



# Heritamus

(In)Tangible:  
a research on the  
relationship between  
tangible and  
intangible heritage



## Project Summary

Since 2010 Flamenco, and 2011 Fado, both musical practices were inscribed on UNESCO list of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Since 2005, different research actions were developed by the consortium partners dealing intangible cultural practices, namely making available for study and dissemination a significant amount of historical recordings. With the current proposal, by focusing specifically on the relationship between heritage practices, historical sound documents and current uses and re-uses of community's history, we aim at developing an innovative approach through a cooperative research programme with the stakeholders of Fado in Portugal and Flamenco in Spain. In that sense, this project will meet the main priorities of the strategic agenda for JPI Cultural Heritage and Global Change, namely by developing a reflective society involving at the same level academic work and community practitioners; connect people with heritage, promoting the access to tangible heritage, not accessible before; creating knowledge on an innovative research topic; and finally, safeguarding cultural heritage creating new tools for participatory informed heritage management.

It will be achieved through:

1. The design and implementation of a multi-purpose tool for the integrated management of heritage and ethnographic data, for the use of practitioners and researchers, and for the dissemination of knowledge among the general public;
2. field research with the different communities of practitioners to collect new ethnographic data to understand the impact of historical recordings on present practices and the use of historical artefacts in current musical practices;
3. critical research on recorded musical sound (sound recordings on 78 shellac discs, published between 1900 and 1945);

This project will have an impact not only among the academic circles (through advancements on research), but specially among the stakeholders community (through collaborative production of tools and field-research), and the general public (through specific mass media deliveries like commercial CD and documentary).

Heritamus project also integrates local institutions as Associated Partners: Museu do Fado (Lisboa, Portugal) and Centro Andaluz de Documentación del Flamenco.

## Application and impact

Heritamus project intends to respond to the Heritage Plus call, addressing the proposed research topics:

1. to implement a sustainable strategy for protecting and managing cultural heritage through an innovative digital tool to input, retrieve, work-on, manage and distribute tangible heritage in articulation with intangible heritage, recording the significance those artifacts hold for communities and their influence on the practices. New knowledge, cooperatively produced (by community of practitioners, stakeholders and researchers), ethnographically grounded, community oriented, Heritamus project will promote a sustainable use and user-friendly management of cultural heritage (tangible and intangible), empowering communities and, at the same time, monitoring the impact of new international programs such as UNESCO's ICH and the societal challenges involved. A safeguarding strategy and intervention is paramount in the southern European countries where sound archives are clearly underdeveloped (like in Spain) if they exist at all (in Portugal there is no national sound archive);
2. research on the uses and re-uses of different kinds of cultural heritage implementing a cooperative structure, involving stakeholders and the community of practitioners directly on the research process. The ethnographic data on the social construction of community's identity and their use/ re-use of heritage will be collected through extended fieldwork (more than 24 months). We will understand how stakeholders shape and manage an idea of "authenticity" and how they solve, on daily basis, the controversies around conservation and innovation, performance and representation, tradition and heritage, formal and informal representation, use and / or re-use of heritage.
3. and to safeguard tangible cultural heritage (historical recordings) as fundamental documents of musical practices (ICH), highlighting the intricate relationship between the two, as understood from previous research experiences in ICH domain team members carried.

Our proposal will generate new and innovative research on the rela-

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relationship between the phonographic industry and intangible cultural heritage practices in

Portuguese Fado and Spanish Flamenco. We will study how the phonograms work as inscription devices of an intangible practice (music) giving an historical depth to the local specific knowledge ("ways of doing"), and how heritage stakeholders contemporarily use historical phonograms. In that sense, this project will meet the main priorities of the strategic agenda for JPI Cultural Heritage and Global Change, namely by: 1) developing a reflective society involving at the same level academic work and community practices; 2) connect people with heritage, promoting the access to tangible heritage, not accessible before; 3) creating knowledge on an innovative research topic; and finally, 4) safeguarding cultural heritage creating new tools for participatory informed heritage management. All outputs of this Project will be focused on giving tools for an informed appropriation of tangible and intangible cultural heritage by stakeholders and practitioners, understood as activists in those processes, having the associated partners as mediators. Through this project we will be able to better design processes of informed and critical dissemination of historical documents, that can have a deep impact on heritage shape, manifestation practices, even communities formation and government heritage politics (at local, national, and European levels).



Flamenco musicians

## Coordinator

Universidade Nova de Lisboa (PORTUGAL).

## Participants

- Universidad de Sevilla (SPAIN).
- Centre National de Recherche Scientifique/ Centre de Recherche en Ethnomusicologie (France).

## Dates

01/06/2015 - 31/05/2018

## Budget

Total project funding: € 243.079,00

Funding awarded: € 243.079,00

## Subject area(s)

Intangible Cultural Heritage, Sound Recording, music, Ethnography; Heritage Management Tools.



"Grupo Artístico de Fados" with "Armandinho" (Guitarra Portuguesa, center), Martinho d' Assunção (Viola de Fado, right), João da Mata (Guitarra Portuguesa, left), Berta Cardoso (singer, up right) e Madalena de Melo (singer, up left) (c. 1933) (Col. Museu do Fado)