



# SEEING IS BELIEVING: NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE

**9<sup>th</sup> June 2010**  
**13:30 - 19:00**

**University College London**  
Christopher Ingold Chemistry Lecture Theatre  
Christopher Ingold Building, Ground Floor

## Programme

**13:30** Registration

**14:00** Welcome from ISKO UK

**14:10** **Shaping Up: 3D Documentation and Knowledge in Cultural Heritage**  
**David Arnold, University of Brighton**

This talk will describe current research targeted to make 3D documentation a practical alternative for Cultural Heritage organisations and cover topics such connecting shape to metadata and the need to interpret the semantics of shape. The talk will also describe some of the challenges that the research faces in the quest to empower the mass digitisation and widespread 3D dissemination that the aspiration demands.

*David Arnold is Professor of Computing Science at the University of Brighton. He has been chair of programme committees for VAST, for CHIRON (Cultural Heritage Informatics Research Orientated Network), and coordinator of the EPOCH Network (Excellence in Processing Open Cultural Heritage).*

**14:45** **Tales of Things: Archiving and Viewing the Cultural Heritage of Everything**  
**Andy Hudson-Smith, UCL**

Tales of Things is part of a research project called TOTeM that will explore social memory in the emerging culture of the Internet of Things. Researchers from across the UK have provided this site as a platform for users to add stories to their own treasured objects and to connect to other people who share similar experiences. The system allows any object to be tagged via qr codes and rfid labels, making it suitable for use by museums, exhibitions, artists and the public at large. The talk explores the project to date and discusses the implications of being able to archive and write memories to everything.

*Dr Andrew Hudson-Smith is a Senior Research Fellow and Research Manager at CASA, he is Editor-in-Chief of Future Internet Journal, an elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and Course Founder and Director of the MRes in Advanced Spatial Analysis and Visualization at University College London. He also runs the digitalurban blog.*

**15:30 Tea/Coffee**

**16:00 Crowdsourcing Cultural Heritage: UCL's Transcribe Bentham Project**

**Melissa Terras, UCL**

Crowdsourcing - the harnessing of online activity to aid in large scale projects that require human cognition - is becoming of interest to those in the library, museum and cultural heritage industry, as institutions seek ways to publicly engage their online communities, as well as aid in creating useful and usable digital resources. UCL's Bentham Project has recently set up the "Transcribe Bentham" initiative; an ambitious, open source, participatory online environment to aid in transcribing the 10,000 folios of handwritten documents by the philosopher and legal reformer Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832) that are currently in UCL special collections. This paper will explore how crowdsourcing can be used, the myths and pitfalls in using crowdsourced effort, and the features that computer applications need to provide, in the context of the development of the Transcribe Bentham project.

*Dr Melissa Terras is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Information Studies at UCL, working in the area of humanities computing. She is also deputy director of the newly formed Centre for Digital Humanities. Her doctoral work on the machine analysis of the Vindolanda tablets was ground-breaking in its field, and image interpretation continues to be one of her research specialties.*

**16:45 Putting the National Maritime Museum online**

**Fiona Romeo, National Maritime Museum**

*Fiona Romeo is Head of Digital Media at the National Maritime Museum and Royal Observatory, Greenwich. Her department is responsible for the museum's website and digital marketing, mobile learning, interactive exhibits, and collections digitisation. Fiona is also chair of the Citizen Science Alliance, a collaboration of scientists, software developers and educators who collectively develop projects that further scientific research and the public understanding of science.*

**17:30 eMuseum Network - a path to Linked Data**

**Sascha Curzon, Gallery Systems**

eMuseum Network is a search and collaboration platform designed and hosted by Gallery Systems. The project enables member museums to share their collections catalogues and to search and export data across all participating collections from a single access point, in a share-and-share-alike fashion. This presentation will give an overview of the project and how Gallery Systems plans to provide a path for museums to participate in the Linked Data Initiative.

*Sascha Curzon is European Technical Manager at Gallery Systems; he has an in-depth knowledge across a broad range of domains including databases, programming, project management and client services. He has been technical lead on numerous system implementations at museums all over the UK and Europe.*

**18:00 Networking, with wine and nibbles sponsored by Gallery Systems (served at UCL cloister)**