

# International Meeting

23-26th October 2018

Island Heritage

# Religion

# Festivals

# Tourism

In Madeira and Azorean Archipelagos



Conference Room at Center for Atlantic Studies (CEHA), Funchal

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Secretaria Regional  
do Turismo e Cultura  
Direção Regional da Cultura



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## **Internacional Meeting**

### ***ISLANDS HERITAGE***

#### ***Religion, Festivals and Tourism in Madeira and Azorean Archipelagos***

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Center for Atlantic Studies (CEHA), the Tourism and Cultural Board, the Regional Government of Madeira, the Humanities Center (CHAM), Social Sciences and Humanities of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa and Universidade dos Açores and the Sacred Art Museum in Funchal, announce proposals for the International Meeting “***ISLAND HERITAGE: Religion, Festivals and Tourism in Madeira and Azorean Archipelagos***” to be held in Funchal, on 23-26 October, 2018.

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Time and space in Island territories originate peculiar senses of belonging. In 2016, Portuguese writer, João de Melo wrote “we were born in our island’s perpetual infancy (...) from the top of my childhood, I used to stare at the ocean (...) and it seemed there was no way forward or back”. He noted that the Island spirit revealed itself either in the form of bewilder or punishment, hence witnessing a constant (un) balance between sea and land. In (post) modernism it is essential to discuss ideas about territory, places and non-places (Augé 1994) which largely contribute to the identity (re)construction.

Island cultural and historical imagery is originated from collective memory. By bringing to light these recollections we wish to (re) interpret and promote a wider dialogue based on Religion and Heritage, which are vital to the development of Tourism, an economic keystone in both Portuguese Archipelagos – Madeira and Azores.

Churches, statues and figurines, and rituals have a meaning that surpass faith. By perserving our rich and varied cultural and artistic heritage, we activate memories and preserve identities, hence, displaying multiple meanings. By contemplating new perspectives on sacred objects, we hope to inspire versatile tourism approaches.

According to Paiva (2000) it is important to “identify the place (national or regional) so as to avoid massification pressure. Cultural shock (Huntington 1996) caused by the contact of various ethnic groups with singular cultural and religious traditions, reveal a complex mosaic of concepts and perpectives, which although opposing , lead to rewarding discussions.

This International meeting will have two sessions. The first, in 2018, on Madeira Island. The second, in 2019, in the Azores.

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

The abstracts / proposals (maximum 500 words) for a 15 minute presentation, with title (even if temporary) and a short biographical note may be submitted until May, 31<sup>st</sup> 2018 to the following email: [coloquio.memoria.identidade@gmail.com](mailto:coloquio.memoria.identidade@gmail.com)

Notification of acceptance will be issued until June, 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and the conference program will be available after 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

Papers should be sent in Word format, Time News Roman, 12 and should not exceed 10.000 words, including notes, bibliography and graphics/ images.

### **MAIN TOPICS:**

- Cultural identity and diaspora
- Spiritual and religious sites – island cultural and historical imagery
- The sacred and the profane: spirituality in celebration and art
- Faith , Heritage and Collective Memory
- Religious Heritage – Restoration and conservation virtues/faults
- Cultural and Religious Tourism
- Literary Tourism, travelogues and travelers

Presentations can be made in the following languages: Portuguese, English and Spanish. Registration is free.

For further inquiries please contact: [coloquio.memoria.identidade@gmail.com](mailto:coloquio.memoria.identidade@gmail.com)

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