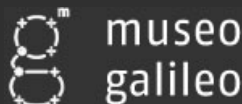


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FONDAZIONE SCIENZA E TECNICA

In collaboration with:

Biblioteca degli Uffizi -
Soprintendenza Speciale
per il Polo Museale della
città di Firenze

Gabinetto Scientifico
Letterario G.P.
Viesseux, Florence

Istituto Italiano di
Scienze Umane (SUM),
Florence

Istituto Nazionale di
Studi sul Rinascimento
(INSR), Florence

XXIX Symposium of the Scientific Instrument Commission

Florence, 4-9 October 2010

PROGRAMME

(download timetable.pdf)

Monday, 4 October
Tuesday, 5 October
Wednesday, 6 October
Thursday, 7 October
Friday, 8 October
Saturday, 9 October

Monday, 4 October

Biblioteca degli Uffizi, Piazzale degli Uffizi

14.00 - 17.00 Registration of the delegates

17.00-18.15 Welcome and opening lecture

Enrico Bellone

The history of technology

18.15 - 19.30 Welcome drink

Tuesday, 5 October

Palazzo Strozzi, Piazza Strozzi 1

9.00-10.40

Session I

INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane ("altana", fifth floor)

Chairperson: Sara Schechner

9.00-9.25

Marco Beretta

The Collections of the Museo Galileo: 80 Years of Historical Reassessments

Museo Galileo, Florence, Italy

9.25-9.50

Silke Ackermann

"The Instruments Belong in the Science Museum!" 250 Years of Scientific Instruments in the British Museum

British Museum, London, United Kingdom

9.50-10.15

Sarah-Jane Patterson

University Instrument Collections: Instruments, Displays and Teaching

Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto, Canada

10.15-10.40

Richard A. Paselk

The Display of 20th-Century Instruments at Humboldt State University

Humboldt State University, Arcata, California, USA

10.40-11.10

COFFEE BREAK

11.10-12.50

Session II

INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane ("altana", fifth floor)

Chairperson: Marco Beretta

11.10-11.35

Suzanne Débarbat, Laurence Bobis, Amelia Laurenceau
Collections and Instruments on Display at Paris Observatory
Observatoire de Paris, Paris, France

11.35-12.00

Hans Hooijmaijers, Ad Maas
Bling-Bling or Key Pieces: The Objects in Museum Boerhaave
Museum Boerhaave, Leiden, Netherlands

12.00-12.25

Steven Turner
"Permanent Demonstrations": The Science Teaching Museum of the University of Chicago
Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, USA

12.25-12.50

Anne Fellingner
Exhibiting Contemporary Instrumentation: Displaying to Save?
Université de Nantes; Musée des arts et métiers, Paris, France

12.50-14.15

LUNCH

14.15-15.55

Session III

INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane ("altana", fifth floor)
Chairperson: Hans Hooijmaijers

14.15-14.40

Marcio Rangel, Cláudia Penha dos Santos
Scientific Instruments: Different Perspectives
Museu de Astronomia e Ciências Afins, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

14.40-15.05

Richard Dunn
"More Artistic than Scientific": Exhibiting Instruments as Decorative Arts
National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, United Kingdom

15.05-15.30

Inga Elmqvist Söderlund
Collections and Instruments on Display in 17th-Century Books on Astronomy
Observatoriemuseet, Stockholm, Sweden

15.30-15.55

Jozef Uyttenhove, Danny Segers
Einstein in the Low Countries: How to Make an Instrumental Exhibition About the Great
Theoretical Physicist
Universiteit Gent, Museum voor de Geschiedenis van de Wetenschappen, Ghent, Belgium

15.55-16.15

COFFEE BREAK

16.15-17.05

Session IV

INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane ("altana", fifth floor)
Chairperson: Silke Ackermann

16.15-16.40

Lavinia Maddaluno
Fruit on Display and Display of Fruit: The Case of the Whipple Museum's Pomological Models
Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge University, United Kingdom

16.40-17.05

Ari Gross
When is a Body not a Body? Plastination and Representation on Display in Gunther von
Hagens' "Body Worlds"
University of Toronto, Canada

