

ONLINE-KONFERENZ
DAS KUNSTMUSEUM IM
DIGITALEN ZEITALTER
2026

ONLINE CONFERENCE
THE ART MUSEUM IN
THE DIGITAL AGE
2026

19.–23.1.2026

TOUR,
WORKSHOP
& PANEL
DISCUSSION

belvedere



Institute for Digital Culture

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026

RESEARCH OBSERVATORY

9:00 AM–12:00 PM

INVITATION ONLY

The Institute for Digital Culture supports the global culture sector as it adapts to a digital world. The Institute leads and supports interdisciplinary research that purposefully responds to points of evidenced need within the sector internationally—convening partnerships, identifying resources, and shaping pathways that carry research into practice. The Institute's network of Research Observatories around the world is one important way in which cultural organizations, professional bodies, policymakers, communities of practice, and researchers in the area of digital culture (and its wider related fields) come together to identify where our collective work can be best focused. The Institute is proud to continue its partnership with the Belvedere Research Center and its annual conference, The Art Museum in the Digital Age, and to host the latest edition of its Observatory.

CURATOR'S TOUR WITH EVA FISCHER

1:00 – 1:50 PM

Civa–Contemporary Immersive Virtual Art |*indeterminate*><*apparatus*

Belvedere 21, Vienna

The tour is held in English and is for conference participants. Registration is required.

The use of artificial intelligence is a central concern for both the conference and the Civa media art festival. The exhibition, which is part of the festival, highlights the interplay between contemporary technologies, realities, and experiences across digital, physical, and hybrid spaces. This will be an opportunity to gain a curator's perspective and form questions to bring to the following workshop, which will focus on artificial intelligence from an academic, artistic, and museological perspective.

|*indeterminate*><*apparatus*| brings together artistic approaches that view the indeterminate as an aesthetic, political, and speculative realm. The artists engage with quantum concepts through poetic gestures, multi-layered embodied experiences, and playful abstraction. They explore the infrastructures of emerging quantum technologies and experiment with their creative potential. In doing so, they shed light on the frequently overlooked ecological and social implications that these technologies present while also negotiating their possibilities and inherent ambivalences.

WORKSHOP

2:00 – 5:00 PM

Moderation: **Ross Parry** (University of Leicester)

The workshop takes place on site at Belvedere 21, Vienna, with registration required.

Organized in cooperation with the Institute for Digital Culture at the University of Leicester, the workshop offers participants the opportunity to discuss the following topics with experts:

Please note: Participants are asked to select one table only.

TABLE 1 AI FOR CURATION

Chiara Zuanni (University for Continuing Education Krems)

Since September 2025, **Chiara Zuanni** has been Full Professor of Digital Cultures and Digital Humanities at the University for Continuing Education Krems. She was previously Associate Professor for Digital Humanities, with a focus on museology, at the University of Graz, where she completed her habilitation on Museum Data in Theory and Practice in 2024. She studied in Italy (Classics BA and Archaeology MA, University of Bologna) and in the UK (PhD in Museology, University of Manchester), where she also held postdoctoral roles at the University of Liverpool and the Victoria & Albert Museum. Her research focuses on digital practices in museums, exhibition histories, social media and digital audiences research, 3D digitization, and the mediation of the past in digital media and heritage institutions.

TABLE 2 FROM AI POLICY TO AI STRATEGY

Jane Finnis (The Audience Agency), **Ross Parry** (University of Leicester)

Jane Finnis is Senior Consultant Director at The Audience Agency. She is an entrepreneurial and collaborative cultural leader with 30-plus years' experience at a senior level, leading organizational development, creative thinking, and transformation. She has a track record in strategic policy work with the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Arts Council England, the British Council, The Europeana Foundation, and others. Working with hundreds of cultural organizations across the UK and internationally each year, she is a champion for experimental working, leading programs that research best practice and innovation. As a producer and facilitator, Jane Finnis supports cultural professionals and leaders in building the capacity, confidence, and literacy to develop new ways of thinking and practice. Key projects include Let's Get Real, the flagship collaborative-action research program now in its 16th year.

