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Intangible Cultural Heritage

NGO Review of Accreditation

ICH-08 Report – Form

**REPORT BY A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION ACCREDITED
TO ACT IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE COMMITTEE ON ITS CONTRIBUTION TO
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION**

**Deadline: 15 February 2023
for examination in 2023**

*File may be downloaded at:
<https://ich.unesco.org/en/forms>*

*Please provide only the information requested below.
Annexes or other additional materials cannot be accepted.*

A. Identification of the organisation

A.1. Name of the organisation submitting this report

A.1.a. *Provide the full official name of the organisation in its original language, as it appears on the official documents.*

Associazione per la conservazione delle tradizioni popolari - ETS

A.1.b. *Name of the organisation in English and/or French.*

Association for the Preservation of Popular Traditions - ETS

A.1.c. *Accreditation number of the organisation (as indicated in all previous correspondence: NGO-90XXX)*

NGO-90316

A.2. Address of the organisation

Provide the complete postal address of the organisation, as well as additional contact information such as its telephone number, email address, website, etc. This should be the postal address where the organisation carries out its business, regardless of where it may be legally domiciled. In the case of internationally active organisations, please provide the address of the headquarters.

Organisation: Associazione per la conservazione delle tradizioni popolari - ETS

Address: Piazzetta antonio Pasqualino n. 5 90133 Palermo (Italy)

Telephone number: +39.(0)91.328060

Email address: mimap@museomarionettepalermo.it

Website: www.museodellemarionette.it

Other relevant information:

A.3. Contact person for correspondence

Provide the complete name, address and other contact information of the person responsible for correspondence concerning this report.

Title (Ms/Mr, etc.): Prof.

Family name: Perricone

Given name: Rosario

Institution/position: Associazione per la conservazione delle tradizioni popolari - ETS / Director

Address: Piazzetta Antonio Pasqualino n. 5 -90133 Palermo (Italy)

Telephone number: +39.(0)91.328060

Email address: museomarionettepalermo@gmail.com

Other relevant information:

B. Contribution of the organisation to the implementation of the Convention at the national and international levels (Chapter III and Article 19 of the Convention, paragraph 156 of the Operational Directives)¹

Distinguish between completed activities and ongoing activities contributing to the eight thematic areas of the Convention's Overall Results Framework², as well as to the preparation of periodic reports, nominations, proposals and requests under the Convention's international cooperation mechanisms. If you have not contributed, this should be indicated. Also describe any obstacles or difficulties that your organisation may have encountered in such participation.

¹. In case your organisation operates in several States, please indicate clearly which State or States are concerned by your answers where appropriate.

². For further information on the Overall Results Framework, please refer to the Chapter 8 of the Basic Texts of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/basic-texts-00503>

B.1. Describe your organisation's contribution to strengthening **institutional and human capacities** for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

Not to exceed 250 words

The Association for the Preservation of Popular Traditions - ETS (**ACTP**) was the promoter and founder (2018), and still is the referent organisation and coordinator, of the Opera dei Pupi Network, which includes 12 companies and various organisations for culture and research and is considered by the Italian Ministry of Culture (**MiC**) as the representative body of the Element, Law n. 77/06. In 2019-22, this network reinforced the active and synergic participation of the heritage community through consultations and meetings, also aimed at drafting the [Plan of Measures for the Safeguarding of the Sicilian Opera dei pupi \(PMS\)](#) (2019-20) and the *Detailed Strategic Plan of Measures for the Safeguarding of the Opera dei pupi (PSP)* still ongoing (2022-2023), both funded by the MiC, Law n. 77/06. The ACTP's registered in the Directory of National Research and, pursuant to decree n. 44/08, it's supported by the Italian Ministry for Education, University and Research (**MiUR**), as it's a private research centre carrying out, for non-profit purposes, research activity aimed at expanding cultural, scientific, technical knowledge not connected to specific and immediate industrial or commercial objectives in the SH_5, SH_4, SH_3 ERC sectors. It's included in the MiC's list of cultural organisations of great and established value according to Law n. 534/96, art.1. Accordingly, in 2019-22 the ACTP carried on research projects and disseminated their results through books, seminars/conferences/workshops also in collaboration with tertiary education institutions within curricula on ICH management; it took part in workshops/initiatives on ICH organised by the Government and other bodies/centres; it shared online the updated catalogues of the A.Pasqualino Puppet Museum and the G.Leggio Library (that it founded and runs) and promoted the creation of a participatory online catalogue of the Network. Its training programmes providing capacity building included conferences on the 2003 Convention, the national law 77/2006, the *PMS*, and public initiatives of interaction between Unesco's elements from all over the world, involving the heritage community as both trainees and trainers as well as students who could have ETCs for attending them.

