EuropeanaPhotography is a digitization project aimed at enriching Europeana with masterpieces of early photography, provided by a public-private partner consortium.

www.europeana-photography.eu

**PROJECT**

By contributing no less than 430,000 digitalized early photographic images to Europeana, Europe’s gateway to over 28 million records documenting its rich cultural heritage, EuropeanaPhotography fills in a former gap in the database and offers a unique insight into European history with some of the finest examples of 100 years of photography (1839 - 1939).

The project consortium unites 19 partners from 13 member states: institutions with a public mission - such as archives, museums and universities - but also private agencies. A unique and innovative model for cooperation that demonstrates how both sectors can benefit from participating in Europeana!

**ACTIVITIES**

Content has been selected using the highest curatorial standards. The EuropeanaPhotography collection consists of images capturing cities, sports, portraits, landscapes, politics, colonial heritage and everyday life, covering all forms of early photographic praxis, from daguerreotype and collodion process to albumen and gelatins silver prints.

Digitization activities follow clear guidelines and standards, thereby ensuring a correct use of the most recent technologies and procedures as well as a high quality end product. By providing metadata in 11 languages through a hierarchically structured multilingual vocabulary with over 500 concepts covering the themes of photographic technique, photographic practice and keywords, EuropeanaPhotography will help to improve queries into historical pictures in Europeana. The use of the MINT web service for the aggregation of metadata towards Europeana guarantees full interoperability with the European portal.

IPR issues are considered a crucial aspect of the project, as it rests upon a fine equilibrium between two sectors (public/private) that share views and objectives on the one hand but have different needs and customs on the other.

The project’s target group is Europeana’s user community, consisting of researchers, educators, students and anyone with an interest in Europe’s history and cultural heritage. Moreover, EuropeanaPhotography aims at engaging the creative industries by making top quality photographic treasures available online for the first time and through a single point of access.

In order to establish such a community, EuropeanaPhotography invests in a wide range of dissemination activities and promotional tools: a website, a dedicated showcase hosted by the online magazine Digitalmeetsculture, articles in scientific publications and periodicals - such as Uncommon Culture, a printed timeline of early photography, a book highlighting the EuropeanaPhotography collection and an exhibition presenting the project’s masterpieces.

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