17.30-19.30

VISIT TO THE MUSEO GALILEO

Piazza dei Giudici 1

The Istituto e Museo di Storia della Scienza (Institute and Museum of the History of Science) has undergone a renovation involving a complete redesign of its exhibition areas and displays. It reopened in June 2010 under the new name of *Museo Galileo*, The Galileo Museum. The new layout of the Museum offers on displays more than 1,000 instruments and devices of

major scientific importance and beauty, emphasizing the central role of the Galilean heritage in the Florentine institution's activities and cultural profile. The Museum is not only a showcase for an invaluable legacy of instruments and experimental apparatuses. It operates as an institute engaged in research and documentation, offering scholars from around the world the resources of its specialized library, also available online.
<http://www.museogalileo.it/en/index.html>

Wednesday, 6 October

Palazzo Strozzi, Piazza Strozzi 1

9.00-10.40

Session V

INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane ("altana", fifth floor)

Chairperson: Jim Bennett

9.00-9.25

Richard L. Kremer

Scientific Collections and Instruments on Display at the American Centennial Exposition of 1876

Dartmouth College, Hanover, North Hampshire, USA

9.25-9.50

David Pantalony

Re-Examining Icons on Display

Canada Science and Technology Museum, Ottawa, Canada

9.50-10.15

Alison Boyle

Science for the Nation: Changing Trends in Instrument Displays at the Science Museum

The Science Museum, London, United Kingdom

10.15-10.40

Maria Lucia de Niemeyer Matheus Loureiro, Cláudia Penha dos Santos, Márcio Ferreira Rangel

Why Put Scientific Collections and Instruments on Display? Questions Raised by a Tide Predictor

Museu de Astronomia e Ciências Afins, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

10.40-11.10

COFFEE BREAK

11.10-12.50

Session VI

INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane ("altana", fifth floor)

Chairperson: Giorgio Strano

11.10-11.35

Gudrun Wolfschmidt

Presenting Instruments in Baroque Observatories

Institut für Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften, Mathematik und Technik, Universität Hamburg, Germany

11.35-12.00

Ingrid Jendrzejewski

"Exceedingly Ridiculous": Telescopes on Display on the 17th-Century Stage

Independent scholar, Cambridge, United Kingdom

12.00-12.25

Ileana Chinnici, Donata Randazzo

Old Astronomical Instruments on a Movie Set: The Case of the "Leopard"

INAF - Osservatorio Astronomico di Palermo, Italy

12.25-12.50

Valeria Zanini

The "Specola" Museum's Experience: Between Current Efforts and Future Hopes

INAF - Osservatorio Astronomico di Padova, Italy

12.50-14.15

LUNCH

14.15-14.40

Session VII

INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane ("altana", fifth floor)

Chairperson: Steven Turner

14.15-14.40

Tacye Phillipson
In the Eye of the Beholder
National Museums Scotland, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

14.40-15.05
Bruce Stephenson
Displaying a Newly Acquired "Gothic" Astrolabe
Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum, Chicago, Illinois, USA

15.05-15.30
Peggy Aldrich Kidwell
Slide Rules on Display in the United States
National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, USA

15.30-15.55
Robert D. Hicks
Interpreting Electrotherapy and the Civil War Body
The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

15.55-16.15
COFFEE BREAK

16.15-17.05
Session VIII
INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY
Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Italiano di Scienze Umane ("altana", fifth floor)
Chairperson: Paolo Brenni

16.15-16.40
Ivano Dal Prete
Count Gazola's Scientific Instrument Collection: Between the Ancien Regime and the Napoleonic Age
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, USA

16.40-17.05
Paola Bertucci
Architecture of Display: The Tarsia Museum and Scientific Culture in 18th-Century Naples
Yale University, New Haven, USA

17.30-19.00
VISIT TO THE PHYSICS CABINET OF THE FONDAZIONE SCIENZA E TECNICA
Via Giusti 29

The Fondazione Scienza e Tecnica (Foundation for Science and Technology) preserves the scientific heritage of the former Istituto Tecnico Toscano founded in 1850 by the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Leopold II. The cabinet of physics, which is now completely restored and appears as it was around 1900, displays the largest Italian collection of physics teaching and research instruments of the second half of the 19th century. The cabinet with its original furniture and setting is one of the finest example of its kind. <http://www.fstfirenze.it/>

20.30-22.30
PRESENTATION AND FILM PROJECTION
Fondazione Scienza e Tecnica, Via Giusti 29

20.30-20.50
Pierre Lauginie
All about the Film Wizards of Light: Evolution of Foucault's Spinning Mirror from a Qualitative to a Metrological Experiment (1850-1862)
Université Paris-Sud, faculté d'Orsay, GHDSO, France

20.50-21.50
Projection of the film Les magiciens de la lumière
(in French with English subtitles) illustrating some of the most famous experiments made in the mid-19th century by the French physicists H. Fizeau and L. Foucault in order to measure the speed of light.