B.2. Describe your organisation's participation in activities related to the **transmission of and education** for intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organisation cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

As detailed in the *PMS*, the Pupi show is an essential moment in the transmission process of the oral and intangible heritage of Sicilian puppeteers who transform into action their knowledge and allow their apprentices to learn it through listening and vision. Consequently, the first and fundamental transmission activity the ACTP designed and developed together with practitioners and bearers is the organisation of performances often accompanied by workshops, meetings, presentations, seminars targeting all educational levels and civil society. Often organised as non-formal and informal extra-curricular activities, they involved all the Network's puppeteers and experts who presented the Element and explained the importance of safeguarding the places of memory, museums/collections and cultural sites that, together with schools, hosted the activities. The ACTP supported Sicilian puppeteers during the pandemics and scheduled cycles of shows that were live streamed online as well as its annual Morgana Festival, that was entirely devoted to the Opera dei pupi. It contributed to events focused on the 2003 Convention, the national law 77/2006, as well as to public meetings of interaction between Italian Unesco's Elements. Through its members and the partnership with universities and Academies of Fine Arts, it introduced ICH in the content of disciplines such as Cultural Anthropology, Anthropology of Art and Museology and Management of Exhibition Systems while the agreements with tertiary education institutions allowed many students to experience their curricular internship at the ACTP's headquarters and at the Pasqualino Museum; many seminars gave them the opportunity to gain both mandatory and/or additional ETCs and, through the presentation of different cultural practices, they could increase their respect and reflect on the Opera dei pupi in its relation with other Elements.

B.3. Describe your organisation's participation in the **inventorying and research** of intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organisation cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

The ACTP carried out participatory scientific research and inventory activities about the Opera dei pupi that was also aimed at drafting the *PMS*. These activities integrated two up-to-date methodologies: archival-documentary research and field research and particularly aimed at identifying, documenting, preserving and protecting both the intangible heritage linked to the performance and the associated tangible assets with a view to effectively safeguarding the Element. Based on an intercultural and multidisciplinary approach, the project addressed and evaluated the impact of recent and current safeguarding measures; it documented the current state of the Opera dei Pupi and of the tangible heritage associated with it; it surveyed families, companies, craftsmen collections/museums; it identified current challenges that, since the crisis of the 1950s, threaten the transmission process of this live heritage and coherently organised the recommended safeguarding measures of the Element as to ensure a successful system of actions within a participated, multi-level, and sustainable governance. The protection action consisted in filing the demo-ethno-anthropological assets inherent to the Opera dei pupi with a view to a conservative restoration and/or maintenance intervention. Community-based inventorying was also undertaken. The updated inventory of the heritage community, respectful of the diversity of its styles and practitioners, and of its tangible assets was published in the *PMS* and in the Network web portal www.operadeipupi.it that includes digital documents, infos about scheduled performances and catalogues of theatrical props belonging to companies and museums, aimed at facilitating access to collections, live performances and places of memory. The active participation of the heritage community in the selection, production, uploading and sharing of data was guaranteed by the use of personal credentials to access the website and the possibility to autonomously increase one's own catalogue, after recording, photographing and gathering details. This community-based inventorying activity is still ongoing because of the consistency of the sets of objects each company owns. Parallel, the portal is constantly updated with new contents and infos. The Network was also involved in other projects aimed at disseminating the results of the research and inventorying activities (e.g. the creation of an open data itinerary of the Opera dei pupi accessible on Wiki Voyage).

B.4. Describe your organisation's participation in developing **policies, as well as legal and administrative measures**, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organisation cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

