directors of the archaeological missions of Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Israel, Libya, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey** by General Direction for the Promotion of the System-Country of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

-  **VI International Meeting of archaeological and tourism magazines “Cultural heritage and tourism: best practices for development, education, promotion”in collaboration with ICCROM** with **Stefano De Caro** Director-General of Iccrom**, Francesco Bandarin** Assistant Director-General for Culture of Unesco, **Saywan Barzani** Ambassador of the Republic of Iraq**, Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO, **Rafis Burganov** Minister for Youth, Sport and Tourism of the Republic of Tatarstan, **Anna Maria Buzzi** Director-General DG for the Valorisation of Cultural Heritage of MiBAC, **Alfonso de Maria y Campos Castellò** Director-General INAH Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia Mexico**, Maurizio Melani** Director-General General Direction for the Promotion of the System-Country of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

# 2013

* **Opening Conference** with **Taleb Rifai** Secretary-General of UNWTO, **Simonetta Giordani** Undersecretary for Turism of MiBACT, **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO;
* **General States of Archaeology** called by the General Direction for Antiquities of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism;
* **“The commitment of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs for intercultural dialogue and cooperation”** by the General Direction for the Promotion of the System-Country and the General Direction for Cooperation to Development of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs;
* Celebration of **Manama as Arab Capital of Culture for 2013** with the presence of **Mai bint Mohammed Al- Khalifa** Minister of Culture of the Kingdom of Bahrain, **Taleb Rifai** Secretary-General of UNWTO and **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO and Director of the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage.

# 2014

* **Opening Conference** with **Vagif Aliyev** Deputy Minister of Culture of Azerbaijan, Official Guest Country,

**Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO;

* **Meeting** with **Taleb Rifai** Secretary-General of UNWTO;
* **“Italian archaeology abroad: formation and exchange of experiences”** by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;
* **Forum of Foreign Institutes of Archaeology** in Italy by the International Union of the Institutes of Archaeology, History and Art History in Rome.

# 2015

-  **Opening Conference** with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO;

-  Conference **“Destruction of cultural heritage and disintegration of identities”**, with live phone call from Damascus with **Maamoun Abdulkarim** Director of the Antiquities of Syria, at the presence of **Mohamad Saleh** Last Director for Tourism of Palmyra;

-  Conference **“Not to forget the Museum of the Bardo, March 18th 2015”**, in collaboration with Iccrom with **Moncef Ben Moussa** Director of Bardo Museum of Tunis, **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO, **Silvia Costa** President of the Committee on Culture and Education of the European Parliament, **Francesco Rutelli** President Associazione Priorità Cultura, former Italian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for cultural heritage and activities;

-  **Special Session of the Superior Council for Cultural and Landscape Heritage of MiBACT** coordinated by the President **Giuliano Volpe;**

-   Meeting **“Towards a unified representation of Italian archaeologists”** by the Coordination of Italian Archaeologists with the participation of the Superior Council and the Professional Associations;

# -  Conference “Ethno-archaeological research in Latin America” by General Direction for the Promotion of the System-Country of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, with the interventions of the Directors of Archaeological Missions of Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico and Peru.

# 2016

* **Opening Conference** with **Dorina Bianchi** Undersecretary of Tourism of MiBACT, **Mounir Bouchenaki**

Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO;

**- Visit of Dario Franceschini** Minister of Cultural Heritage and Activities and of all the three Undersecretaries of MiBACT **Dorina Bianchi, Ilaria Borletti Buitoni, Antimo Cesaro**;

* Conference **“Archaeological Museums of the Mediterranean area for intercultural dialogue”**, with **Anne- Marie Afeiche** Director of the National Museum of Beirut, **Moncef Ben Moussa** Director of the Bardo Museum of Tunis, **Stefano De Caro** Director-General of Iccrom, **Muriel Garsson** Director of the Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations of Marseille, **Dimitrios Pandermalis** Director of the Acropolis Museum of Athens, **Gabriel Zuchtriegel** Director Archaeological Park of Paestum;
* Conference **“#Unite4Heritage for Palmyra”** with **Fayrouz Asaad** Archaeologist and daughter of Khaled al- Asaad, **Paolo Matthiae** Archaeologist, **Mohamad Saleh** Last Director for Tourism of Palmyra;
* **Official introduction of the “Blue Helmets of the Sea”** at the presence of **Anna Arzhanova** President of Confédération Mondiale des Activités Subaquatiques, World Underwater Federation, **Silvia Costa** President of the Committee on Culture and Education of the European Parliament;
* **Public Session of the Joint Commission of the Assessors for Tourism and Cultural Heritage and Activities of the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces** with **Dorina Bianchi** Undersecretary of State for Cultural Heritage and Activities and for Tourism, **Carlo Corazza** Chief of Tourism Unit of the Directorate-General Internal Market, Industry, Enterpreneurship and SMEs of the European Commission, **Gianni Torrenti** Coordinator Cultural Heritage and Activities Commission of the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces e Assessor of Culture of Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region;

# Federal Council of Enit.

**2017 - 20th Anniversary**

-  **Opening Conference** with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO;

-   Meeting with the students of **Moncef Ben Moussa** Director of the Bardo Museum of Tunis with **“The Exchange meets the Schools. Cultural heritage as identity and historical memories of the people”** at the Temple of Neptune;

-   **Conference “Sustainable tourism for development in world archaeological sites”** by UNWTO (World Tourism Organisation) with Secretary-General **Taleb Rifai**, **Dana Firas** President of Petra National Trust (PNT), **Shaikha Mai Bint Mohammed Al-Khalifa** President of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, **Tith Chantha** Deputy Minister of Tourism of Cambodia, **Meaza Gebremedhin** State Minister of Tourism of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;

