The background of the entire page is a detailed, grayscale illustration of a textile workshop. It depicts several people, likely women, engaged in various stages of textile production. In the foreground, a woman is seated at a large wooden loom, weaving a piece of fabric. To her right, another woman is working on a similar loom. In the background, other figures are visible, some standing and some seated, all focused on their tasks. The scene is filled with the intricate patterns of the looms and the textures of the fabric being produced. The overall style is that of a historical engraving or a detailed woodcut illustration.

**THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SILK ROAD
AND
THE UNIVERSITIES
OF THE THIRD
AGE**

**Universitat Politècnica de València
2022**

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SILK ROAD AND UNIVERSITIES OF THE THIRD AGE

International Association of Universities of the Third Age (IAUTA)

P R O L O G U E

In September 2021, our university held the I AIUTA-UPV International Meeting, promoted by the International Association of Universities of the Third Age (U3A) and with the aim of setting up an international project around the mythical Silk Road.

We have gathered in this small publication the actions developed by our Senior University as a result of the involvement of our students and the local institutions with whom we have collaborated.

The project The Archaeological Silk Road and the Universities of the Third Age will last until 2025, so from the Senior University-UPV we will continue to bring the Universitat Politècnica de València closer to people who maintain the enthusiasm to keep learning.

Salomé Cuesta Valera

Vice Rector of Art, Science, Technology and Society

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

François Vellas. IAUTA President

- SPAIN Valencia - Alicante - Castellón

Salomé Cuesta Valera, Vice Rector of Art, Science, Technology and Society, *Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV)*

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- LEBANON Byblos - Baalbek

Marcel Hinain, *Vice President AUT, Director U3A Byblos, Lebanon*

- CHINA Luoyang and Xi'an

Wang Younong, *Director International Liaison Bureau, CAUA The Chinese Federation of U3As*

- CHINA Jiayuguan and Dunhuang

Ma Xianguo, *First AIUTA Vice President, President U3A Shanghai*

- GREECE Athens

Elias Foutsis, *President NYC New York University Athens*
Nikos Mistriotis, *Director U3A NYC Athens*

We'd like to thank Rosa Puchades Pla in the launch of this project.

We'd also like to thank Francisca Cantón Sáez, administrator of the Senior University and the collaboration of a group of students who volunteered for this project: Juana Aucejo, Desamparados Castellar, Ángeles Cuerda, María Carmen Ezquer, Mercedes Flaquer, Carmen Mardones, María Dolores Masip, Amparo Morales, Encarna Ruix, Maria Isabel Sánchez and Vicenta Torres.

O B J E C T I V E

Joint international cooperation project that tours the Universities of the Third Age (U3A) of the West and East, with the objective of creating new collaboration exchanges between these universities around an ambitious joint project on the Archaeological Silk Road.

D U R A T I O N O F T H E P R O J E C T

September 2021 - May 2025

P A R T I C I P A T I N G C O U N T R I E S

- Valencia - Alicante U3As SPAIN (september 2021)
- Naples - Benevento U3As ITALY (september 2022)
- Toulouse - Narbonne U3As FRANCE (january 2022)
- Plovdiv - U3As BULGARIA (september 2023)
- Byblos - Baalbek U3As LEBANON (october 2023)
- Kiev - U3As UKRAINE (may 2024)
- Luoyang and Xi'an U3As CHINA (may 2024)
- Jiayuguan and Dunhuang U3As CHINA (may 2025)

C O N T R I B U T I O N S F R O M E A C H P A R T I C I P A T I N G U N I V E R S I T Y

- 1) A first contribution in the educational field, offering a cycle of conferences on the Silk Road from the respective countries.
- 2) A second contribution in terms of research and innovation.
- 3) A third contribution by organizing a visitor program for students from universities of the third age from other regions and/or countries intended to present the archaeological treasures of the Silk Road, allowing for the development of international exchanges with the Universities of the Third Age.

PROJECT START

The first international meeting of the Archaeological Silk Road and Universities of the Third Age project was held September 17, 2021 in Spain at the Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV).