In 2019-20 the ACTP drafted the *Plan of Measures for the Safeguarding of the Sicilian Opera dei pupi* (*PMS*), in its capacity as the referent organisation of the Opera dei pupi Network. This *Plan* - funded by the Ministry of Culture, Law 77/2006 - identifies the priorities for intervention and outlines safeguarding strategies, methods, and implementation tools; it organises them coherently, so as to foster a successful system of actions within a participated, multi-level, and sustainable governance while disseminating ethical codes, values and universal principles such as legality, the respect for the environment, the rights of children and adolescents, social inclusion, sharing, and the peaceful coexistence of cultures. Measures are organised within the various safeguarding areas described in the UNESCO 2003 *Convention* and, within each area (e.g. documentation, research, preservation, education, etc.) it includes Priority Measures and Related and Transversal Measures, thus highlighting the interconnection of the various actions recommended. The Network entailed the active participation of the heritage community in consultations and meetings that - especially during the pandemics - allowed to identify the challenges (even related to sanitary, environmental, and climate crisis), find solutions, and outline a system of structural safeguarding actions. Among these, there are measures of legal protection and of support to craftsmanship. In 2022, the ACTP started the activities aimed at drafting the *Detailed Strategic Plan of Measures for the Safeguarding of the Opera dei pupi* (*PSP*), funded again by the MiC. This programmatic document will be drafted by August 2023 together with the Opera dei pupi Network, and will identify specific management solutions of the Element, will plan the actions and activities during a limited period of time with the aim of implementing the

measures identified in the PMS. The Editorial Committee, assisted by technical-scientific consultants, will dialogue with the heritage community and stakeholders in the context of activities to strengthen the Network and inter-institutional tables to translate the PMS measures into concrete actions, encourage the development of sustainable cultural governance and an active exercise in safeguarding the living collective heritage of the puppet theatre.

B.5. Describe your organisation's participation in promoting the **role of intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding in society**. Explain, in particular, how your organisation cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

The ACTP promoted lots of activities and initiatives based on ICH - including the Opera dei pupi and other performative arts in the Unesco's ICH List - aimed at transforming into action the recommendations of the PMS, that foresees the use of ICH for sustainable development of the region, also in reference to integrated, responsible and Values-Based Tourism based on the importance ICH has in society as a source of identity and continuity.

It is part of the ACTP's broader participatory programmatic safeguarding framework, that also in 2019-22 was characterised by an intercultural and multidisciplinary approach aimed at both increasing self-respect and mutual respect including all sectors of society. With a view to spreading values in support of cultural diversity and mutual respect, the ACTP promoted an intercultural dialogue through its museum collections (housing many Unesco's Elements) and through its annual Morgana Festival, which provides significant insights into the the Pupi theatre, recognizes and promotes the professional dignity of Sicilian puppeteers and lays the foundations for a study of other international expressions (namely, oral traditions and expressions, performing arts, social practices, rituals and festive events, and traditional craftsmanship). The cooperation with other national and international organisations and institutions provided support to and facilitated this dialogue. Also some local institutions cooperated especially during the pandemics, when the ACTP worked hard to sensitise about the safeguarding of the Opera dei pupi, especially for the role it has in society. In fact, with its most recent expressions, not only has the Opera dei pupi granted visibility to the history, culture and identity of the region, but it has also been a bridge to the Other and the Otherwhere, which appear in its plots and scenes, ranging from Europe to Africa and Asia and prompting dialogues among characters and populations that are geographically and culturally distant. The multifaceted nature of the Opera dei pupi gives voice to contemporary issues and provides access to a vast and varied horizon. It is in the wake of these multiple connections and inspirations that in 2019-22 the Morgana Festival created a bridge between the Opera dei pupi and other visual and performing arts featuring ICH expressions - with particular reference to performative arts and music - from all over the world, thus acquiring an international perspective aimed at encouraging intercultural dialogue.

B.6. Describe your organisation's participation in **raising awareness** about intangible cultural heritage. Explain, in particular, how your organisation cooperates with communities, groups and, where relevant, individuals.

Not to exceed 250 words

Raising awareness about ICH, was one of the main aims of the ACTP between 2019 and 2022 mainly because of the pandemics that was a real challenge for the heritage community of the Opera dei pupi and risked to deeply affect the process of transmission of puppeteers's heritage. An awareness raising campaign was set up in collaboration with the whole Pupi Network, following online private consultations and meetings to collect free, prior, sustained and informed consent and agree about the specific activities to be carried out so as to include everybody who wanted to in the way s/he wanted. In such a campaign, new technologies and media were fundamental also to sensitise about the importance of safeguarding ICH even in a period of sanitary crisis, keep the relation with the younger generations, promote each member and address the TV general public thanks to the participation in programmes of the Italian state broadcaster RAI that gave voice to different companies. All these initiatives also contributed to disseminate the right terminology about ICH and the Opera dei pupi and practitioners and bearers involved were explicitly and directly promoted. In both the media coverage of and in all public events organised by the ACTP (e.g. the Opera dei pupi Day, the shared performance programs) each practitioner and bearer involved was explicitly presented, named and promoted

in reference to its own territory. Companies were also the beneficiary of those public events focusing on ICH, best practices, that often reflected on the relation between museums and heritage, including ICH). At the same time, all communication information about events, programs such as the Morgana festival, but also the museum's collection were particularly sensitive to the use of a language that promoted mutual respect and appreciation of those foreign ICH expressions that were presented in Sicily.