-  **Meeting of the “Social Workshop of Regions”** by **ENIT**;

-  Conference **“Municipalities and archaeological sites: infrastructures, management and promotion”** by

**ANCI** Associazione Nazionale dei Comuni Italiani and **MiBACT**;

-  **Meeting of the Directors of Regional Museum Centres** by **Museums’ General Direction** of **MiBACT**;

**- Public Session of the Joint Commission of the Assessors for Tourism and Cultural Heritage and Activities of the Conference of Regions and Autonomous Provinces;**

-  Conference **“Aeneas’s Journey. Farnesina and the Archaeological Research in the Mediterranean Area” by the Directorate General for the for the Internationalisation of the Country System of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;**

-  Conference **“The intercultural dialogue as universal value of identities and cultural heritage: #dontforget Bardo Museum 18.03.2015 - #unite4heritage for Palmyra”** with **Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al- Khalifa** President of the Authority for per Culture and Antiquities of the Kingdom of Bahrain, **Moncef Ben Moussa** Director of the Bardo Museum of Tunis, **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO, **Silvia Costa** Member of the Committee on Culture and Education of the European Parliament, **Taleb Rifai** Secretary-General of UNWTO, **Fryad Rwandzi** Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities of the Republic of Iraq, **Mohamad Saleh** Last Director for the Tourism of Palmyra, **Vladan Vukosavljevic** Minister of Culture and Media of Republic of Serbia;

-  Conference **“Research, preservation of the cultural underwater cultural heritage”,** in collaboration with the **Sea Superintendence of Sicily Region** directed by **Sebastiano Tusa,** with prestigious speakers from Unesco, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Turkey;

-  **“Cross-border cooperation in cultural heritage: Campania Region for a bridge in the Mediterranean Area”** with **Francesco Caruso** Counsellor for International Relations and Unesco to the President of Campania Region, **Paolo Giulierini** Director of the National Archaeological Museum of Naples, **Massimo Osanna** General Director of the Archaeological Park of Pompeii, **Moez Eddine Sinaoui** Ambassador of the Republic of Tunisia in Italy, **Francesco Sirano** Director of the Archaeological Park of Herculaneum, **Vladan Vukosavljevic** Minister of Culture and Media of Republic of Serbia, **Gabriel Zuchtriegel** Director of the Archaeological Park of Paestum;

-  Conference **“The preservation of cultural heritage, the defence of art and the role of intelligence”** with **Stefano De Caro** General Director of ICCROM, **Paolo Matthiae** Archaeologist and Director of the archaeological mission in Syria of “Sapienza” University of Rome, **Rossella Muroni** National President of Legambiente, **Fabrizio Parrulli** Commander Carabinieri for the Protection of Cultural Heritage.

# 2018

-  **Opening Conference** with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO;

-   **Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the inclusion in UNESCO’s World Heritage List** of the archaeological areas of Paestum and Troy with **Rustem Aslan** Responsible of the archaeological area of Troy;

-  **Meet the Protagonists** with **Dan Bahat** Jerusalem’s official archaeologist and **Marie Bardisa** Curator of Chauvet Cave;

-  Conference **“The Cultural Heritage in Eastern Africa. Farnesina and the Italian researches in Ethiopia and Eritrea”** by the Directorate General for Cultural and Economic Promotion and Innovation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation;

**- Twinning between Paestum and Palmyra** at the presence of **Paolo Matthiae**, who discovered the ancient city of Ebla, **Mouhamed Al Khaddour** Chairman of the Board of the Federation of the Syrian Chambers of Tourism and **Mohamad Saleh** Last Director for Tourism of Palmyra;

-   Conference “**Intercultural dialogue as an universal value of the identities and cultural heritage: #dontforget Bardo Museum 18.03.2015 - #unite4heritage for Palmyra”**, with **Moncef Ben Moussa** Director of the Bardo Museum of Tunis at the time of the terrorist attack (actual Director for the Development of Museums), **Irina Bokova** Former Director-General UNESCO, **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to Director-General of UNESCO, **Fabrizio Parrulli** Commander Carabinieri for the Protection of Cultural Heritage, **Mariarita Sgarlata** Advisor to the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Activities for the protection and valorisation of cultural heritage;

-  **Meeting between Angkor Wat and the Colosseum** with **Sackona Phoeurng Sackona Phoeurng** Minister of Culture and Fine Arts Kingdom of Cambodia, **Azedine Beschaouch** Scientific Secretary of the International Coordinating Committee for the Safeguarding and Development of the historic site of Angkor – Cambodia, **Alfonsina Russo** Director of the Archaeological Park of the Colosseum;

-  **Presentation of the travel book “Unesco - 33 Italian sites to comfortably reach by train” by Long Haul and Regional Passengers Divisions of Trenitalia** in collaboration with ENIT, AIDIT of Federturismo Confindustria and Trenitalia;

# -   Dialogues on Archaeology of Magna Graecia and Mediterranean Area by Fondazione Paestum, with President Emanuele Greco.

