

What's in a name?

The conservator-restorer: a definition

Thursday 11 of April 2024

Musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac
222 rue de l'Université 75007 Paris, France & online

Conference organised by

the Committee for Conservation of the International Council Of Museums
and the Fédération Française des Conservateurs-Restaurateurs

full programme coming soon



FÉDÉRATION FRANÇAISE DES
CONSERVATEURS-RESTAURATEURS



Pending questions about the definition of the profession

Four decades after the International Council of Museums Committee for Conservation (ICOM-CC) adopted the definition of the profession, the application of the definition to the profession at a national level remains challenging, as has been the case in France.

The 40th anniversary of the *1984 Definition of a profession* is an opportunity to reflect and explore within a broadened field, questions raised in the French context, where defining and naming the profession appears to be still pending in the ambiguity of language and cultural context. Reflecting on the core points of the 1984 text, and how these have served and guided the evolution and development of the profession and discipline to the present day while examining the limitations of language in the 1984 definition of the conservator-restorer and the relevance of using a common vocabulary, will open the debate of this conference.

New matters for the definition of the profession

These four decades also represent a timeframe in which practices and theories of conservation have seemingly evolved.

Taking the *1984 definition* as a founding base and start, this conference will aim to open discussions on the profession and matters in defining the profession and will question the possibility to extend or refine the definition of the profession in line with relevant theory which simultaneously encompasses new approaches, diverse notions and concepts and a broader theoretical context, while resonating with the concepts and values defined in 1984 in essence.