B.7. Describe your organisation's participation in **facilitating the engagement of communities, groups and individuals, as well as other stakeholders, for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.**

Not to exceed 250 words

Actions carried out by the ACTP actively involved one or more (sometimes, all) members of the Opera dei pupi Network (e.g. Morgana Festival, Opera dei pupi Days, Morgana off, Cycles of performances, etc.) as well as a number of organisations, public and private sector entities, civil society actors that are in different ways concerned with the safeguarding the Element, each within their respective spheres of activity and competence. Each one was invited to collaborate, contribute, attend or support (economically and/or in kind) initiatives, events, programs on the basis of the specific focus (presentation of some aspects of the Element, relation between the Element and other similar practices, reflection or educational activities on ICH in general, on ICH and museums), main aim/s (e.g. promote, communicate, sensitise, guarantee transmission, educate, manage etc.) and the different target groups (general audience, school children/students, marginal groups). Much attention was given to local public entities in that their support is as fundamental as irregular, as described in the PMS. Thanks to the Ministry support (both MiUR and MiC), the ACTP's was able to carry on its scientific research on ICH and the Opera dei pupi together with the Opera dei pupi Network and also in collaboration with tertiary education entities (namely, universities and Academies of Fine Arts). Moreover, the ACTP welcomed research and publishing proposals focusing on the Opera dei pupi from members of the heritage communities some of whom are also members of the ACTP's scientific committee and could thus be regularly informed about any activities, including research, monitoring and making proposals.

B.8. Describe your organisation's **engagement in cooperation at the bilateral, subregional, regional or international levels** for the implementation of the Convention, including initiatives such as the exchange of information and experience, and other joint initiatives.

Not to exceed 250 words

Until 2020, the ACTP was involved in the European IMP - Intangible cultural heritage and Museums Project (Creative Europe), in that its director was one of the members of the project's Think Tank. This project explored the variety of approaches, interactions and practices on intangible cultural heritage in museums of different EU countries trying to understand how museums can assist in the safeguarding of ICH while working alongside its practitioners. From 2019 to 2024, the ACTP has been contributing to the *PUPPETPLAYS. Reappraising Western European Repertoires for Puppet and Marionette Theatres* Project (Horizon 2020 - European Research Council ERC - "Advanced Grant" 2018), in that the ACTP's director is one of the members of its scientific committee. This is a research program on dramaturgies for puppetry, supported by the Paul Valéry University - Montpellier 3 (France), that wants to overcome the divisions between "high" and "popular" culture by comparing their respective productions through the same medium: puppetry. Focusing on several key periods in the history of drama from the 17th to the 21st century, the research program examines how writers and artists together have contributed to the development of a specific drama. The integration of these repertoires within the history of the theatre highlights the cultural flows between social groups, nations and languages and renews the historiography of performative arts. Additionally, the ACTP participated in many and varied initiatives abroad where it presented the Opera dei pupi heritage. Among the most recent and prestigious occasions where the ACTP took part in, there is the European Cultural Heritage Summit 2022 in Prague, organised by Europa Nostra and Europa Nostra Czech Republic in cooperation with the European Commission and the Czech Ministry of Culture in the frame of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union. On that occasion, the

ACTP received the European Heritage Award / Europa Nostra Award 2022 for the research project of the PMS. It is worthy mentioning that the State Party, through the offices of the MiC accepted to participate in some relevant seminars organised by the ACTP focused on the PMS and on ICH ACTP's multimedia libraries housing documentation about foreign ICH expressions collected/produced over the year thanks to its international networks and freely accessible on site and on demand from outside.

B.9. Describe your organisation's *involvement in or contribution to the drafting of the national Periodic Report on the implementation of the Convention.*

Not to exceed 250 words

The ACTP was invited by the Italian Ministry of Culture to contribute to the drafting of the Italian Periodic Report on the implementation of the *Convention* both as an accredited NGO and as the referent organisation of the Opera dei pupi Network and produced all required information about the inventories of the intangible cultural heritage and on the contribution of civil society; about the monitoring of the Opera dei pupi.