# 2019

* **Opening Conference** with **Alessandra Priante** Regional Director for Europe UNWTO, **Mounir Bouchenaki**

Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO;

* **Public Hearing “A New European Agenda for Tourism and Culture”** by EESC European Economic and Social Committee with **Luca Jahier** EESC President, **Antonello Pezzini** EESC Member, **Ignazio Abrignani** President Osservatorio Parlamentare per il Turismo, **Alfonso Andria** President European University Centre for Cultural Heritage of Ravello, **Claudio Bocci** Director Federculture, **Mounir Bouchenaki** Special Adviser to the Director-General of UNESCO, **Mattia Fantinati** Member X Commission Productive Activities, Commerce and Tourism of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, **Luigi Gallo** President of the Commission for Culture, Science and Education of the Italian Chamber of Deputies**, Anne Grady** Policy Officer of Unit D1, Cultural Policy at the European Commission, **Renzo Iorio** President of Gruppo Tecnico Cultura e Sviluppo of Confindustria and Past President of Federturismo, **Franco Iseppi** President of Touring Club Italiano, **Vittorio Messina** President of Assoturismo Confesercenti, **Andrea Prete** Deputy Vice President of Unioncamere, **Alessandra Priante** Regional Director for Europe UNWTO, **Julie Ward** Vice-Chair of the Committee on Culture and Education at the European Parliament;
* **Preview Italy - China 2020: together to promote cultural heritage**, coordinated by **Maurizio Di Stefano** President Emeritus of Icomos Italia, with **Yang Si** Director of Deapartment Tsinghua Heritage Institute for Digitization, **Liu Bin** Director of Zhejiang Cultural Relics Archaeology Institute, **Liu Kecheng** Director of Shannxi Provincial Conservation Engineering Institute of Monument & Sites;
* **“Meets the Protagonists”** dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the **Council for British Archaeology**, with Executive Director **Mike Heyworth**, and to the cultural collaboration between Italy and Tunisia, with **Alfonsina Russo** Director of the Archaeological Park of Colosseum and **Moncef Ben Moussa** Director of the Museum Development Division of the Tunisian INP Institut National du Patrimoine and former Director of the Bardo Museum of Tunis.

**2021**

* **Opening Conference** with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Honorary President of the Mediterranean Exchange of Archaeological Tourism, **Carlo Corazza** Head Office of the European Parliament in Italy, **Giampaolo D’Andrea** Advisor to the Minister of Culture;
* **Cultural Heritage and Cultural Tourism after the pandemic** moderated by **Federico Monga** Editor in Chief Il Mattino with **Simonetta Giordani** Secretary- General of the Association; with a speech on “Competences and professions. Museums after the pandemic” and **Alessandra Vittorini** Director Fondazione Scuola dei beni e delle attività culturali.
* **ArchaeoIncoming: from outgoing to incoming of archaeological tourism for a proximity demand** with **Enrico Ducrot** Viaggi dell’Elefante, **Willy Fassio** Il Tucano Viaggi Ricerca, **Maurizio Levi** I Viaggi di Maurizio Levi, while the lifetime achievement award went to **Piergianni Addis** Kel12.
* **The Parks for the valorization of archaeological heritage and for a more experiential and sustainable tourism** in collaboration with Automobile Club d’Italia, Federparchi, Confagricoltura, Legambiente, Touring Club Italiano, Trenitalia with **Sabrina De Filippis** Director Business Regional Trenitalia, **Stefano Ciafani** President Legambiente, **Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio** President Fondazione UniVerde, **Donatella Bianchi** President Cinque Terre National Park, **Giovanni Cannata** President National Park of Abruzzo, Lazio, Molise, **Agostino Casillo** President National Park Nazionale of Mount Vesuvius, **Mario Tozzi** President Regional Park of Ancient Appian Way, **Giorgio Palmucci** President ENIT Agenzia Nazionale del Turismo.
* **1st Mediterranean Conference on Underwater Archaeological Tourism** with the preview of the research “Culture and Archaeology for a sustainable quality tourism. The case of underwater archaeological tourism and its implications” by S.R.M. Studi e Ricerche per il Mezzogiorno with **Mounir Bouchenaki** Honorary President of the Mediterranean Exchange of Archaeological Tourism, **Maurizio Di Stefano** President ICOMOS Italy, **Barbara Davidde** National Superintendent for Underwater Cultural Heritage, **Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons** Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention Council of Europe, **Louis Godart** Member of the Scientific Council of “Maison de l’histoire européenne” European Parliament, **Ulrike Guérin** Programme Specialist 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage UNESCO, Culture Sector, **Valeria Patrizia Li Vigni** Sea Superintendent of Sicilian Region, **Alberto Samonà** Assessor of Cultural Heritage and Sicilian identity of Sicilian Region, **Aikaterini Dellaporta** and **Dimitris Kourkoumelis** respectively Director and Vice Director Ephorate of Underwater Antiquities with closing remarks by **Dalila Nesci** Under Secretary of State for Southern Italy and Territorial Cohesion;
* **Conference of the National Scientific Committees of Icomos Italy** with President **Maurizio Di Stefano** and Vice President **Cettina Lenza**, speeches by **Alfonso Andria** President European University Centre for Cultural Heritage – Ravello, **Francesco Caruso** ICOMOS Academy, **Dana Firas** President Petra National Trust and ICOMOS Jordan, **Mounir Bouchenaki** Honorary President of the Mediterranean Exchange of Archaeological Tourism, **Mariassunta Peci** UNESCO Office of the Ministry of Culture; for National Scientific Committees **Paolo Salonia, Francesco Calabrò**, **Pasquale De Toro**.
* **Conference “Cultural heritage in connection: perspectives and developments of integrated management” and National Assembly of the Members of Icom Italy** with President **Adele Maresca Compagna**, Vice President and Director Royal Palace of Caserta **Tiziana Maffei**.
* **Meet the Protagonists “The Colosseum meets Petra” with Alfonsina Russo** Director Archaeological Park of the Colosseum and **Dana Firas** President Petra National Trust and ICOMOS Jordan, interviewed by Corriere **Paolo Conti** journalist with Il Corriere della Sera.