1st meeting held at UPV, Valencia (Spain), September 17, 2021

It featured the participation of François Vellas, IAUTA President, Salomé Cuesta, UPV Vice rector, Ana Muñoz, Valencia Sénior University director, Rosa Puchades, the beginner of this project in UPV, UPV professors, the president of the College of High Silk Art of Valencia, Vice President of the Silk Spain Institute and representatives of Spanish and European universities for the elderly.

In addition, representatives from universities in China, Bulgaria, Brazil, Lebanon, Portugal, Russia and Spain connected online.



Representatives of U3A in the 1st meeting

CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES

2021	
The Silk Road Gastronomical exchange between the East and West	NOVEMBER
SILKNOW: weaving the past into the future	DECEMBER
2022	
The College of High Silk Art	JANUARY
Merchant Exchanges in the Mediterranean: definition and characteristics. Valencian cases	FEBRUARY
The industry of Valencian silk in the Modern Age	MARCH
The production and manufacturing of Valencian silk from its intrahistory	APRIL
RESTORATION OF THE COLLEGE OF HIGH SILK ART. The recovery of a symbol of Valencia's splendor	MAY
The Silk Road: a road of peace	JUNE

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

2022	
The College of High Silk Art	FEBRUARY
The Valencia Exchange (La Lonja): The Silk Market or the Merchants' Exchange	MARCH
"The Manila Galleon and the Maritime Silk Roads in the wake of the Nao Victoria" exhibit. L'Iber Museum of Valencia	MARCH
"Design, silk and flowers" exhibit. Museum of Fine Arts of Valencia	JUNE

C O N F E R E N C E S

THE SILK ROAD: GASTRONOMICAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE EAST AND WEST

JAVIER MARTÍNEZ MONZÓ

University Professor of Universitat Politècnica de València

CLASS DATE: NOVEMBER 24, 2021, 4:30 P.M.

OBJECTIVE

To explain the impact of the so-called "Silk Road" on the exchange of products, culinary techniques and recipes between the East and West.



SUMMARY

The Silk Road was a trade route between China and the West, whose origins date back over 2,000 years.

It was championed by the emperor Han Qui, who in the year 138 BC sent a caravan of soldiers to the West in search of allies to fight the Xioungu nomads. The soldiers were soon replaced by merchants. That was how silk, jade and porcelain began to flow into the Roman Empire, while China started to receive glass, ivory and wool for the first time.

Foods also traveled both directions on the Silk Road: peaches and apricots to Europe - on top of rice, buckwheat and sugar cane in the Middle Ages - and grapes, melons, cucumbers and eggplants made their way to the Far East.

The initial exchange of products soon led to the exchange of culinary techniques and recipes. Before Columbus' arrival to America propagated the fastest and most decisive exchange of products in the history of gastronomy, the Silk Road constituted the main vehicle of transmission of ingredients and recipes during the end of the Ancient Age and the entire Middle Age.



INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Javier Martínez Monzó

Javier Martínez Monzó is an agricultural engineer and doctor of Food Science and Technology at the Universitat Politècnica de València. He is the Head of Nutrition and Industrial Dietetics for agricultural engineers and Head of Human Nutrition, Food and Culture for the undergraduate degree program in Food Science and Technology. He has taught classes in Gastronomy, History and Culinary Practice, a class with an average of 40 students per year. Since 2001, he has collaborated with the most prestigious restaurateurs in Valencia, which resulted in the creation of Gastrovac. He is a founding partner of the UPV spin-off, Food Design. His interest in gastronomy is thanks to the professor Lorenzo Millo, the renowned humanist and gastronome, with whom he collaborated in his Food and Culture classes. His lines of research are centered on vacuum-cooking, 3D printing of foods and the bioactive components behind cooking processes.

SILKNOW : WEAVING THE PAST INTO THE FUTURE

CRISTINA PORTALÉS RICART

Post-Doctoral Ramón y Cajal Researcher at Universitat de València

CLASS DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2021, 12:00 P.M.

OBJECTIVE

To explain the heritage of European Silk through the H2020 SILKNOW project.

SILKNOW Weaving our past into the future



En resumen, **la historia europea está tejida en seda.** Pocos materiales han tenido similar relevancia -económica, técnica, funcional, cultural, simbólica- en nuestro pasado. En el presente, la seda sigue muy viva. La moda y los textiles están en el centro de la economía creativa, generando riqueza y conservando identidad, cultura y valores.