Thursday, October 7
Palazzo Strozzi, Piazza Strozzi 1

9.00-10.40
Session IX a
INSTRUMENTS ON DISPLAY
Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento (third floor)
Chairperson: David Pantalony

9.00-9.25
Sara Raquel Dias de Sousa Carvalho, Isabel Marília Peres, Fernanda Madalena Abreu Costa
Displaying Historical Scientific Photography through Material Culture

Centro de Ciências Moleculares e Materiais, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal

9.25-9.50

M.E. Jardim (a), I.M. Peres (b), F.M. Costa (b)

The Oceanographic Instrument Collection of Prince Albert I of Monaco and King Carlos I of Portugal: A Case Study in Scientific Photography

a) Departamento de Química e Bioquímica, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal

b) Centro de Ciências Moleculares e Materiais, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal

9.50-10.15

Flora Paparou

From the History of Ideas to the History of Places, Institutions, Instruments, and Scientific Cultures

Department of Chemistry, University of Athens, Greece

10.15-10.40

Jean-François Loude

The Physics Museum at UNIL/EPFL

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Switzerland

9.25-10.40

Session IX b

RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL TOOLS

Palazzo Strozzi, Gabinetto Vieusseux, Sala Ferri (ground floor)

Chairperson: Peter Heering

9.25-9.50

Marco Galloni, Mara Fausone

Making Old Instruments Live Again: The Video Experience of Scientific and Technologic Archives, University of Turin

ASTUT - Archivio Scientifico e Tecnologico dell'Università di Torino, Italy

9.50-10.15

Christine Blondel, Bertrand Wolff

Historical Instruments and Experiments on the Web: Videos Between History, Physics, Education and Popularisation

Centre Koyré, CNRS, Paris, France

10.15-10.40

Elizabeth Cavicchi

Telescopes and Telescopic Acts Bring Galileo into my Classroom

Edgerton Center, MIT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

10.40-11.10

COFFEE BREAK

11.10-12.50

Session X a

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL INSTRUMENTS

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento (third floor)

Chairperson: Christine Blondel

11.10-11.35

Huib Zuidervaart

Play Things or Serious Devices? The Content and Usage of Dutch Cabinets for Experimental Philosophy in the Long 18th Century

Huygens Institute, The Hague, The Netherlands

11.35-12.00

Gloria Clifton

Paris, London and St Petersburg: the Role of Scientific Instruments and Their Makers in European Scientific Networks

Royal Observatory, Greenwich, United Kingdom

12.00-12.25

Wolfgang Engels

Size Matters? The Big Lichtenberg Electrophorus

Universität Oldenburg, Germany

12.25-12.50

Peter Heering

Looking Again at Coulomb's Torsion Balance Experiments

Institut für Physik und Chemie und ihre Didaktik, Universität Flensburg, Germany

11.10-12.25

Session X b

RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL TOOLS

Palazzo Strozzi, Gabinetto Vieusseux, Sala Ferri (ground floor)

Chairperson: Jean François Loude

11.10-11.35

Elena Corradini, Silvia Rossi, Sara Uboldi

Educational Programmes for the Cataloguing of Scientific/Technological Heritage: A Fundamental Tool for Preservation, Safeguard and Valorisation

Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy

11.35-12.00

Josep Batlló (a), Susana Custódio (b), João Narciso (b), Paulo Ribeiro (b), Fernando C. Lopes (b), Décio Martins (c), Celeste R. Gomes (b)

The Collection of Historical Instruments of the Geophysics Institute of the Coimbra University: Its Importance for Present Research and Science Education

a) Instituto D. Luis - CGUL, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

b) Centro de Geofísica, FCT, Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal

c) Departamento de Física, FCT, Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal

12.00-12.25

Marcus Granato (a), Marta C. Lourenço (b)

Thesaurus of Scientific Instruments in Portuguese: Networking for Preservation and Access

a) Museu de Astronomia e Ciências Afins, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

b) Museu de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

12.25-14.00

LUNCH

14.00-22.30

EXCURSION TO AREZZO

The trip to Arezzo by bus lasts about 1 hour. We will be welcomed by Mr. Fausto Casi, who will show us his remarkable collection of scientific instruments (17th-20th century). Afterwards we will move downtown and visit the Museo dei Mezzi di Comunicazione (Telecommunication Museum), which displays a fine collection of optical toys, pre-cinema apparatus, calculating and writing machines, telegraphic and wireless apparatus, radios and televisions, etc.
([link](#))

In the auditorium of the Museum we will hold the **SIC PLENARY MEETING**.
All the delegates are warmly invited to participate!

