

ZUCCARO

A Configurable Art Historical Information System

Knowledge emerges through the integration of information. This observation is also true of the humanities, especially historical research. New knowledge about the past comes about only after we have related monuments, sources and contemporaries to historic events.

Paintings, sculptures and architectural structures from the past are only understandable once they have been integrated into networks of knowledge and connected to the historical context. Traditional humanities databases can offer us a glimpse of these networks, though the way they structure information typically denies researchers the opportunity to explore many important questions.

Administered by the Bibliotheca Hertziana (Max Planck Institute for Art History), the ZUCCARO project is implementing a nuanced networking approach to information and knowledge. Inspired by the CIDOC Content Reference Model (<http://cidoc.ics.forth.gr/>), the ZUCCARO database disassembles historical knowledge in events. The database also allows for the integration of objects and persons. Fresh perspectives emerge from the integration of historical data in networks, yielding new research questions and query results.

Internet: <http://zuccaro.biblhertz.it/dokumentation/zuccaro/>