Image provided by Cristina Portalés

SUMMARY

The project titled "SILKNOW: Silk heritage in the Knowledge Society: from punched cards to big data, deep learning and visual/tangible simulations" has been developed within the framework of the European Commission's Horizon 2020. SILKNOW is a technological project intended to conserve, understand and disseminate this treasured European silk heritage from the 15th to the 19th Centuries. The project was kicked off in 2018 by an international and interdisciplinary consortium, comprised of nine partners from six countries: Germany, Slovenia, Spain, France, Italy and Poland. It was coordinated by the Universitat de València from the Institute of Robotics and Information and Communication Technology (IRTIC, for its acronym in Spanish) in collaboration with the Art History Department at the same university.

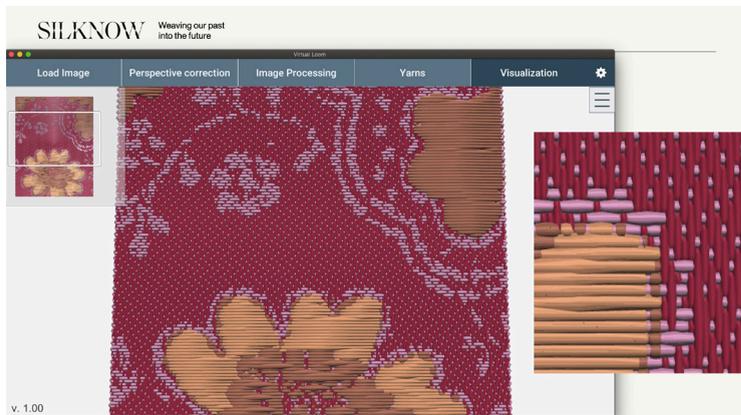


Image provided by Cristina Portalés

In this conference, Dr. Cristina Portalés Ricart, one of the main researchers for the project, will explain the details and show the results obtained, ranging from a multi-lingual thesaurus to a virtual loom and a semantic web.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Cristina Portalés Ricart

Dr. Cristina Portalés Ricart is a Ramón y Cajal researcher in the ARTEC group of the Institute of Robotics and Information and Communication Technologies, and professor in the School of Engineering at the Universitat de València. She holds undergraduate degrees in Geodesic Engineering and Cartography (Universitat Politècnica de València and Technische Universität Wien, 2002). She was also a researcher in the Mixed Reality Laboratory of the University of Nottingham (2005) and in the Interaction and Entertainment Research Centre of the University of Nanyang of Singapore (2006). She completed her doctoral thesis in the Light Laboratory at the Universitat Politècnica de València (2008). She is the author of over 90 scientific publications that include international conferences, high-impact journals, books and chapters of books. She actively participates in scientific committees in international conferences and scientific journals. She is an expert evaluator in proposals of 7PM, H2020 and the European Horizon in the area of ICTs. She is the adjunct senior editor of the scientific journal Multimodal Technologies and Interaction (MTI). She is the spokesperson of Institutional Relations for the Science Association in Parliament. She has experience in research projects related to digital documentation and interactive displays of cultural heritage. She is an expert in photogrammetry, 3D, data visualization and Geographic Information Systems.

THE COLLEGE OF HIGH SILK ART*

VICENTE GENOVÉS DEL OLMO

President of the College of High Silk Art (Valencia)

1. THE MUSEUM OF THE COLLEGE OF HIGH SILK ART: HISTORY OF A PATRONAGE

CLASS DATE: JANUARY 26, 2022, 12:00 P.M.



The transition from a College into a Museum for the survival of an Institution.

M^a LUISA LLORENS FUSTER

Secretary of the College of High Silk Art (Valencia)

2. THE COLLEGE OF HIGH SILK ART: FOUNDATION AND HISTORY

12:45 P.M.

History and dates of the foundation and the most important documents of the guilds of velluters (the Valencian word for silk farmers).



Charter of Ferdinand II, 1479. Image provided by M^a Luisa Llorens

(* Guided visits to the College of High Silk Art will be offered to complement these conferences.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKERS*Vicente Genovés del Olmo*

He is pursuing studies as a textile technician at the College of High Silk Art (CAMS).