**2022**

**- Opening Conference** with **Alessandra Priante** Regional Director for Europe UNWTO;

**- Conferenza del Parlamento Europeo con i Direttori dei Parchi e Musei Statali Autonomi:** la prima sessione **Il sostegno del PNRR alle destinazioni, ai parchi e musei archeologici per la valorizzazione dei territori, dei siti e per la promozione del turismo culturale** si è svolta in collaborazione con l’Ufficio Italia del Parlamento Europeo, moderated by the Editor in Chief of Il Mattino **Francesco de Core,** with **Carlo Corazza** Direttore Ufficio Italia del Parlamento Europeo, **Marina Lalli** President Federturismo Confindustria, **Vittorio Messina** President Assoturismo Confesercenti. Nella seconda sessione **Parchi e Musei Archeologici a confronto**, moderated by journalist **Cinzia Dal Maso**,with **Ahmed Farouk Ghoneim** Director National Museum of Egyptian Civilization, **Fatma Naït Yghil** Director Bardo Museum of Tunis;

**- Presentation of the handbook “Campania - Regno dell’archeologia” of Le Guide di Repubblica** with the participation of Editor in Chief **Giuseppe Cerasa;**

**- Conference on underground archaeology in Italy** moderated by **Silvestro Serra** Direttore Touring, with **Pasquale Iacobone** Secretary Pontifical Commission for Sacred Archaeology, **Franco Iseppi** President Touring Club Italiano, **with the presentation of the research “Archeologia sotterranea: nuove opportunità di sviluppo locale e occupazione per il turismo culturale” by S.R.M. Studi e Ricerche per il Mezzogiorno Centro Studi linked to Gruppo Intesa Sanpaolo**;

- **Conference “Sustainable cultural heritage and tourism. Experiences in Creative Europe and in the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe”** by Creative Europe Desk Italy of Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity Italian Ministry of Culture with Creative Europe Desk Croatia;

- **Presentation of the project co-financed by COSME programme of the European Union “EU DIGITOUR”, for SMEs and tourism startups to gain access to a programme of technical and financial support, by X23 The Innovation Bakery and Associazione Startup Turismo**;

- **Presentation of “e-Archeo”: Commissioned to ALES spa by the Ministry of Culture**;

- **Presentazione del** **“Piano di sviluppo del patrimonio archeologico nei Paesi Mediterranei” a cura del Centro Universitario Europeo per i Beni Culturali - Ravello e ICOMOS Italia** with contributions by **Dana Firas** Presidente Petra National Trust – Jordan, **Jamal Eddine El Hani** Dean of Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences University Mohammed V of Rabat, **Mustapha Khanoussi** Advisor of the Minister of Cultural Affairs of Tunisia, **Zeina Al Khashashneh** Projects Manager Petra National Trust – Giordania; Director The World Heritage Centre UNESCO;

- Meeting with **Zahi Hawass** archaeologist, former Egyptian Minister of Antiquities and Director of the excavations in Giza, Saqqara and Valley of the Kings, **Barbara Jatta**Director Vatican Museums, **Fatma Naït Yghil**Director Bardo Museum in Tunis and **Alfonsina Russo**Director Archaeological Park of Colosseum.

**2023**

* the **Conference “The opportunities of European funds to enhance cultural heritage, improve the attractiveness of tourist destinations, strengthen the competitiveness of businesses”**, by the **Italian Office of the European Parliament** and the **Civita Association;**
* the **Conference** **“The UNESCO archaeological municipalities for experiential and sustainable cultural tourism”**, as part of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the UNESCO site of Paestum, in collaboration with **ANCI National Association of Italian Municipalities**, with the participation of the Italian municipalities and archaeological sites present in the List of World Heritage Sites and with **the presentation of the research “The added value of the UNESCO brand on the territories” by S.R.M. Studies and Research for the South Study Center connected to the Intesa Sanpaolo Group**;
* the **Conference “#unite4heritage: archeology and cultural cooperation from 2015 to today”**, in collaboration with the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation**, with the conclusions of the Deputy Minister **Edmondo Cirielli**, the works were opened by **Marco Ricci** Plenipotentiary Minister of the General Directorate for Development Cooperation MAECI and **Filippo La Rosa** Deputy Director-General for Public and Cultural Diplomacy MAECI; speakers were **Mounir Bouchenaki** Honorary President of the BMTA, former UNESCO Deputy Director-General for Culture, **Emilio Cabasino** Expert in Culture and Development Office III - Opportunities and Economic Development AICS Italian Agency for Development Cooperation, **Daniele Morandi Bonacossi** Professor of Archeology and History of Art of the Ancient Near East University of Udine, **Lorenzo Nigro** Professor Archeology and History of Art of the Ancient Near East Sapienza University of Rome, **Mohamad Saleh** Last Director for Tourism of Palmyra, **Francesco Gargaro** Commander Carabinieri Protection of Cultural Heritage, **Mohamed Chérif Hamza** Director of ENSCRBC National School of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Properties - Algeria, **Hayet Guettat Guermazi** Minister of Cultural Affairs of Tunisia. On the occasion of the Conference, the “Paestum Mario Napoli” Award was awarded to the **École française de Rome** for the 150th anniversary of its foundation, with the Director **Brigitte Marin**;
* the**Conference “Museums for the enhancement of Mediterranean cultural heritage and intercultural dialogue”,**with the **Directors of the Archaeological Museums of Marseille (Muriel Garsson), Paestum (Tiziana D’Angelo), Tunis (Fatma Naït Yghil)**; opened by the President of ICOMOS Italia **Maurizio Di Stefano**and with the **Lectio Magistralis**of Cardinal **Gianfranco Ravasi** President Emeritus of Pontifical Council for Culture and speech by **Hayet Guettat Guermazi** Minister of Cultural Affairs of Tunisia;
* **“UNESCO Meeting on the Access to Underwater Cultural Heritage”** with the scientific coordination of **Ulrike Guérin** Programme Specialist 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage UNESCO and with the participation of **Barbara Davidde** Italian Superintendent for Underwater Cultural Heritage, **Fabio Pagano** Director of the Campi Flegrei Archaeological Park, **Robert Domzal** Director Museum Museo of Gdansk - Poland, **Roberto La Rocca** Superintendency of the Sea of ​​the Sicilian Region, and for the session “Cultural identities and depths in heritage Mediterranean archaeology” by CUEBC European University Center for Cultural Heritage - Ravello, **Alfonso Andria** President of CUEBC, **Francesco Caruso** former Italian Ambassador to UNESCO and Board of Directors of CUEBC, **Maurizio Di Stefano** President of ICOMOS Italy, **Hayet Guettat Guermazi** Minister of Cultural Affairs of Tunisia.