B.10. Describe your organization's participation in the preparation of nominations to the Urgent Safeguarding List or Representative List, requests for International Assistance or proposals of Good Safeguarding Practices.

Not to exceed 250 words

None

C. Cooperation with UNESCO

Has your organisation carried out activities in cooperation with UNESCO? If yes, please tick the relevant boxes and provide information in the box below.

- Direct cooperation with UNESCO (Headquarters and Field Offices)
- Activities for which you have received the authorization to use the emblem of UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention
- Cooperation through the 2003 Convention's Global Network of Facilitators
- Cooperation with Category 2 Centres
- Cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO
- Cooperation with UNESCO Chairs
- Financial support from the Intangible Cultural Heritage Fund
- Financial support from the Participation Programme
- Other types of cooperation

Not to exceed 250 words

The ACTP received the authorization to use the emblem of the UNESCO/of the 2003 Convention for one of the editions of the annual Morgana Festival, which is an international review of the Opera dei pupi and of traditional and contemporary theatrical practices that is organised yearly by the ACTP. Born as Rassegna di Opera dei pupi [Review of the Opera dei Pupi] in 1975 and renamed Festival di Morgana [Morgana Festival] in 1985, this festival was the earliest large-scale event ever to be dedicated to the Opera dei pupi and provides a shared space to all Sicilian companies, which often perform together during the festival's rich programs, which frequently include the more complex performances of the traditional repertoire that are otherwise rarely staged. It supports the creativity of the Element not only with regard to its traditional repertoire, but also with new shows that put it in relation with contemporary creations and other territories and traditions. Over the years the festival embraced an innovative, interdisciplinary and multicultural approach and created a bridge between the multi-faceted Opera dei pupi and other visual and performing arts featuring animated figures and music, thus acquiring an international perspective aimed at encouraging intercultural dialogue.

As far as the Global Network of Facilitators is concerned, the ACTP collaborated with 2 of the Facilitators participating in the network during the drafting of the PMS.

D. Participation in the work of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

D.1 *Has your organisation participated in the sessions of the Committee? If so, please indicate which sessions you attended and whether you had any specific role during these meetings.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Yes, it has. In 2020 and in 2021, the ACTP participated in the 15.COM and the 16.COM.

D.2 *Has your organisation served as a member of the Evaluation Body (paragraphs 26 to 31 of the Operational Directives), or as a member of the Consultative Body (between 2012 and 2014)? If so, please indicate the period.*

Not to exceed 100 words

No, it has not.

D.3 *In what way(s) has your organisation provided advisory services to the Committee (paragraph 96 of the Operational Directives) or in what way(s) do you foresee that it might provide such services in the future?*

Not to exceed 500 words

In the future, the ACTP's experience might be precious in particular in relation to the drafting and implementation of Safeguarding Plans of single elements from a methodological and strategical points of view and in the development of sustainable safeguarding policies based on ICH and mediation between practitioners/bearers and stakeholders in different levels.

E. Capacities of your organisation to evaluate nominations, proposals and requests (paragraphs 27 and 96 of the Operational Directives):

E.1. *Nominations, proposals and requests are available for evaluation only in English or French. Do members of your organisation or your staff have a very good command of English or French? If so, please indicate which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

Yes, they do. Please, find below some details:

- 1 member has a very good command in English (C1) and French (C1)
- 1 member has a good command of English (B2) and a very good command of French (C2)
- 1 member has a good command of English (B2).

E.2. *Does your organisation have experience in working across several intangible cultural heritage domains? Please describe your experiences.*

Not to exceed 250 words

The ACTP is used to work across several ICH domains, in that it works in the following sectors and sub-sectors of the European Research Council (ERC): SH - Social and human sciences, with particular reference to the following sub-sectors and disciplinary fields:

SH5-Cultures and cultural productions: Literature and philosophy, visual and performing arts, music, cultural and comparative studies. AREAS: Cultural Studies, cultural identities and memories, cultural heritage(SH5_8); Museums, exhibitions, conservation and restoration(SH5_7); Visual and performing arts, film, design and architecture(SH5_4);

SH4-The human mind and its complexity. AREAS: Pragmatics, socio-linguistics, linguistic anthropology, discourse analysis(SH4_11); Philosophy of mind, philosophy of language(SH4_12);

SH3-The social world and its diversity: sociology, social psychology, social anthropology, educational sciences and communication studies. FIELDS: Studies of religions, rites; symbolic representations(SH_3_10); Relationships; diversity and identity, gender, inter-ethnic relationships(SH3_7).

