

EINLADUNG

zum

VORTRAG

von

Dr. Jan Wouters

Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage, Jubelpark 1, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

Analytical Procedures for the Analysis of Organic Materials in Works of Art

Donnerstag, 15. Dezember 2005, 16:00 Uhr

Akademie der bildenden Künste, Schillerplatz 3

Vortragssaal R5 (Erdgeschoss)

Analytical Procedures for the Analysis of Organic Materials in Works of Art.

Dr. Jan Wouters, Royal Institute for Cultural Heritage, Jubelpark 1, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
jan.wouters@kikirpa.be

The study of ancient written sources, the preparation and artificial ageing of laboratory models, the detailed analysis of historic samples and the interpretation of results within a wide information context, including history, geography and conservation, do all contribute to the elucidation of ancient technology.

When dealing with organic materials, relevant analytical methods will have to especially address parameters such as spatial and analytical resolution. In many cases this will involve chromatographic methods, hence sampling, hence destructiveness. A selection of topics will be discussed to illustrate ways to generate relevant analytical details while respecting the object's integrity, with special emphasis on natural organic dyes and pigments, proteins, tannin, paper, parchment, leather and textiles.

Short biography

Jan Wouters gained his PhD from the University of Gent, Belgium, in 1978 (chemistry, biochemistry). Since 1982, he is at KIK/IRPA involved in research regarding the manufacturing technology and the degradation of objects and materials of the cultural patrimony in Belgium and abroad, since 1996 as head of the Laboratory for Materials and Techniques.

His major interests and achievements include objects such as textile, paper, parchment, leather and paint, and materials such as natural and synthetic organic dyes and pigments, proteins and tannins. He is particularly interested in the development of microdestructive approaches for materials' analysis and in the study of the representativeness and the reproducibility of results produced.

He was and is his institute's scientific leader of research contracts, executed within the framework of European RTD projects. He is also a member of the management committee of the COST-G8 action on the non-destructive analysis of museum objects, within one of the COST domains of the ESF (European Science Foundation). He is also a member of the programme committee of the De Mayerne programme of NWO (The Netherlands), the successor of Molart.

He is at present Chairman of the Committee for Conservation of the International Council of Museums (ICOM-CC).

He is author or co-author of some 140 papers and contributions to books and proceedings.