After a dinner in Arezzo, we will return to Florence (around 22.30).

Friday, 8 October

Palazzo Strozzi, Piazza Strozzi 1

Museo Galileo, Piazza dei Giudici 1

9.00-10.40

Session XI a

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL INSTRUMENTS

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento (third floor)

Chairperson: Jozef Uyttenhove

9.00-9.25

Michel Morizet

The "Diagomètre de Rousseau":

A Really Innovating Instrument and the First "Black Box"

Private collector, Versailles, France

9.25-9.50

Roberto Mantovani

Before Ruhmkorff: Induction Coils in Italy

Gabinetto di Fisica, Museo Urbinate della Scienza e della Tecnica, Università di Urbino "Carlo Bo", Italy

9.50-10.15

Paolo Brenni

The Tamed Lightning: The Uses and the Diffusion of High Voltage and High Frequency Apparatus (1890-1950)

CNR; Fondazione Scienza e Tecnica, Florence, Italy

10.15-10.40

Martin Panusch

The Development of Millikan's Oil Drop Experiment

Institut für Physik und Chemie und ihre Didaktik, University of Flensburg, Germany

9.25-10.40

Session XI b

RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL TOOLS

Palazzo Strozzi, Gabinetto Vieusseux, Sala Ferri (ground floor)

Chairperson: Michael Korey

9.25-9.50

Vincenza Ferrara (a), Marinella Calisi (b)

Astronomical and Copernican Museum: Online Catalog of Scientific Instruments

a) Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy

b) INAF – Osservatorio Astronomico di Roma, Italy

9.50-10.15

Santiago Vallmitjana (a), Josep Batlló (b), Pedro Ruiz (c), Jaume Valentines (d), Gabriel Vidal (e), Alfons Zarzoso (f)

Database and Cataloguing of the Collection of Scientific Instruments Owned by the Faculty of Physics of the University of Barcelona

a) Departament de Física Aplicada i Òptica, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain

b) Instituto D. Luiz, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal

c) Instituto de Historia de la Medicina y de la Ciencia, Universitat de Valencia, Spain

d) ETSEIB - Escola Tècnica Superior d'Enginyeria Industrial de Barcelona, Spain

e) Departament d'Enginyeria Electrònica, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

f) Museu d'Història de la Medicina, Barcelona, Spain

10.40-11.10

COFFEE BREAK

11.10-12.50

Session XII a

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL INSTRUMENTS

Palazzo Strozzi, Istituto Nazionale di Studi sul Rinascimento (third floor)

Chairperson: Roberto Mantovani

11.10-11.35

George Brock-Nannestad

Human Interpretation of Scientific Data

Independent scholar, Patent Tactics, Gentofte, Copenhagen, Denmark

11.35-12.00

Alexander Jonckheere, Kristel Wautier

Jules Duboscq and the Bioscope: A Missing Link in Early Visual Media Brought Back to Life

Universiteit Gent, Museum voor de Geschiedenis van de Wetenschappen, Ghent, Belgium

12.00-12.25

Neil Brown

A Neglected Instrument: The Significance and History of the Diffraction Grating

Formerly The Science Museum, London, United Kingdom

12.25-12.50

Olympe Jouet, Axelle Amon, Dominique Bernard

Jules Violle's Actinometer: A Simple Instrument to Deduce the Temperature of the Sun from Measurements with a Thermometer

Université de Rennes 1, France

11.10-12.50

Session XII b

ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS

Palazzo Strozzi, Gabinetto Vieusseux, Sala Ferri (ground floor)