**INSTITUTIONAL PARTICIPATION IN ITALY AND ABROAD**

**OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE EXCHANGE**

* **November 2005 Exhibition of the findings of the Italian Archaeological Missions in Syria** at the National Museum of Damascus organized and dedicated to the Exchange by the First Lady **Asma al-Assad**, on the occasion of the “Paestum Archaeology” Award given to her and Meeting of the Director of the Exchange with the Ministries for Tourism and Culture and with the Governor of Damascus;
* **March 2006** assignment by the Municipality of Giardini Naxos of **Premio Teocle per la Cultura Classica**

during the 8th edition of Extramoenia festival;

* **February 2009** Meeting with **Prince Albert of Monaco** at Palazzo Grimaldi in Montecarlo on the occasion of the assignment of the “Paestum Archaeology” Award;
* **April 2013 Participation as speaker at the 37th Meeting of the Middle East Commission of UNWTO** (World Tourism Organization, specialized agency of United Nations) in Bahrain with the presence of the Ministries of Tourism of the Middle East during the celebrations of Manama as Arab Capital of Tourism 2013;

- **July 2016** Presentation of **Report “Banca delle qualità campane. 50 eccellenze *made in Italy* tra i Monti Picentini e il Cilento”** by Fondazione Symbola; inclusion of the Exchange among the 50 excellences of the Report;

**- November 2016 Participation as speaker to the European Tourism Day** organized by the European Commission in Brussels with the European Commissioners **Elżbieta Bieńkowska** (Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs), **Tibor Navracsics** (Education, Culture, Youth and Sport) and **Karmenu Vella** (Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries);

- **January 2017** Opening of the **International Year of Sustainable Tourism** during FITUR, the International Fair of Tourism, invited by the Secretary-General of UNWTO World Tourism Organization **Taleb Rifai**;

* **February 2017** in Milan **Convention “Synergies between Cultural and Creative Industries and Tourism to favour growth and occupation in Europe: a new partnership between public and private”** organized by European Commission, Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism and Lombardia Region;
* **April 2017** coordination of a group of Italian experts of cultural heritage and participation as speaker to the **Meeting Serbia-Italy “A bridge for cultural heritage”** in Belgrade, invited by the Minister for Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia **Vladan Vukosavljevic** through the Italian Embassy in Serbia and the Italian Culture Institute of Belgrade;
* **May 2017 4th World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue “Baku Process” in Baku**, organized in cooperation with UNESCO, UNWTO and Council of Europe, invited by the Minister for Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan **Abulfas Garayev;**
* **July 2017** awarding of the **“Silvana Luppino” Prize** in the third edition held at the Temple of Hera in Metaponto;

- **July 2017** meeting in Tunis with **Selma Elloumi Rekik** Minister of Tourism and Handicrafts of Tunisia and **Mohamed Zine El Abidine** Minister of Cultural Affairs of Tunisia, during the visit of the Undersecretary for Tourism **Dorina Bianchi** with a delegation of tour operators and journalists, and coordination of a group of experts to develop agreements on cultural cooperation issues invited by Tunisian Ambassador in Rome **Moez Sinaoui;**

* **May 2019 5th World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue “Baku Process”**, organized in cooperation with UNESCO, UNWTO and Council of Europe in Baku, invited by the Minister of Culture of the Republic of Azerbaijan **Abulfas Garayev;**
* **September 2020** assignment by the Archaeological Park of Naxos Taormina and Naxoslegge of **“Comunicare l’Antico” Award** in Giardini Naxos at the Archaeological Park during the 3rd edition of the Award;
* **May 2021** speaker at **General States of Heritage** at CNEL Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del Lavoro (National Council for Economics and Labour);
* **June 2021** promoter of the meeting in Salerno and Cetara between the **Ambassador of Algeria in Italy H.E. Ahmed Boutache** and local authorities;
* **October 2021** presentation of project works on the destination Capaccio Paestum of the Master in Tourism Strategy & Management of the Bicocca University Milan, of which he was promoter;
* **October 2021** speaker at the **XVII International Review of Underwater Archaeology di Archeologia Subacquea** in Giardini Naxos;
* **October 2021** assignment of the **Archeoclub d’Italia “Sabatino Moscati”** International Award on the occasion of the Congress **“Fifty years of Archeoclub d’Italia. Strong in the past, aware of the present, committed to the future”**;
* **October 2021** speaker at the **Workshop “Forma Aquae” Research, safeguard, valorization and management of underwater heritage** taking place in Pozzuoli and Procida.

**INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY AWARD “KHALED AL-ASAAD”**

The Award, established in 2015 in collaboration with Archeo and named after **Khaled al-Asaad, the Archaeologist of the site of Palmyra who paid with his life the defence of cultural heritage,** wants to pay homage to archaeological discoveries with an annual prize awarded after the selection by international archaeological magazines, media partner of the Exchange: Antike Welt (Germany), arCHaeo (Switzerland), Archäologie in Deutschland (Germany), Archéologia (France), Current Archaeology (United Kingdom), Dossiers d’Archéologie (France).

