

Friday, April 17

09:00 – 10:00

## Keynote

Chair: Maria Theisen, IMAFO, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Attributes, Objects, Poses, Scenes and Bias: Retrospective and Future Challenges of Art History and Computer Vision

Peter Bell, Philipps-University Marburg

10:00 – 10:20

Coffee Break

10:20 – 11:20

## Panel: Relations

Chair: Doris Gruber, IHB, Austrian Academy of Sciences

From Data to Context: AI-Based Style Attribution in Art History

Teresa Kamencek, University of Vienna  
Velitchko Filipov, Technical University of Vienna

Michaela Tuscher, Technical University of Vienna

Silvia Miksch, Technical University of Vienna  
Raphael Rosenberg, University of Vienna

Embedding-Based Image Analysis for Art Historical Research: Integrating AI into Digital Catalogues Raisonnés

Kiersten Thamm, HPF Innovations GmbH / Navigating.art

11:20 – 11:40

Coffee Break

11:40 – 13:10

## Panel: Collections

Chair: Maria Theisen, IMAFO, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Object Detection for Visual Analysis of Medieval Charters: Decoration and Its Makers in Papal Documents

Florian Atzenhofer-Baumgartner, University of Graz

Martin Roland, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Between Potential and Practicality: Exploring AI's Potential in an Incomplete, Low-Resource Art Collection

Zsuzsa Sidó, Institute of Art History, ELTE Research Center for the Humanities – Art Collection of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Using AI for Icon Analysis  
Ljudmila Djukic, Belgrade



AI is transforming how we approach images of the past and present. This workshop is dedicated to the subject of AI-supported object detection, image classification and iconographic analysis, with a focus on drawn, painted and printed content. Contributions draw on large- and small-scale datasets and explore the current possibilities and limitations of AI in this area. topics include but are not limited to:

- How AI is currently employed in art historical research and writing to detect, classify and analyse artworks
- Challenges surrounding pretrained models (mostly trained on modern photographic material) and the creation of new training data and models
- Controlled vocabularies and their application in AI-based art historical research
- The development of AI tools specifically tailored to art history
- Ethical and legal considerations surrounding the use of AI in art historical research.

### ORGANIZER

Doris Gruber, head of the Art History Research Unit of the Institute for Habsburg and Balkan Studies (IHB), Maria Theisen, head of the Department for Paleography and Codicology of the Institute for Medieval Research (IMAFO), and the thematic platform Machine Learning (MLA2S) at the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna, Austria.

### CONTACT

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### REGISTRATION

Please register: <https://indico.global/event/15085/registrations/3533/>

Figure: Hieronymus Bosch, The Tree-Man, detail, ca. 1500, © Albertina, Vienna.

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ihb INSTITUTE FOR HABSBURG AND BALKAN STUDIES

International Workshop

# AI and Artworks

Object Detection, Image Classification and Iconographic Analysis



16–17 Apr 2026

Austrian Academy of Sciences,  
Postsparkasse, Seminar room 2+3  
Georg-Coch-Platz 2, third floor  
1010 Vienna



# Program

Thursday, April 16

08:45 – 09:00

Arrival and Registration

09:00 – 09:30

## Introduction

Doris Gruber, IHB, Austrian Academy of Sciences  
Maria Theissen, IMAFO, Austrian Academy of Sciences  
Jan Odstrčilík, MLA2S, Austrian Academy of Sciences

09:30 – 11:00

## Panel: Models

Chair: Matteo Valleriani, MPIWG Berlin

Meta-Acervos  
Thiago Hersan, Parsons School of Design  
Giselle Beiguelman, University of São Paulo  
Ana Gonçalves Magalhães, University of São Paulo

A Benchmark Dilemma: Between Representativeness and Domain-Specificity  
Marta Kipke, Center for Humanities Computing, Aarhus University  
Louise Brix Pilegaard Hansen, Center for Humanities Computing, Aarhus University

Learning from Small Data: Adapting Pretrained Diffusion Models for 17th-Century Painting  
Katarina Mohar, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, ZRC SAZU  
Rok Vrabič, University of Ljubljana

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00

## Panel: Augmented Data

Chair: Thomas Wallnig, University of Vienna

Beyond Vision: Metadata-Augmented AI for Iconclass Classification in Medieval Manuscripts  
Drew Thomas, University of Salzburg  
Julia Hintersteiner, University of Salzburg

Digital Iconology. Classification and Association in Visual Knowledge Systems  
Charles van den Heuvel, University of Amsterdam / Huygens Institute  
Etienne Posthumus, FIZ Karlsruhe  
Hans Brandhorst, ICONCLASS

Exploring AI Approaches on Image Data Mining in Collections of the Austrian National Library  
Carla Maria Schnedlitz, Austrian National Library  
Christoph Steindl, Austrian National Library  
Johannes Knüchel, Austrian National Library  
Simon Mayer, Austrian National Library

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:30

## Panel: Layout

Chair: Marion Romberg, University of Bonn

Computational Analysis of Medieval Pen Flourishing  
Markus Seidl, University of Applied Sciences St. Pölten  
Florian Kibler, University of Applied Sciences St. Pölten  
Martin Haltrich, Research Center Stift Klosterneuburg  
Max Theisen, Research Center Stift Klosterneuburg  
Victor-Adriel De-Jesus-Oliveira, University of Applied Sciences St. Pölten

AI and Automatic Visual Recognition: Some Thoughts on the New Digital Methodologies for Image Retrieval  
Barbara Tramelli, Freie Universität Bozen

Large-scale Study of Text-Image Layout in 20th-Century Periodicals – As a Reaction to the Absence of Archival Documents  
Marta Pizzagalli, Università della Svizzera italiana / Cambridge University  
Rocco Felici, Università della Svizzera italiana / Scuola universitaria professionale della Svizzera italiana

15:30 – 15:45

Coffee Break

15:45 – 16:30

## Poster Session

Artificially Intelligent Art History? A Transcultural Evaluation of Algorithmic Systems Building on Aby Warburg’s Mnemosyne Atlas  
Mert Özdemir, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf

Faces of Nobility. AI-Assisted Image Analysis of the Wiener Salonblatt (1870–1938)  
Christian Lendl, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Toward Digital Iconologies in Architecture  
Nick Mols, Royal Museums of Art and History, Brussels

16:30 – 16:45

Coffee Break

16:45 – 17:45

## Panel: Bias

Chair: Chiara Zuanni, University for Continuing Education Krems  
  
Disentangling Bias – Model, Corpus, or Both?  
Ellen Charlesworth, University of Luxembourg  
Ludovica Schaerf, University of Zurich

The Algorithmic Canon and the Politics of Non-Western Visibility in the Age of AI  
Elham Etemadi, Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design

17:45 – 18:00

Coffee Break

18:00 – 19:00

## Keynote

Chair: Doris Gruber, IHB, Austrian Academy of Sciences

The Stables of Augeas: Standardizing Metadata with Iconclass Will Benefit AI  
Etienne Posthumus, FIZ Karlsruhe  
Hans Brandhorst, ICONCLASS