He carries out his professional work in a family business (second generation) dedicated to textiles, and has been promoted to its manager.

Thanks to his connection to CAMS, he has held several positions on the Governing Board. He was once the Secretary and since 2009 has been its President. During his presidency, CAMS was restored under the patronage of the Hortensia Herrero Foundation, which resulted in the college headquarters transforming into the Silk Museum as it currently stands, for the enjoyment of all Valencians. His work in the institution has entailed a great personal effort to restore all of the elements originally built in 1477.

Its representative image has been present in countless cultural events for promotion and outreach, conferences, symposiums, interviews and the first international conference of Silk Museums, held in Valencia in 2018, acting as the host thereof.

It is a dream come true, whose achievements have included raising awareness about silk in Valencia and everything surrounding it.

María Luisa Llorens Fuster

She was educated at the College of High Silk Art as a textile technician.

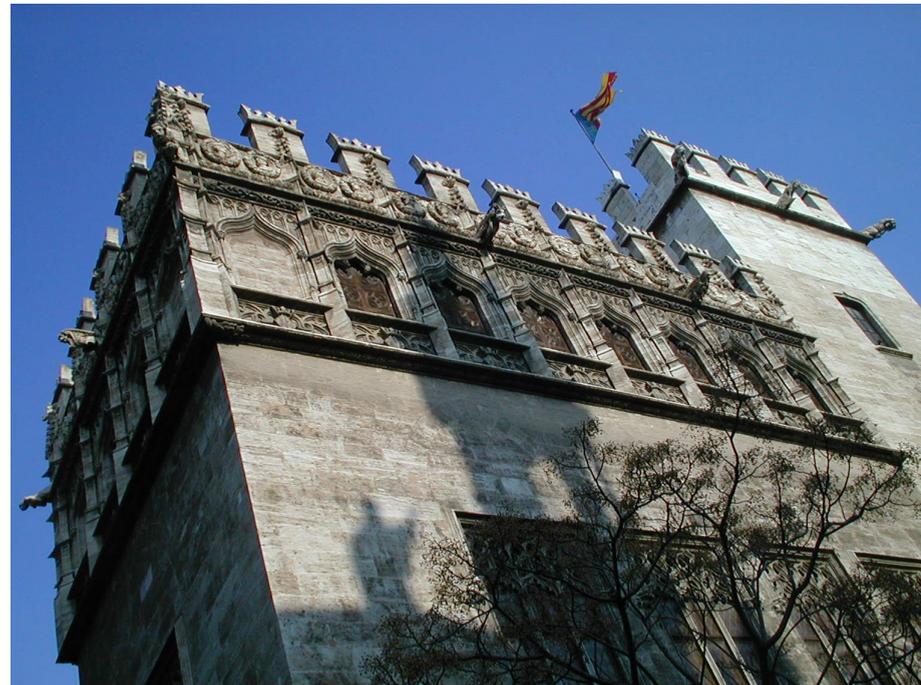
She has carried out her professional work for over 30 years in the Rafael Catalá House.

She holds the position of Secretary at the College, and her duties go much beyond this title, as she has broad and excellent knowledge about fabrics. She is in charge of receiving all textile pieces that enter CAMS, cataloging and evaluating them, and undertaking all of the appropriate interventions. She manages the textile collections, which are of great historical and cultural value. With knowledge of this great work, institutions like the Church of Saint Nicholas have fully confided in her to create an inventory of its liturgical textile collection.

Among her innumerable activities, she also performs outreach, participating in conferences, seminars and symposiums, discussing fabrics, particularly with silk as the common thread, transmitting her passion for them and for the College of High Silk Art.

MERCHANT EXCHANGES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: DEFINITION AND CHARACTERISTICS. VALENCIAN CASES ***SALVADOR LARA ORTEGA***Full-time Professor, Universitat Politècnica de València***CLASS DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2022, 4:30 P.M.****SUMMARY**

It is intended to explain the idea of building the public trade that was popularized in the Mediterranean in the Gothic-Renaissance period and between the 13th and 16th Centuries. Its functional and architectural characteristics will be summarized. Later, the exchanges of the Valencian Community will be presented, whose cultural and trade progress in the 15th Century led to the construction of very important buildings.