It is the only global prize awarded to archaeologists**,** who with sacrifice, dedication, competence and scientific research live their job, both as scholars of the past and as professionals working for their territory and for humanity.

**2023 9th edition**

**Agnese Carletti** Mayor of San Casciano dei Bagni and **Jacopo Tabolli** Scientific Director of the excavationfor the archaeological discovery of 2022 “the 24 bronze statues from the Etruscan and Roman era”, resurfaced from the mud in San Casciano dei Bagni (province of Siena);

**2022 8th edition at the presence of Fayrouz Asaad**

**Zahi Hawass** Director of the Archaeological Mission for the archaeological discovery of 2021 “the lost golden city, founded by Amenhotep III, resurfaced from the desert near Luxor”;

# 2021 7th edition

discovery of “hundreds of sarcophagi in the necropolis of Saqqara in Egypt”, UNESCO World Heritage Site 30 km south of Cairo;

# 2020 6th edition

**Daniele Morandi Bonacossi,** Director of the Italian Archaeological Mission to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology and Art History of the University of Udine, for the discovery in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq at the archaeological site of Faida 50 km from Mosul, of ten Assyrian rock reliefs, the gods of Ancient Mesopotamia;

# 2019 5th edition at the presence of Fayrouz Asaad

**Jonathan Adams**, Responsible of the Black Sea Maritime Archaeology Project (MAP) for the discovery of the most ancient intact shipwreck of the world, wooden ship dating back 2.400 years,

two km from the floor of the Black Sea, off the coast of Bulgaria, thanks to the unusual chemical composition of Black Sea water and to the lack of oxygen below 180 mt;

# 2018 4th edition at the presence of Omar Asaad

# Benjamin Clement, Responsible of the excavations for the discovery of the “Little Pompeii” in Vienne (on the banks of Rhône, about 30 km south of Lyon) a Roman city of about 7.000 sq mt populated since I century AD, with lavish villas with mosaiks, monumental statues and public offices, that existed for three centuries and was destroyed by a series of sudden fires;

**2017 3rd edition at the presence of Waleed, Fayrouz, Omar Asaad**

**Peter Pfälzner**, Coordinator of the Archaeological Mission and Director for the Department of Near Eastern Archaeology of IANES Institute Ancient Near Eastern Studies of the University of Tubingen (Germany) for the Bronze Age city founded in 3.000 BC next to the small Kurdish village of Bassetki in the autonomous region of Kurdistan;

# 2016 2nd edition at the presence of Fayrouz Asaad

**INRAP Institut National de Recherches Archéologiques Préventives** and accepted by President Dominique Garcia for the discovery of the Celtic Tomb in Lavau in the Champagne region, 100 km from Paris, dating back to the fifth century BC with the remains of a Celtic prince;

# 2015 1st edition

**Katerina Peristeri**, Responsible for excavations for the discovery of the Tomb of Amphipolis – Verghina, Macedonia (Greece), the largest ancient tomb ever discovered in Greece.

**INTERNATIONAL “SEBASTIANO TUSA” UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY AWARD**

**The Award is assigned to archaeological discovery of the year or as lifetime achievement, to the best exhibition of international scientific value, to the most innovative project by Institutions, Archaeological Parks and Museums, to the best journalistic contribution in terms of divulgation.**

**2023**

**lifetime achievement**

**Katerina Dellaporta** former Advisor to the Greek Minister of Culture on underwater archaeology, Director General of the Byzantine and Christian Museum of Athens

For the decisive role played, in the Mediterranean panorama, for the affirmation of underwater archeology as a specific area of ​​protection, research and valorisation. Her experience successfully supported UNESCO initiatives for underwater archeology around the world. Her constant commitment concerned the various types of submerged sites: from settlements to infrastructures (ports), to both ancient and modern wrecks, contributing to the development of investigation, study and valorisation technologies, but also demonstrating that international cooperation in activities of underwater archeology is one of the most useful paths to undertake to raise awareness of the cultural heritage that the Mediterranean Sea has preserved and how it should be preserved.

**for the best exhibition of international scientific value**

**Romy Wyche** Director of the Museum of Ancient Arles and Provence for the **Exhibition “Trésors du fond des mers. Un patrimoine archéologique en danger” (October 22nd, 2022 – February 20th, 2023)**

The exhibition has the important merit of having combined the display of finds of extraordinary artistic workmanship with the explicit and blunt demonstration of the unsolved problem of protecting the submerged archaeological heritage of the Mediterranean Sea. Pleasure and pain side by side in the same exhibition, which highlights the importance of what the Mediterranean Sea preserved and at the same time lost, loses and still risks losing in the future. It is not enough to open your eyes to beauty, you also need to know that this beauty is threatened by old and new dangers: from theft to irreparable damage due to the intensification of exploitation of the Mediterranean seabed.

**for the most innovative project by Institutions, Museums and Archaeological Parks**

**Massimiliano Marazzi**Professor of Cultures of Aegean Sea and Anatolia at University Suor Orsola Benincasa of Naples for **Progetto Vivara**

An innovative project for the interdisciplinary methodology applied for the first time on a Mediterranean island: Vivara (Municipality of Procida). The novelty of the project is articulated both in the establishment of the “Library of finds” for the benefit of scholars and students and in the construction of a new cartography of the seabed through orthophotogrammetric surveys. The new cartography will be used first and foremost by the Park Authority that manages the Vivara Nature Reserve, as an essential means for the protection and conservation of the entire marine area which is now submerged, and which in the Bronze Age all emerged and was frequented by the inhabitants of the Vivara Island, of which the map of the ancient port will also be reconstructed; underwater archeology and marine ecology work together to protect the Mediterranean Sea.

