



la Biennale di Venezia

Archivio Storico
delle Arti
Contemporanee

ASAC-Dati

a project for the single computerised information system of the Archive of the Fondazione La Biennale di Venezia

Under the auspices of ASAC - Archivio Storico delle Arti Contemporanee and 3Deverywhere, a spin-off of the Technology and Multimedia Telecommunications Laboratory of the Department of Information Engineering (DEI) of the University of Padua.

ASAC, the Archivio Storico delle Arti Contemporanee (Historic Archive of the Contemporary Arts), documents all the activities of La Biennale from 1895 to the present day and of the contemporary arts in general. It comprises a multi-disciplinary structure and includes many and heterogeneous funds

ASAC – DATI marks the realisation of a single information system for the administration of and access to ASAC material, as well as the provision of information on the past and present events and cultural activities of La Biennale.

A feature that has always typified the added value of ASAC is the strong connection between the various materials forming the funds and the information relative to the events. This has determined the realisation of a special, rich database requiring ad hoc solutions, focused on the definition of abstract entities, their attributes and their inter-relations.

Particular attention has been paid to the possibility of exporting data using standard protocols – for instance, showing them in a manner conforming to ministerial forms – as well as rendering the system inter-operable with other computerised systems, such as the Culture Portal.

Currently, this complex, multi-faceted database allows the consultation of data and documents to do with the Venice Film Festival, Film Archive and part of the Photographs Archive:

- **13,000 minimal film entries** (title of film, director, year, country) presented at the Venice Film Festival from 1932 to 2006. Moreover, complete entries for the 2004, 2005 and 2006 editions

- **30,000 photo entries** relative to the Venice Film Festival, of which 15,500 available also in digital format (6,000 digitalised from prints and 9,500 native digital images from 2003 to 2006)

- **Minimal data concerning all the events** (name of event, date, President, Curator, digital reproduction of all the general posters from 1895 to 2006) organised by La Biennale in its 111 years of cultural activity

- **Complete catalogue of the film archive**, with entries and trailers of the 870 digitalised films.

This tool makes it possible to consult the catalogues and, in some types of material, gain access to the document itself (digitalised photographs and posters, film trailers). The search screen makes it possible to link documents to the events that produced them: for example, the images of a particular edition of an exhibition, the films winning a Leone d'oro, and so on

This marks the first phase in an important, ambitious project. The supporting software for this should be completed by 2008 and when up and running fully will contain millions of data and documents in digital form.

ASAC – Archivio Storico delle Arti Contemporanee
Director: Giorgio Busetto
Address: via delle Industrie 17/a, 30175 Marghera – Venice, Italy
<http://asac.labiennale.org>
www.labiennale.org

Fund	Type of material	Holdings
historic fund	documents	3,000,000
photo archive	positives	600,000
	transparencies	40,000
	negatives	37,000
	plates	27,309
film archive	film	1,078
media archive	video	7,215
	audio tapes	3,308
	records	4,472
	cd rom	176
posters collection	posters and bills	13,000
documentary collection	invitations, leaflets, brochures, press cuttings, press book	1,100,000
library	books and catalogues	123,000
periodicals collection	titles	2,806
scores collection	musical scores	3,995
artistic holdings	works of art	2,742