Through seminars, conferences, educational and performative events, the ACTP has been regularly promoting exchanges about different ICH practices from Italy and from abroad (e.g. all Italian Elements were invited to participate in the seminar on the Unesco's ICH to launch the PMS, while other meetings involved more directly the Celebrations of big shoulder-borne processional structures, the Canto a tenore and epics and puppet theatre in the world: Italy, India, Iran and Japan). In 2022 it created a new research unit devoted to the puppet theatres of Southern-East Asia related to the Pasqualino Museum's collection. In 2019-22, it promoted a three days event on the Iranian Naqqali and the Egyptian Al-Şīra al-Hilāliyya epic, including one international seminar and some performances.

E.3. *Describe the experience of your organisation in evaluating and analysing documents such as proposals or applications.*

Not to exceed 250 words

The ACTP and its members have experience in analysing different kinds of proposals and applications, namely: in the theatrical, educational, research, publishing and exhibition fields in that its members are often involved in evaluation commissions and scientific committees of national and international projects/organisations. It also supported the Tocati Festival aimed at its inscription in the Unesco's Register of Good ICH Safeguarding Practices.

E.4. *Does your organisation have experience in drafting synthetic texts in English or French? Please describe your experience and indicate in which language(s) and the number of those members or staff.*

Not to exceed 250 words

It has experience in drafting both synthetic and long texts in both English and French. In particular, one member currently writes short texts (e.g. emails, letters) related to the organisation of events, namely, international theatrical and cultural events - e.g. the Festival di Morgana - involving talents, practitioners, and high-brows from all over the world, including the representatives of other performative arts inscribed in the Unesco ICH List. One is particularly involved in everything concerning ICH and the Unesco, and in international relations on the occasion of invitations abroad (in this case, written texts include description in English of the Opera dei pupi, synopsis of the performances, technical riders, and everything related to the organisation, information about the Opera dei pupi. She also writes abstracts, bios, and is involved in the project design and drafting. The third one is more involved in writing short texts to communicate with visitors.

E.5. *Does your organisation have experience in working at the international level or the capacity to apply local experience to an international context? Please describe such experience.*

Not to exceed 250 words

The ACTP has been regularly involved in cultural events and in scientific and education activities organised by foreign organisations and addressed to different targets (researchers and scholars, students, general audience, children, etc.). On such occasions, it usually presented the Opera dei pupi through public speeches, workshops and educational activities as well as exhibitions, performances that often involved master puppeteers. Among the most prestigious initiatives in

2022, it submitted a proposal in response to the call for entries for the European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Awards, which identify and promote best practices in the conservation and enhancement of tangible and intangible cultural heritage, stimulate the trans-frontier exchange of knowledge throughout Europe, increase public awareness and appreciation of Europe's cultural heritage and encourage further excellent initiatives through the power of example. As a winner in the Research section, the ACTP took part in the European Cultural Heritage Summit (Prague, 2022), and presented the research project on the Opera dei pupi related to the PMS, during the Excellence day - Section: "Enhancing Intangible Heritage & the Transfer of Skills". In the educational field, in 2021, the ACTP participated in the conference *Lalka Nova. New meanings of the Puppet in theatre and performative arts*, organised by the National Academy of Theatre Arts of Cracow - Puppetry Department in Stanisław Wyspianski, Poland.

Beyond travelling all over the world, the ACTP often brings the world to Sicily: its annual Morgana Festival in fact is also an instrument for the international dissemination of the Italian ICH and for the promotion and enhancement of the Opera dei pupi. The national and international relevance of the Festival supports the revival of the Sicilian Opera dei pupi at all levels and it provides a precious opportunity to promote the practice in the world as a coherent whole because it fosters cooperation among the various companies and often brings them on stage together.

F. Membership in the ICH NGO Forum

Indicate below whether your organisation wishes to (continue to) be part of the ICH NGO Forum. Please note that membership is contingent upon the decision of the Committee to maintain the accreditation of your organisation.

For more information on the ICH NGO Forum and its activities, please see: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/ngo-forums-00422>.

Yes

No

G. Signature

The report must include the name and signature of the person empowered to sign it on behalf of your organisation.

Name: Rosario Perricone

Title: Prof.

Date: 16/01/2023

Signature:

The image shows a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Rosario Perricone". The signature is written over a circular official stamp. The stamp contains the text "PER LA CONSERVAZIONE DELLE BELLE ARTI" around the top edge, "PALERMO" in the center, and "1878" at the bottom. The signature is written in a cursive style.