Chairperson: Gudrun Wolfschmidt

11.10-11.35

Yaakov Zik, Giora Hon

Science and Instruments: Levi ben Gerson's (1288-1344) Pinhole Camera

Department of Philosophy, University of Haifa, Israel

11.35-12.00

Sreeramula Rajeswara Sarma

Indian Astronomical Instruments in Italy

Formerly Aligarh Muslim University, Uttar Pradesh, India

12.00-12.25

Michael Korey

New Light on an Old Master? Thoughts on Two Celestial Instruments by Christoph Schissler

Mathematisch-Physikalischer Salon, Dresden State Art Collections, Germany

12.25-12.50

Samuel Gessner

Fit for a Princely Collection: News About the Schissler Globe (1575) in Sintra

Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia, Lisbon, Portugal

12.50-14.15

LUNCH

14.15-15.05

Session XIII a

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL INSTRUMENTS

Museo Galileo, Sala Ginori Conti (basement)

Chairperson: Marta Lourenço

14.15-14.40

Andrea Bernardoni

What Did Leonardo da Vinci's Chemical Laboratory Look Like? A Preliminary Survey

University of Bergamo, Italy

Museo Galileo, Florence, Italy

14.40-15.05

Alexey Emelyanov

On History of Chemical Glassware Production in Russia

Institute of History of Science and Technology, Russian Academy of Science, St Petersburg, Russia

14.15-15.55

Session XIII b

ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS

Museo Galileo, Sala Righini Bonelli (basement)

Chairperson: Richard Dunn

14.15-14.40

Giorgio Strano

Restoring Santucci's Armillary Sphere at the Museo Galileo in Florence: Part II

Museo Galileo, Florence, Italy

14.40-15.05

Peter Abrahams

John Hadley and the Construction of Early Reflecting Telescopes

Independent scholar, Portland, Oregon, USA

15.05-15.30

John L. McKnight

A Telescope for the 1760's Transit of Venus

College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, USA

15.30-15.55

Santiago Vallmitjana

Three Telescopes Belonging to the Faculty of Physics of the University of Barcelona

Departament de Física Aplicada i Òptica, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain

15.55-16.15

COFFEE BREAK

16.15-17.05

Session XIV a

PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL INSTRUMENTS

Museo Galileo, Sala Ginori Conti (basement)

Chairperson: Gloria Clifton

16.15-16.40

Michael T. Wright

Scientific Clockmaking: Smeaton's Measurements of the Thermal Expansion of Solids and a Dateable

Early Application

Imperial College, London, United Kingdom

16.40-17.05

Jane Insley

James Watt's Cookbook Chemistry

The Science Museum, London, United Kingdom

16.15-17.30

Session XIV b

ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS

Museo Galileo, Sala Righini Bonelli (basement)

Chairperson: Suzanne Débarbat

16.15-16.40

Simone Bianchi

The Historical Instruments of the Arcetri Astrophysics Observatory in Florence

INAF - Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri, Florence, Italy

16.40-17.05

James Caplan

The French Programme of Stellar Radial Velocity Measurement with Objective Prisms

Observatoire astronomique de Marseille-Provence, France

17.05-17.30

Françoise Le Guet Tully (a), Jean Davoigneau (b), Christine Etienne (a), James Caplan (c)

The Fate of Old Astronomical Instruments: A Comparative Approach Based on Case Studies

a) Observatoire de la Côte d'Azur, Nice, France

b) Direction des patrimoines, Ministère de la culture, Paris, France

c) Observatoire astronomique de Marseille-Provence, France

20.00-22.00

OFFICIAL DINNER

Terrazza Bardini Restaurant, Costa San Giorgio 6A

Saturday, 9 October

9.30-11.00

VISIT TO THE MUSEO "LA SPECOLA"

Via Romana, 17

The "La Specola" Zoological Museum is still located in the Palazzo Torrigiani, the original venue of the Museum of Physics and Natural History from which it originated. This museum was established in 1775 by Grand Duke of Tuscany, Peter Leopold. It preserves today the largest and most spectacular collection of anatomical waxworks in the world, manufactured between 1770 and 1850 as well as over 3,500,000 taxidermed animals, of which only 5,000 on display. In 1841, a Tribune dedicated to Galileo Galilei was built in the palazzo. Today's Museum is known by the name of "La Specola", because the highest part of the building was the site of an astronomical observatory, which by age-old usage was called "Specola".

<http://brunelleschi.imss.fi.it/itineraries/place/MuseoStoriaNaturaleFirenzeSezioneZoologiaSpecola.html>

<http://www.msn.unifi.it/CMpro-l-s-11.html>