Lonja de Valencia. Image provided by Salvador Lara

(*) Guided visits to the Exchange of Valencia (La Lonja) will be offered to complement this conference.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKER*Salvador Lara Ortega*

Undergraduate degree in architecture from the Architecture School of the Universitat Politècnica de València in 1979 and Doctorate in Architecture from the same university in 1991. He teaches and researches in the Department of Architectural Composition.

He was the National President of the Spanish Committee of IAESTE (International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience) from 1993 until 2003. He was a member of the UNESCO Forum Advising Council from 1997 until 2010.

President-founder of "EDILICIA: Group of architects for Promoting Architectural Heritage" of the Official Architects' Society of the Valencian Community. Has been a member since 1994.

Director of the research group "Cataloging, promoting and disseminating architectural heritage" integrated into UPV's Institute for the Heritage Restoration since 1999.

He has been a Member of UPV's University Council of the Institute for the Heritage Restoration since its foundation.

He is the author of several publications, and the coordinator and/or editor of publications, both national and international.

He has earned over 10 awards since 1993 and has presented at 30 conferences and courses on five continents.



Lonja de Zaragoza. Image provided by Salvador Lara

THE INDUSTRY OF VALENCIAN SILK IN THE MODERN AGE**RICARDO FRANCH BENAVENT***University Professor, Universitat de València***CLASS DATE: MARCH 30, 2022, 12:00 P.M.****OBJECTIVE**

To analyze the main economic activity that was conducted in the Kingdom of Valencia in the 400 years between the mid-15th Century and the mid-14th Century, which explains the enormous influence on the configuration of Valencian society and culture.

SUMMARY

Between the 15th and 19th Centuries, silk had an enormous influence on Valencian history and culture. The mulberry tree became the main crop of the most fertile, irrigated land, generating intense sericultural activity in which all members of the family unit participated, and even factored into their type of housing. As a result, in the 16th Century, the Kingdom of Valencia overtook Granada as the main silk fiber-producing area in the peninsula. This hegemony remained in place until the mid-19th Century.



Jacquard loom, Garín de Moncada Factory (Valencia)
Image provided by Ricardo Franch

For its part, the "velluter" (silk farmer) guild, created in 1479, quickly turned into the most important trade in the city of Valencia. However, after the fall of Toledo in the late 17th Century, Valencia became the leader in the production of silk fabrics in Spain in the 18th Century. This was the golden age of Valencian silk-making; this activity not only conditioned the economy, but also the social and cultural relations, in the city of Valencia as well as in most cities in the center of the territory. However, problems began to emerge at the end of the century, foreboding the major decline witnessed in the sector in the 19th Century.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Ricardo Franch Benavent

Professor of Modern History at the Universitat de València. He was the director of the Modern History Department of that university in the periods from 1988–1994 and 2004–2011, and coordinator of the Doctorate Program in "Geography and History of the Mediterranean from Pre-History to the Modern Age at the Universitat de València" from June 2014 to February 2020. Since October 15, 2019, he has been the Secretary of the Doctorate School of the Universitat de València.

His research has been guided toward studying the economic activity and social relations of the modern period, especially focusing on analyzing trade, the commercial bourgeoisie and silk manufacturing. In addition to the works published in scientific journals and monographs. His work has been cited in the following books: *Crecimiento comercial y enriquecimiento burgués en la Valencia del siglo XVIII*, [Commercial growth and bourgeoisie wealth in Valencia in the 18th Century] Valencia, 1986; *El Capital comercial valenciano en el siglo XVIII*, [The Valencian commercial capital in the 18th Century] Valencia, 1989; *La sedería valenciana y el reformismo borbónico* [Valencian silk-making and Bourbon reformism], Valencia, 2000; y *Del "vellut" al espolín. Estudios sobre la industria valenciana de la seda en la Edad Moderna* [From the "vellut" (silk fabric) to the "espolín" (silk loom): Studies of the Valencian silk industry in the Modern Age], Valencia, 2012.