**for the best journalistic contribution in terms of divulgation**

**Alberto Angela** Science popularizer

For his extraordinary contribution to the knowledge of submerged cultural heritage and in particular to underwater archaeological heritage. The underwater archaeology of the Mediterranean Sea, of lakes, rivers and lagoons, in particular the Venice Lagoon, owes to Alberto Angela the correct information on where and how the underwater archaeologist operates, without giving in to the spectacular and sensationalist side alone. The exhaustive information, accompanied by images, which today enrich the documentation of the history of Italian underwater archaeology, can rightfully constitute a manual on how to make the public aware of what Italian cultural heritage is.

**2022**

**lifetime achievement
Eric Rieth** Emeritus Director emeritus of CNRS Center National de la Recherche Scientifique in France on behalf of the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne-CNRS and Head of the Naval Archeology Department at the National Marine Museum in Paris

Taking a cue from the presentation of Eric Rieth's latest book by Patrice Pomey, one of the fathers of underwater archeology in the Mediterranean Sea: "The figure and work of Eric Rieth constitute an internationally recognized record, built over the years through profound knowledge of the collections of the National Marine Museum in Paris, as well as its archives, the practice of archeology on the ground, which led him to take an interest in all the sources of naval archeology: archaeological ones in the first place, through the excavation and study of numerous wrecks; historical ones starting obviously from the ancient treatises on naval architecture; iconographic ones for the long attendance of museum collections and models; ethnographic ones, thanks to his knowledge of the work of Admiral Paris, father of naval ethnography".

**for the most innovative project by Institutions, Museums and Archaeological Parks**

**Andrea Camilli** Director of Museum of Ancient Ships of Pisa for project “Grande Tirreno”

The idea for the project was born when Camilli became aware of the complexity of the "naval" archaeological area of ​​Pisa San Rossore. The implementation of the new challenging project starts from the identification of the area where it will be built, an area that concerns a complex system, which physically groups a large part of the S. Vito complex and the Medici Arsenals, with the establishment of three main functional areas, which also gather around them other functions: the Museum of Ancient Ships of Pisa, which currently occupies the complex of the historic Medici arsenals for an area of ​​4700 square meters, in addition to hosting the restored ships of the excavations of S. Rossore, frames the history of Pisa from its origins to the early Middle Ages and talks about the history of navigation in the classical age; the Centro di Restauro del Legno Bagnato, active elsewhere since 2005 and just moved to the recently restored building, houses the laboratories and it is home to training and university courses on restoration; the Biblioteca delle Navi and the related study center, currently being set up in the San Vito building, where they will house offices, laboratories and a library dedicated to maritime and naval archaeology, restoration and the history of Pisa.

**for the best journalistic contribution in terms of divulgation**

**Pippo Cappellano** Journalist, director, underwater photo cameraman and author of documentaries

Water is his environment, which he will never leave up to the present day, always diving for services from marine biology to underwater archeology, from ethnography of fishing to ethnology of sea peoples. He works with his underwater camera on the bottom of seas, lakes, lagoons, rivers, wherever man has left traces of his history.

**2021**

**lifetime achievement**

**Xavier Nieto Prieto** Vice President of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body of the 2001 UNESCO Convention for the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage

For his work of research, protection, and university teaching, promoted over a life spent with competence and passion in the field of underwater archeology. Since 1976 he has participated in underwater archaeological missions in Spain, Italy, France, Morocco, Haiti, Panama. Member and then Vice President of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Body of the 2001 UNESCO Convention for the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage, Director of the Center for Underwater Archeology of Catalonia, Director of the National Museum of Underwater Archeology (ARQUÀ), Xavier Nieto Prieto is one of the world’s leading figures for naval and underwater archeology for his research, discoveries, studies, publications, for his constant institutional commitment to the affirmation of underwater archeology as a university discipline, as a specific asset to be protected and enhanced both underwater and in dedicated museums.

**for the best exhibition of international scientific value**
**Paolo Giulierini** Director National Archaeological Museum of Naples

For the design, promotion and realization of the exhibition “Thalassa. Wonders submerged by the Mediterranean Sea “December 2019-August 2020. The exhibition, born from an inspired intuition of several scholars, including Sebastiano Tusa who was its first animator and passionate supporter, courageously represented a new way of answering the question “what is the Mediterranean Sea?”. The public was able to see with new eyes an extraordinary reality made up of geological events, ecosystem dynamics, stories and myths, mermaids and heroes, travelers and explorers, transport of food products and luxury goods. The intertwining of the destinies of the Great Sea and the destinies of the coastal populations is represented by the reconstruction over time of the routes followed by the ships that sailed the Mediterranean Sea. The exhibition left an indelible mark on the history of the Museum, which will dedicate a permanent section to the Mediterranean Sea and underwater archeology.

**for the most innovative project by Institutions, Museums and Archaeological Parks**
**Franco Marzatico** Superintendent for Cultural Heritage Autonomous Province of Trento

For the design and realization of the Archaeological Nature Park of Fiavé, province of Trento, where one of the most important pile dwellings of prehistoric Europe was found. For the first time, the park gives a lake area the possibility of public use of a large wet-underwater archaeological area. Made in a setting that boasts three UNESCO recognitions (prehistoric pile dwellings in the Alps, natural site of the Dolomites, Biosphere Alpi Ledrensi and Judicaria), it offers an innovative and scenographic educational and experiential path with a strong emotional impact, thanks to the reconstruction, as close as possible to the reality of excavation documentation, prehistoric pile-dwelling villages and their ingenious foundations. The dialogue between archeology and natural environment increases knowledge and cultural awareness and it promotes the attractiveness and ecosystem development of the area.

