

CHORAL

RESEARCH PROJECT *(max. 5 pages)*

APPLICATION FORM TO REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR JOINTLY SUPERVISED DOCTORAL THESIS

TITLE OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT

Artists' house museums in Romance-speaking Countries: shaping a model to Foster Cultural Participation and Social Inclusion.

SUPERVISORS

From recruiting University	First name	LAST NAME	University	Department
Supervisor	Hélène	LAPLACECLAVERIE	Université de Pau et des pays de l'Adour	ALTER (Arts/Langages: Transitions et Relations)
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X				

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CHORAL, CULTURAL HERITAGE OUTREACH IN ROMANCE LANGUAGES

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5 main KEYWORDS

Tangible and intangible heritage. House museums. Heritage conservation. Cultural tourism. Museography.

ABSTRACT (250 words max.)

Although artists' houses that are open to the public exist in many countries, these cultural 'objects' can be conceptualised in different ways depending on their geographical and linguistic context. The research hypothesis is as follows: a specific type of house museum is common to Romance-speaking countries and distinct from the Anglo-Saxon, Slavic, or Germanic ones. The aim is to identify the specific characteristics of this model through a comparative analysis of selected artists' houses present in the UNITA alliance countries. Moreover, house museums seem to be numerous in rural areas, making them a vital vector for territorial development. However, how can we reconcile tourist appeal with cultural relevance? This will be one of the central questions of the research.

From a methodological point of view, the approach will be fundamentally interdisciplinary, with contributions ranging from literature and art history to history, geography, museology, regional planning, along with sociology, law, architecture. The subject also requires applied research about the cultural and social context of the places analysed. The challenge will be to better understand these house museums to identify their potential and develop accessibility and cultural participation.

Research aims and methodology

The main aim is to model and conceptualize the complexity of an artist's house museum by using examples from the countries of the UNITA alliance. The various locations will be compared with each other and with house museums in other geographical and linguistic spheres. The idea is to show how these unique places are at the crossroads between tangible and intangible heritage.

Under the heading of applied research, the secondary objective will consist of formulating hypotheses likely to improve these cultural institutions' operation and international influence.

To achieve these objectives, the first step will be to compile a corpus representative of various artists' house museums in Romance-speaking countries. Once this work has been completed, the doctoral student will have to conduct an in-depth survey of the managerial practices and visitors' response of the chosen

venues. They will also have to compile a reference bibliography on the subject. The approach will necessarily be interdisciplinary and will oscillate between fundamental and applied research. Theoretical contributions from geocriticism (Westphal) and mediology (Debray) will be welcome.

Relevance and added-value of the proposed research in relation to the current state of knowledge

The question of artists' houses has been the subject of scientific research in many countries, mainly in the English-speaking world. In Romance-speaking countries, there are occasional studies, but comparative analyses are rare. No modelling work specific to Romance-speaking countries has been carried out to date. Another original aspect of the proposed approach is that it will involve the analysis of:

- what the house museum can contribute to our knowledge of the artist (writer, painter, musician, etc.) who lived there,
- what special features it has in terms of museography,
- what it can contribute to the field of cultural tourism.

The interdisciplinary nature of the research, together with the alignment with the CHORAL programme and the complementarity expertise of the teams

By its very nature, studying the artist's house museum requires an interdisciplinary approach: literature, arts, geography, history, sociology, law, and museology are the main fields involved. The doctoral student should have a solid background in one of these disciplinary sectors and be intellectually curious about other sectors. He or she must develop an original methodology at the crossroads between the humanities and the social sciences.

Hélène Laplace-Claverie, the supervisor, is Professor of French Literature at the Université de Pau et des pays de l'Adour. She heads the ALTER research unit (Arts/Languages: Transitions et Relations, UR 7504), which brings together all the researchers in the Arts-Lettres-Langues field at UPPA. She has been working on the issue of writers' houses in France for several years. She is leading a research programme funded by the Nouvelle-Aquitaine region, which focuses on literary house museums in this geographical area. Silvia Pireddu, the co-supervisor, is an Associate Professor of English at the Università di Torino and teaches communication strategies for cultural heritage. She is also a member of the scientific committee for the doctorate in cultural heritage and historical-artistic, audiovisual and multimedia production. Her research focuses on cultural history and museum communication, particularly the intersection of theoretical principles and practical frameworks in art, media and history.

The doctoral student will benefit from the complementary nature of the two co-directors' fields of expertise and their knowledge of literary and cultural heritage in France and Italy. Regular meetings will be scheduled between the doctoral student and the two co-directors.

Output plan, including publication and dissemination activities

In addition to the dissertation itself and the training programme offered as part of the CHORAL Cofund, the doctoral student will participate in study days and colloquia, particularly as part of the research project on writers' houses directed by H el ene Laplace-Claverie, with the scientific collaboration of Silvia Pireddu. He or she will be required to publish at least one article in a collective work to be published within the same framework.

He or she will also be expected to contribute to dissemination activities (preparation of an exhibition, conference for the general public, meetings with secondary school pupils and bachelor's or master's students, etc.): the University of Turin and the University of Pau and the Pays de l'Adour, which have been awarded the SAPS (Science with and for Society) label, strongly encourage this type of activity, mainly through specific funding.

Estimated schedule

First year:

- Establishment of the corpus, field studies based on surveys and interviews with the people in charge of the literary and artistic house museums studied in the thesis.
- Creation of a selected bibliography and reading the most important works and articles.
- Development of the interdisciplinary methodology and choice of the theoretical tools to be used.

Second year: - - Processing the data collected through surveys and interviews: analysis and synthesis of the results.

- Structuring of the thesis.
- Reading the bibliography (continued) and providing an annotated evaluation of the same.

Third year:

- Writing the thesis
- Preparation of appendices, indexes and insertion of iconographic documents.