He has also coordinated the publication of another five monographs, such as *La sociedad valenciana tras la abolición de los fueros* [Valencian society after the abolition of its jurisdictions], Valencia, 2009, and *Las rutas de la seda en la historia de España y Portugal* [The silk routes in the history of Spain and Portugal] (in collaboration with Germán Navarro Espinach), Valencia, 2017.

THE PRODUCTION AND MANUFACTURING OF VALENCIAN SILK FROM ITS INTRAHISTORY

VICENT GUEROLA BLAY

Full-time Professor, Universitat Politècnica de València

CLASS DATE: APRIL 27, 2022, 12:00 P.M.

OBJECTIVE

To explain the events and circumstances that gave way to the expansion of the manufacturing of silk through an investigation of the heritage items that have remained over time. The aim is to investigate the documents, works and examples that are a testament to the hegemony of silk manufacturing within the framework of Valencian society in the 18th Century and first half of the 19th Century.



Workroom to harvest silk. Image provided by Vicent Guerola Blay

SUMMARY

Exemplification of those patrimonial elements that were erected around the silk trade, especially the architectural elements, but also those mainly linked with the production and designs of fabrics and ornamentation and their link with the rest of the sumptuary arts of the time.

The knowledge of the production and manufacturing in the Valencian regions and the own idiosyncrasies of producing in the so-called "factory houses," etc... Valencian silk in the cultural, social and productive context. "The country of gardens and mulberry trees."



Little boxes of silkworm seeds. Image provided by Vicent Guerola Blay

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Vicent Guerola Blay

Vicent Guerola Blay. Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts and Doctor of Conservation and Restoration of Historical and Artistic Heritage from the Universitat Politècnica de València. He is a full-time professor in the Department of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property. Currently, he is working in the canvas and panel restoration workshop at UPV's Institute for the Heritage Restoration. Among his most notable contributions to the knowledge and study of heritage are his monographs and articles related to Valencian tile-making in the 18th Century, as well as different publications about different disciplines of artwork restoration.

RESTORATION OF THE COLLEGE OF HIGH SILK ART

The recovery of a symbol of Valencia's splendor

FERNANDO ARANDA NAVARRO

Designer, architect and director of the restoration

CLASS DATE: MAY 18, 2022, 4:30 P.M.

SUMMARY

This conference addresses the project and execution of the complete architectural restoration of the College of High Silk Art, promoted by the institution presided over by Mr. Vicente Genovés Del Olmo, and funded by the patronage of the Hortensia Herrero Foundation. The works were completed by the construction company, Grupo Bertolín, between November 17, 2014 and May 10, 2016.



Image provided by Fernando Aranda

THE SILK ROAD, A ROAD OF PEACE

NATIVIDAD NAVALÓN BLESA

University Professor, Universitat Politècnica de València

ENRIQUE GASPAR

Vice president of the Silk Spain Institute

CLASS DATE: JUNE 1, 2022, 4:30 P.M.

OBJECTIVE

One of the main objectives of the Silk Spain Institute is to recount the silk-producing territories of Spain and bring them to the forefront.

In addition, the aim is to explain the silk road as a road of peace through the intangible heritage of the silk-making territories.



Swaths of Silkworms. General Archive of the Murcia Region
Image provided by Natividad Navalón Blesa

SUMMARY

From the mid-8th Century until the 1970s in the 20th Century, the growing of mulberry trees and raising of worms to convert them into silk provided employment for thousands of rural families, in addition to weavers,

seamstresses, spinners, etc. These products ended up reaching the factories where they were made into fabrics, brocades or velvets, intended for families, wealthy individuals, the church, judicatures, nobility. Silk was not just used for clothing and apparel, but also for decoration, tapestries, linens, sheets, etc.

These are twelve centuries that are practically entirely unknown today. The only people with knowledge of this subject are a few scholars and erudite individuals in the field thanks to their profession, and a few people in the silk industry and artisans, which are few and far between.

In our effort to recount these silk-making territories and this intangible heritage, we've researched silk from all points of view, reviewing everything published in archives, libraries, universities and town halls. Our work has also included the digitalization and archiving of letters and documents for the use of scholars and researchers, especially out of the interest of recounting the historical memory and the tangible and intangible heritage of silk. Our work has been centered on creating the Public Network of Creative Silk Municipalities, bringing that knowledge and heritage to the public through Smart Tourism, promoting mulberry tree crops as CO2 compensation, creating the guide of silk territories, both local, provincial and regional, as well as national. As such, we've created a Guide of the Silk Road of Spain.