Ross Parry is Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and board member of Attenborough Arts Centre. From 2020 to 2025, he was a member of the steering committee of UK Research and Innovation's over-18-million-pound digital cultural heritage initiative Towards a National Collection. With Art UK and the Collections Trust, he also co-leads the new Museum Data Service, funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Arts and Humanities Research Council, UK. Parry's recent books include *Museums and Digital Confidence* (2025), edited with Vince Dziekan and Karin de Wild, and *Museums and the History of Computing* (2024), edited with Simone Natale and Petrina Foti. Parry has been listed in the Education Foundation's EdTech50 as one of the 50 most influential people in the UK education and technology sectors.

TABLE 3 AI FOR ART ANALYSIS

Florian Kibler, Markus Seidl (University of Applied Sciences St. Pölten)

Florian Kibler studied Media Technology at the University of Applied Sciences St. Pölten and gained several years of professional experience as a front-end developer. He deepened his expertise in data science and artificial intelligence during his master's degree in Data Intelligence at the same university. Today, he works there as a Junior Researcher. At the same time, he is pursuing a doctorate at the Vienna University of Technology in cooperation with Klosterneuburg Abbey, researching how stylistic visual features from works of art can be reliably modelled numerically and used for comparison, search, and classification.

Markus Seidl is a Professor of Applied Sciences and an expert in computer vision and pattern recognition. He has gained extensive experience in scientific collaboration with other disciplines in various digital heritage projects. From 2010 to 2016, he worked with archaeologists on digital documentation and analysis methods for rock art, a collaboration that was awarded the Europa Nostra award for Cultural Heritage in 2016. Since 2018, he has been working with historians, art historians, and musicologists on computer-aided numerical modelling of visual style in handwritten medieval books, graphic pen drawings, and handwritten scores.

PANEL DISCUSSION

5:30 PM

Moderation: **Christian Huemer** (Belvedere, Vienna)

Jane Finnis (The Audience Agency)

Lukas Fuchsgruber (Wikimedia Deutschland)

Sofie Taes (KU Leuven & Europeana Network Association & DigitGLAM)

The panel discussion takes place on site in the Blickle Kino, Belvedere 21, Vienna. Registration is requested due to space limitations. The panel discussion will be held in English, and the event will be simultaneously translated into German and streamed via Zoom.

Jane Finnis is Senior Consultant Director at The Audience Agency. She is an entrepreneurial and collaborative cultural leader with 30-plus years' experience at a senior level, leading organizational development, creative thinking, and transformation. She has a track record in strategic policy work with the UK Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Arts Council England, the British Council, The Europeana Foundation, and others. Working with hundreds of cultural organizations across the UK and internationally each year, she is a champion for experimental working, leading programs that research best practice and innovation. As a producer and facilitator, Jane Finnis supports cultural professionals and leaders in building the capacity, confidence, and literacy to develop new ways of thinking and practice. Key projects include Let's Get Real, the flagship collaborative-action research program now in its 16th year.

Lukas Fuchsgruber is an art historian and museum researcher in Berlin. Since June 2025, he has been working as a Digital Cultural Heritage Manager at Wikimedia Germany. Prior to that, he spent several years as a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Technical University of Berlin on the project Museums and Society—Mapping the Social and conducted a case study on the relevance of digital museum collections for critical museology. His book on this research, *Museums and the Utopia of Networking*, was published in October 2025. He has been involved in two open-source software development projects for participatory archiving: *cooArchi*—community-oriented archive interface (2021) and *Art Doc Archive* (2022–23).

Sofie Taes, a graduate in Musicology (2004) and Medieval and Renaissance Studies (2005) at KU Leuven, has devised and successfully completed numerous international projects on digital humanities and cultural heritage for the university's Department of Cultural Studies (CS Digital). In 2022, she became Innovation Manager for DigitGLAM, a research valorization

consortium at the intersection of humanities and innovative technologies. Since January 2025, Sofie has chaired the Europeana Network Association Management Board. She also leads Europeana's working group supporting the digital cultural heritage of Ukraine, is a member of the expert group of the European Commission dedicated to the Data Space for Cultural Heritage (CEDCHE), and is on the committee of Flanders' UNESCO Memory of the World.

#digitalmuseum #belvederemuseum

Conference Committee:

Christian Huemer, Sylvia Stegbauer, Johanna Aufreiter, Alexandra Sommer (Belvedere Research Center, Vienna), Chiara Zuanni (University for Continuing Education Krems), Ross Parry (University of Leicester), Oonagh Murphy (Goldsmiths, University of London)



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