

THE BELGIUM'S ROYALTIES RELY ON ITALIAN TECHNOLOGY TO SAVE THE EGYPTIAN SARCOPHAGI IN BRUSSELS WITH A LASER

The precious heirlooms preserved at the Royal Museums of Art and History of Brussels come back to life thanks to El.En. Group, and Quanta System, creator of the Thunder Art laser that will be responsible for the restoration of ancient historical artifacts recovered in Egypt in 1891.

After 3 millenia spent between the desert dust and museum cases, **it is about time to get a restyling and bring back to life the sarcophagi preserved at the Cinquentaire Museum of Brussels.** To complete this important task, **the Belgium Royal Family**, which owns the entire exhibit, **chose a revolutionary technology 100% Italian, a last generation laser, the Thunder Art by Quanta System**, from El.En. Group, brought to Flanders by the **CEO Paolo Salvadeo and the Responsible of the Light for Art Division of El.En., Professor Alessandro Zanini.**

Using this **Made in Italy technology**, that provide great precision, **selectiveness and respect for the original surfaces and the patinas of value**, without damaging the artifact, the pool of experts guided by **Teodoro Auricchio**, Director of the European Institute of Restoration based on the Island of Ischia, will start to work to **bring back to its former glory the 5 sarcophagi** from the XXI Dynasty of the Egyptian collection, recovered at the end of the XIX century, near Luxor in Egypt and now displayed at the **Royal Museums of Art and History of Brussels.**

“I am proud, as Italian, to take abroad together with my colleague Zanini, the Know-How developed in our country, in order to restore these precious ancient heirlooms. The goal we have set is give a decisive contribution to preserve the human heritage – says **Paolo Salvadeo, CEO of Quanta System** – a **beauty that represents our inheritance for the future generations, that we must preserve and keep in excellent conditions.** That is why we are proud to be, with Quanta System and Light for Art Division of El.En, the global leaders on the production of specific lasers for restoration of works of art, **using the same technology Q-switched, used in the medical field.** Whether it is restoration of works of art or medicine, we can say that we have at heart the same principle: **take great care of both, people and masterpieces”**

The project carried out by the European Institute of Restoration, started in October and **sponsored by the Ministry of the Cultural Activities and Tourism, the Campania Region, the Municipality of Ischia and realized in collaboration with the Royal Museums of Art and History of Bruxelles,** represents an important scientific and cultural initiative aimed to research and public restoration. **It will be possible to anyone to watch any day, in streaming, the restoration of five extremely important Egyptian Sarcophagi from the XXI Dynasty,** belonging to the Egyptian collection of the Belgian museum, one of the most famous collections at international level.

The *Thunder Art* laser will be used for a deep cleaning of the sarcophagi's painted surface, without damaging the integrity of the artifacts, with a precision like no other.

“The *Thunder Art* laser will have an important role in restoration of the 5 Egyptian sarcophagi - says Teodoro Auricchio, Director of the European Institute of Restoration – and will help the team to obtain a satisfying result that will be appreciated by thousands of visitors that everyday come to Brussels from all over the world, to visit the ancient historical beauties in this important museum. It is not possible to determine in advance the timing for the application of the tool, but we certainly believe that it will be decisive to obtain a correct result on the painted surfaces cleaning phase.”

The 5 sarcophagi, belonging to a period from the XI and X century B.C., were **recovered on the insides of a great collective grave in 1891, on the complex of mortuary temples of Deir el-Bahari**, in Egypt, an area full of tombs located on the north side of the Hatshepsut temple, on the west bank of the Nile, opposite the city of Luxor. **These artifacts were realized to collect and preserve for eternity the remains of some member of Amon's priestly elite from the XXI dynasty. From this discovery, 153 archeological finds re-emerged from the Sahara sand: double graves, boards for mummies used to cover the body of the deceased and numerous funeral furnishings.** Many of this objects ended up in the hands **Belgian diplomats, who donated them after their death to the Cinquenaire Museum of Brussels, where they are still kept today.**

The Brussels' restoration follows the same *modus operandi* that already showed results beyond expectations in 2007, when a group guided by Dr. Auricchio, applied the Quanta System Q-Switched technology on the surface of an **extremely rare sarcophagus of the XXVI dynasty at the National Archeological Museum of Parma; in that occasion the laser allowed to achieve results never seen before. Today, thanks to the last generation *Thunder Art* laser, we expect even greater results, more precise and decisive.**

Starting in December, the *European Institute of Restoration* will inaugurate another project, that is, **the restoration with laser technology of the Gentilizia Crypt Chapel of the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Aragonese Castle of Ischia, from the XVI century.**

Quanta System is an Italian company founded in 1985 based in Solbiate Olona (Va), from 2004 belonging to the international group *El.En*, and a world leader in the production of lasers for three scientific fields: aesthetic medicine, surgery and art. Three divisions united by one principle: to improve the quality of life of patients and taking care of people. Founded as a spin-off of one of the largest research centers in the field of lasers and optics worldwide, *Quanta System* has taken the first steps in high energy physics, plasma physics, spectroscopy and light interaction -matter. The first laser for the restoration of works of art were developed in 1994, and since 1997 began the activities in the field of medical lasers for dermatology and aesthetic medicine. In 2008 the company developed its first surgical lasers, which have today significant market share internationally. Trusted

partner of healthcare facilities, doctors, institutions and organizations engaged in scientific projects, the activities of Quanta System are also aimed at European and international research programs, in collaboration with prestigious universities and research centers around the world.

El.En. Group is one of the most important realities in the LASER world, aimed to excellence in technology research and in quality production, creating advanced products and solutions with high performance, excellent value for money, reliability, environmental care and after-sales service effective and efficient.

The Group is listed since 2000 on the Star segment of the Italian Stock Exchange (ELN.MI). The Headquarter located in Calenzano (FI), while the other production facilities are based in Italy, Germany, China, USA and Brazil.

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