

## What is ArsTeWeb

ArsTeWeb, - the Art of Teramo on the Web – la pinacoteca (the spread of the “art galleries”) of Teramo’s churches, is the window that showcases, returning an integrated vision, the work of assessment or value of the historical and artistic property of the churches of Teramo. It is also the place to facilitate, through thematic analysis, the sharing of resources and news, the understanding and reading of the pictorial works of art of Teramo’s churches by a wide audience of art scholars and non-experts. Alongside the traditional and important instruments of knowledge (texts and images on paper), with ArsTeWeb, one can offer different forms of access to these works of art: documentary/iconographic (area of cultural production or the author - where identified-, the dating and a possible definition of the works of art described). The inventories posted on the diocesan website offer a range of descriptive data of the inventoried works of art, together with the low-resolution images. The data is divided into areas of origin of the works, the churches; passing data to descriptive detail, up to the publication of documents relating to the works. The adopted method is in line with the ICCD standard for the inventory level, but enriched by further information on the standard of the catalog level and specific information and features of the ecclesiastical heritage. The mobile works have been cataloged, especially the paintings in the churches that held most of the works of art of historical and artistic importance for the city of Teramo, without chronological limits. Evidenced, through information cards, are also those works that were no longer trackable during the survey, although they had been subject to documentary evidence and former cataloging campaigns. Due to the complexity and the abundance of works, the research was limited to the churches in the diocese of Teramo which hold paintings that best represent the historical and artistic traditions of the city. The resulting benefit is a more accurate description of the collection, in addition to the possibility of computer consultation of the works of art and their histories, although they are already in the OA inventory cards [1] but with essential information for immediate identification. The descriptive apparatus created, integrates two distinct pathways to access the information made available through a database, and a hypertext providing additional information. The project also allowed for the digital acquisition of all the photographic material and, therefore, the text information is enhanced by a selected iconography of the studied works of art. [2]

The creation of information cards for the photographs was preceded by the following phases: inventorying of the photographic archive, designing of an information card system and implementation of an interface for the online consultation. The cataloging system adopted provides for the compilation of a connected card where the information about the depicted work of art is described.

The photographs, in both black and white as in color, have been digitized in 24 bit RGB color and saved in non-compressed .tiff format in the dimension of 3072 pixels for the wider side, according to the parameters of the ICCD national legislation, Level A. The .tiff files incorporate technical metadata that traces the history of the image. From this digital matrix, stored on SSD (Solid State Drive) and DVD, jpg formats were created, at high and low resolutions, to be used only for study and research purposes, connected, respectively, to the internet cards. The digital online catalog thus allows for the immediate and analytical research of all the works of art and photographs present in the database. It provides for a search through keywords or search words applicable to the information card of the work of art.

The website is structured with a homepage representing the main page of the site. Its structure is immediate and simple in its ease of navigation; it is divided into four blocks and a banner containing some pictures of the churches studied. The banner allows connection to pages saved in text .pdf format containing information on the research: “introduction” (“introduzione”), “documents” (“documenti”), “summary” (“sommario”), “works of art” (“opere d’arte”), “database guide” (“guida database”). The pivotal part of the homepage consists of the database “search – ArsTeWeb” (“cerca – ArsTeWeb”), which contains a data archive, structured and linked together, to help the user through the search of information on the works preserved in the churches included in the research, such as: “location” (“collocazione opera”), “author” (“autore”), “title” (“titolo opera”), “year” (“anno”), “subject of the works” (“soggetto delle opere”), “object” (“oggetto”), and “bibliography” (“bibliografia”).

While the remaining blocks are dedicated to historical information about the city of Teramo: the ancient sestieri (“districts”), churches inside the historical part of the city, a photo gallery also containing some unpublished photos, and additional information on the knowledge and conservation of the cultural heritage (FAI, exhibitions and events), and the sacred art (Ufficio Nazionale per i Beni Culturali Ecclesiastici, Chiese Italiane, Polo SBN di Biblioteche ecclesiastiche, etc.).

Note [3]

[1] The OA card (Opere d'Arte) ("Works of Art") is a descriptive model, which is used by the Superintendency for the historical, artistic and ethno-anthropological works. It has been developed by the ICCD (Istituto Centrale per il Catalogo e la Documentazione) and gathers information, in an organized manner, of the collection of cataloging data of the historical works of art.

[2] At the same time, the compilation of the photographic inventory made possible a survey of the state of conservation of the works.

[3] The site owner will immediately, upon request, execute the deletion, modification and/or correction of content used in violation of the existing legislation on church property. The information, data, images, including photo documentation of the catalog and other content, where permitted by law and subject to the rights of third parties, may be reproduced, shown, and used for training and educational purposes with the express exclusion of any commercial use and/or profit. The hyperlinks on this site can direct visitors to search the web pages of other sites. In this case, note that the ArsTeWeb site has no control over such sites, and therefore disclaims any liability as to both the content published on those sites and the resulting use by third parties.