

Acronym - RevIS

Title – Revisualizing Italian Silentscapes 1896-1922. Landscapes and Locations in Early Italian Cinema a Hundred Years Later

Scientific coordinator – Marco Bertozzi

Department – Department of Architecture and Arts

ERC sector – SH5_4

Principal Investigator – Silvio Alovio

Organization of PI – University of Turin

Iuav Role – partner

Other partners – Tor Vergata – University of Rome, University of Padua

Duration – 36 months

Start – 19/05/2022

Closure – 18/05/2025

Project budget – € 444 804.00

Iuav budget – € 81 400.00

Funding to Iuav – € 54 000.00

Source of funding – MUR (Ministry of University and Research) – Call PRIN 2020

Description – The project aims at investigating the ways in which Italian films 1896-1922 have represented national territories and landscapes and the locations they employed to convey such representations.

The project focuses on three challenging issues:

- 1) Historiographical research on Italian silent cinema has yet to acknowledge the huge relevance of exterior scenes, and more generally of landscape film images of the nation,
- 2) The virtuous politics of access to film sources promoted by the archives should not only constitute a stimulus for research; they should also be employed to define methodologies, technologies and strategies for socio-cultural impact. The digitalization of hundreds of silent films has led to an unprecedented accessibility to the film heritage. However, such accessibility does not yet seem to be supported by appropriate strategies of organization and conveyance of data, capable of making it of any use to either the requests of scientific research or the widespread planning of social and economic initiatives.
- 3) If re-visualised in contemporary social, educational and productive contexts, the landscape images of early Italian cinema carry an enormous communication potential in maintaining the knowledge and historical memories of the territories, and deepening the understanding of the processes of transformation underwent by landscapes and environments.

The project intends to respond in an original and consistent way to the three above-mentioned issues, respectively through the enhancement of the knowledge of Italian silent cinema, the experimentation of innovative semantic and technological models for audiovisual research and production, the definition of prototypes and the best practices for the reuse of images in the social, educational and cultural fields.

Objectives – The project sets itself three main objectives:

O1: To value film images of the national territory as a source capable of producing new knowledge and opening new methodological perspectives for historical research on Italian silent cinema.

O2: To project and promote the re-visualization and social impact of landscape images, at this point centenary, in early Italian cinema, in order to encourage their re-use for multiple stakeholders, such as: audiovisual producers; schools and other educational/training institutions; museums, cultural organizations, tourism promotion boards, territorial administrations, social networks, "landscape communities" (Bonesio, 2007).

O3: To develop an effective interoperable semantic organization of the metadata relative to the domain of silent films, with particular attention to film locations, for the construction of a prototype archive accessed through specialized interfaces, based on georeferenced cartographic applications.

Website – <https://silentscapes.eu/>

Instagram – @silentscapes_revis

Facebook – [Revis – Revisualizing Italian Silentscapes 1896-1922](#)

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