To carry out this arduous task, we need the collaboration of all people who can contribute their knowledge about the subject matter from their personal homes so that they collaborate in this research. In this way, we can go global from a local level.

The Universitat Politècnica de València has worked together with the Silk Spain Institute to emphasize the tangible and intangible heritage of the Silk Road.



Domes in Moa. Image provided by Enrique Gaspar

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Natividad Navalón Blesa

Member of the Board of Directors of the Silk Spain Institute.
Heritage and Art Section.
Visual artist. Doctor in Fine Arts.
Professor of Sculpture Projects at UPV.

Enrique Gaspar

Vice President of the Silk Spain Institute.
Journalist, Reporter at TVE (1967-2007)



ACTIVITIES

Washing the silk thread, mid-20th century. Image provided by Natividad Navalón Blesa

VISIT TO THE COLLEGE OF HIGH SILK ART

Guided by M^a Luisa Llorens and Teresa González, Secretary and Deputy Secretary of the Institution.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 1

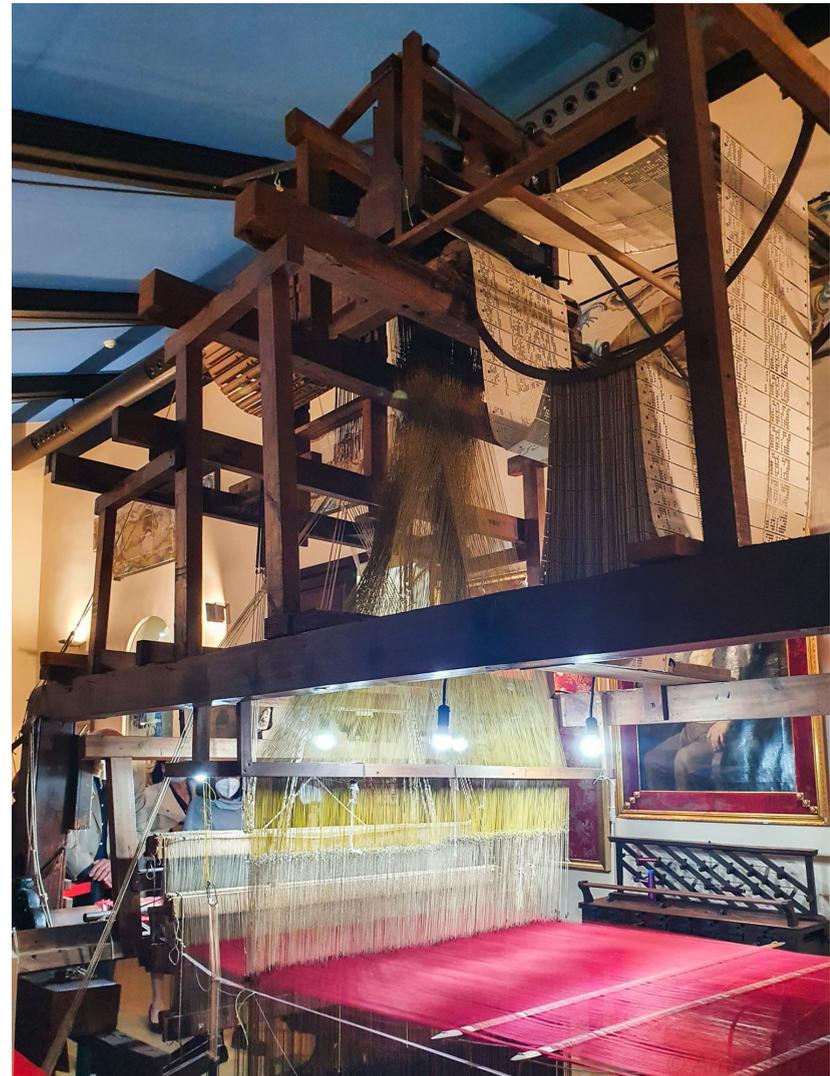
10:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 4

4:30 p.m.