**for the best journalistic contribution in terms of divulgation**
**Donatella Bianchi** RAI journalist host of “Lineablu” and President WWF Italy

For her decades of activity as journalist dedicated to spreading knowledge of the Mediterranean Sea, its environment, its culture, its populations, its history. In her tireless work she has always followed every discovery, every research campaign, every character of Mediterranean underwater archeology, anticipating with exemplary tact the real possibility of introducing an environmental and archaeological underwater tourism inspired by the knowledge, protection and conservation of the blue world that embraces Italy. From 1994 to 2020 Linea Blu is today the most important image archive of our sea.

**“MARIO NAPOLI” PAESTUM AWARD**

**The Award has been established in 2005 in the name of “Paestum” and named since 2018 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the Tomb of the Diver after Mario Napoli** (archaeologist and scholar of Magna Graecia, who was Archaeological Superintendent of Salerno, Avellino, Benevento at the time of discovery in 1964 of the Rosa Door in Velia, peculiar complex of the II-III century BC, and in 1968, about 1.5 km south of Paestum at the necropolis of Tempa del Prete, of the Tomb the Diver, the only testimony of Greek non vase painting, that Napoli dated back to about 480 BC).

The Award **is assigned to those who contribute, through their commitment, to the intercultural dialogue, the valorisation of cultural heritage and the promotion of archaeological tourism.**

Through the year the Award has been assigned to:

**2023**

**Gianfranco Ravasi** President emeritus of the Pontifical Council for Culture

**École française de Rome**

**Colosseum Archaeological Park**

**Pompeii Archaeological Park**

**2022**

**Italian Foreign Press Association**

**Vatican Museums**

**Archaeological Museum of Reggio Calabria**

**Pontifical Commission for Sacred Archaeology**

**Touring Club Italiano**

# 2021

**Enrico Ducrot** Founder Viaggi dell’Elefante **Willy Fassio** Founder Il Tucano Viaggi Ricerca **Dana Firas** President Petra National Trust **Maurizio Levi** Founder I Viaggi di Maurizio Levi

**Lina Mendoni** Minister of Culture and Sport - Greece

**Archeoclub d’Italia** 50° anniversary

# ICOM Italy ICOMOS Italy

**2019**

**Council for British Archaeology** 75th anniversary

**Giovanni Nistri** General Commander of Carabinieri Corps

**Sebastiano Tusa** *posthumous award* Regional Councillor for Cultural Heritage and Sicilian Identity

# UNPLI - Unione Nazionale Pro Loco d’Italia

**2018**

**Irina Bokova** Former Director-General UNESCO

**Sackona Phoeurng** Minister of Culture and Fine Arts Kingdom of Cambodia

**Paolo Verri** Director-General “Fondazione Matera-Basilicata 2019”

# 2017

**Antonia Pasqua Recchia** Counsellor of the Italian Minister of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism for the implementation of the reform of the Ministry, research and programming

# 2016

**Silvia Costa** President of the Committee on Culture and Education of the European Parliament

**Stefano De Caro** Director-General ICCROM

**INRAP Institut National de Recherches Archéologiques Préventives (France),** accepted by President

# Dominique Garcia

**2015**

**Gruppi Archeologici d’Italia** 50th anniversary, accepted by National Director **Gianfranco Gazzetti Bardo Museum of Tunis** accepted by Director **Moncef Ben Moussa**

**Egyptian Museum of Turin** accepted by Director **Christian Greco Francesco Rutelli** President of Associazione Priorità Cultura

# 2014

**Franck Goddio** Underwater archaeologist and Founder of the European Institute of Underwater Archaeology

**Rai Cultura** accepted by Director **Silvia Calandrelli**

**Department of Greek, Etruscans and Roman Antiquities of the Louvre Museum** accepted by Curator

# Laurent Haumesser

# 2013

**Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa** Minister of Culture of the Kingdom of Bahrain

**Archaeological Institute of America** accepted by the Editor in Chief of Archaeology Magazine **Claudia Valentino**

**Viviano Domenici** Journalist and writer

# 2012

**Francesco Bandarin** Deputy Director-General UNESCO for Culture

**Andrea Carandini** Archaeologist

**Mario Tozzi** Geologist and TV Host

# 2011

**Adriano La Regina** Archaeologist

**Ahmed Mahjub** Director of the archaeological site of Leptis Magna, Libya

**Valerio Massimo Manfredi** Archaeologist and writer

# 2010

**Azedine Beschaouch** Archaeologist and Minister of Culture of Tunisia

**Carlo Gambalonga** Editor in Chief of ANSAmed

**Louis Godart** Advisor for Conservation of the Artistic Heritage - Presidency of the Italian Republic

# 2009

**Taleb Rifai** Secretary-General UNWTO United Nations World Tourism Organization

**Emanuele Greco** Director Italian Archaeological School of Athens

# 2008

**Albert II** Prince of Monaco, assigned at the Prince’s Palace of Monaco on February 26th, 2009

**Jawdat Khoudary** Founder of the Archaeological Museum of Gaza “Al Mathaf”

**Carabinieri Command for the Protection of Cultural Heritage** 40th anniversary, accepted by Commander

# Giovanni Nistri

**Folco Quilici** Film - maker

# 2007

**Piero Angela** Science communicator and TV Host

**Domenicale de “Il Sole 24 Ore”** 25th anniversary, accepted by **Riccardo Chiaberge Colin Renfrew** Archaeologist

# 2006

**Mounir Bouchenaki** Director-General ICCROM

**Alessandro Cecchi Paone** Science communicator and TV Host

**Zahi Hawass** Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities of Egypt

# 2005

**Asma Al-Assad** First Lady of the Syrian Arab Republic at the National Museum of Damascus on November 7th,

**Paolo Matthiae** Archaeologist

**Roberto Giacobbo** Science communicator and TV Host