5:00 p.m.



Loom of the College of Silk Art. Image provided by the student Amparo Morales

VISIT TO THE VALENCIA EXCHANGE: THE SILK EXCHANGE OR THE MERCHANT EXCHANGE

Guided by David Navarro Catalán, Professor Hired Doctor of the UPV and Professor of the Senior University.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 2

4:00 p.m.

5:45 p.m.

THURSDAY MARCH 3

10:00 a.m.

11:45 a.m.



Mª Luisa Llorens explaining to the Senior University students



Universidad Sénior students



Inside of Lonja de Valencia. Image provided by the student María Dolores Masip

"THE MANILA GALLEON AND THE MARITIME SILK ROAD IN THE WAKE OF THE NAO VICTORIA" EXHIBIT

CURATOR

Enrique Gaspar. Vice president Silk Spain Institute

L'iber Museum, Valencia

March 9 - April 17, 2022

This exhibition is held in the magnificent setting of the L'iber Tin Soldiers Museum, a building from the 14th and 15th centuries -the same period as the first circumnavigation of the world and the Galleons- where one of its rooms exhibits a wonderful example of the Silk Road coinciding with one of the reasons for the Exhibition.

With this exhibition we want to highlight the fundamental participation of Spain in the development of the Maritime Silk Road and this is reflected from the Silk Spain Institute responsible for the exhibition, with the collaboration of UNESCO SILK ROAD PLATFORM, and the support and sponsorship of the National Commission of the V Centenary of the First Around the World.



Lonja de Valencia. Image provided by David Navarro Catalán



Images provided by Enrique Gaspar

"DESIGN, SILK AND FLOWERS" EXHIBIT

CURATOR

Pablo González Tornel

Museum of Fine Arts of Valencia

June 16 - September 11, 2022

As part of the World Design Capital, held in Valencia in 2022, the Museum of Fine Arts of Valencia proposes a journey through a part of its collections intimately linked with pre-industrial and industrial design: flowers applied to fabrics. Through two sections with a certain chronological progression, the cultural bases are analyzed that inspired the fabulous emergence of floral design in the 19th Century.

The origin of flowers as a more or less developed pictorial theme was consolidated in the art of the still life, or a snapshot of nature, which emerged as a distinguished pictorial genre during the 17th Century. However, it was not until the 18th Century when through the School of Flowers and Adornments, the close relationship between art and textile design was institutionalized, blurring the limits between the artist and artisan. Created in 1778 in the Royal Academy of Saint Charles, the Chamber of Flowers and Adornments trained a specialized branch of painters who were capable of producing original designs for the Valencian silk industry, making it competitive with its European counterparts.



Artist: José Burgos
Model for fabric. Gouaches of
different colors on pink graph paper

Edits

Universitat Politècnica de València
Vicerrectorado de Arte, Ciencia, Tecnología y Sociedad
Universidad Sénior

Responsible for the edition

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Max Zalewski and Mariola Serna

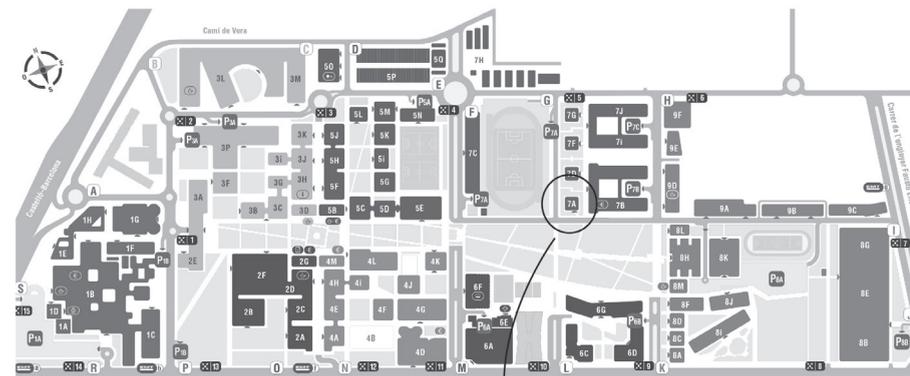
Cover image

Jan van der Straet, 1523-1605

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Authors text

Valencia, March 2022



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