

Digital Futures for Cultural Heritage International Conference

University of Nottingham Ningbo China
28–30 May 2026

PROGRAMME

DAY 1 — Thursday, 28 May 2026

Venue(s): NICC and IEB 122

Time: 8:30am – 5:45pm

Time	Venue 1: NICC	Venue 2: IEB 122
8:30am – 9:00am	Registration and Arrival	
9:00am – 9:15am	Opening Session	
9:00am – 9:15am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome: Dr Filippo Gilardi, Head of School, School of International Communications Conference Overview: Dr Vikrant Kishore, Conference Convener 	
9:15am-10:00am	Keynote: Professor Phillip McIntyre, University of Newcastle Keynote Title: <i>Creativity, Systems Thinking, and Cultural Production in the Digital Era</i>	
10:00am – 11:20am	Panel 1A — Digital Heritage, Urban Memory, and Participatory Cultural Futures Chair: Joanne Parkes Assistant: Wanwan Chen 1. Special Guest Speaker: Wang Xiaojing – Director of the Ningbo Yong Opera Research and Inheritance Center 2. Daniel H. Mutibwa 3. Shang Yu and Feng Jun 4. Chuqiao Wang & Yuan Zhou	Panel 1B (Hybrid) — Immersive Heritage, Myth, and Digital Storytelling Chair: Roy Hanney Assistant: Zihan Zhao 1. Daniel Bacchieri (online) 2. Anna Vichnevetskaia (Paper 1) 3. Shuning Xie and Xuying Yu (online)
11:20am – 11:35am	Morning Tea Break	
11:35am – 12:55pm	Panel 2A — Digital Preservation, Cultural Sustainability, and Community Heritage Practices Chair: Corey Schultz Assistant: Hongyi Tao 1. Shri Prakash 2. Xiaolu Lin 3. Rabee Reffat 4. Lan Guo	Panel 2B (Online) — Digital Archives, Cultural Mapping, and Heritage Circulation Chair: Zhaoyu Zhu Assistant: Bingjie Le 1. Chi Liu & Rochus Hinkel (online) 2. Joseph Tezamo Koukoum (online) 3. Sujie Liu (online)

DAY 1 — Thursday, 28 May 2026

12:55pm – 1:55pm	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
1:55pm – 3:15pm	<p>Panel 3A — Digital Humanities, Heritage Reconstruction, and Practice-Led Memory Work</p> <p>Chair: Stephen Goulding Assistant: Fanrui Meng</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zhang Yiran 2. Daniel Ruelle 3. John Peter Cadiz Chua 4. Wanwan Chen 	<p>Panel 3B (Hybrid) — AI, Interpretation, and Participatory Heritage Engagement</p> <p>Chair: Ambrish Saxena Assistant: Tze Lin Teh</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mahnoush Pourhosseini Akbarie and Shiva Talaei Koochehbagh (online) 2. Bingjie Le 3. Winnie (Wing Yan) Lam (online)
3:15pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea Break	Afternoon Tea Break
3:30pm – 4:30pm	<p>Panel 4A — AI, Heritage Communication, and Cultural Transmission in the Digital Era</p> <p>Chair: Lei Hao Assistant: Weiwei Yin</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zhaoyu Zhu 2. Corey Schultz 3. Dongni Zhang 	<p>Panel 4B (Online) — Digital Documentation, Heritage Ethics, and Indigenous Cultural Futures</p> <p>Chair: Stephen Goulding Assistant: Tze Lin Teh</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Thirima Dura Suresh Gayan Priyangana (online) 2. Larissa Terranova (online) 3. Cristina Carrillo Fernández (online)
4:30pm – 5:45pm	<p>Creative Showcase I: Immersive Heritage, Participatory Archives, and Creative Digital Environments (Alumni Space – IEB Building Level 1)</p> <p>Chair: Vikrant Kishore Assistant: Zihan Zhao</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Laura Gomez Aurioles 2. Gamaliel J. Domingo 	
<p>6:00pm onwards: Performance + Welcome Dinner – Rooftop Restaurant – LA Hotel, University of Nottingham</p> <p>Sichuan Opera performance by Shuai Zhang, presented by Mr. Zhao Yachao, Chairman, Beijing Huayi Wuzhou International Cultural Exchange Co., Ltd.</p>		
<p>The following cultural heritage mobile journalism projects will be screened alongside other creative projects throughout the <i>Digital Futures for Cultural Heritage International Conference (28–30 May 2026)</i> in the <i>Creative Space</i> at the Alumni Space, IEB Building Level 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threads of Tradition <i>Arushi Agrawal, LIU Shizhe, LIU Siyuan, YIN Minghan</i> • Ningbo's Yong Opera and the Next Generation: Youth Engagement and Digital Outreach <i>Han Yiming, Zhen Yuhan</i> • The Two Sides of Seal Engraving <i>Li Zhengxuan, Chen Ke, Xu Jiuyi</i> • Exploring the Development of Traditional Silk Culture via Hanfu Festival <i>Zheping Mao, Jinjun Lu, Xiyuan Qian</i> • Fenghua Dragon Dance Inheriting Intangible Cultural Heritage <i>Zhang Yiyuan, Zhou Meng, Zhou Yihan, Zhu Yuqing</i> 		

DAY 2 — Friday, 29 May 2026

Venue(s): NICC and IEB 122

Time: 9:00am – 6:00pm

Time	Venue 1: NICC	Venue 2: IEB 122
9:00am – 9:05am	Welcome – Day 2: Vikrant Kishore	
9:05 – 9:45am	Keynote: Dr Martin Gieselmann, Heidelberg University, Germany Keynote Title: <i>Digital(izing) Cultural Heritage from South Asia: Concepts, Experiences and Prospects</i>	
9:45am – 11:20am	Panel 5 — XR, AI Filmmaking, and Digital Heritage Ecosystems Chair: Roy Hanney Assistant: Zihan Zhao 1. Anna Vichnevetskaia (Paper 2) 2. Shuai Li, Leonid Krykhtin, Xinyang Wang, and Zhennuo Song 3. Xiaoyu Chen 4. Peiyong Li	
11:20am – 11:35am	Morning Tea Break	Morning Tea Break
11:35am – 12:55pm	Panel 6A — Cultural Identity, Memory, and Digital Community Narratives Chair: Joanne Parkes Assistant: Bingjie Le 1. Thi Hang Nguyen, Minh-An Tran, Thi Thuy Duong Nguyen, and Hong Hai Nguyen 2. Mingshi Cui 3. Lei Hao	Panel 6B — Digital Restoration, Documentary Practice, and Online Heritage Communication Chair: Roy Hanney Assistant: Fanrui Meng 1. Gewen Jiang (online) 2. Vishesh Redhu (online) 3. Somya Sharma (online)
12:55pm – 1:55pm	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
1:55pm – 3:15pm	Panel 7A — Community Participation, Youth Engagement, and Digital Heritage Futures Chair: Simon Weaving Assistant: Tze Lin Teh 1. Roy Hanney 2. Xiaolin Sun 3. Zihan Zhao	Panel 7B — Remediating Cultural Heritage Through Museums and Immersive Media Chair: Ambrish Saxena Assistant: Bingjie Le 1. Nan Zhou 2. Xie Hao 3. Hongyi Tao
3:15pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea Break	Afternoon Tea Break

DAY 2 — Friday, 29 May 2026

3:30pm – 4:30pm	<p>Panel 8A — Language, Cultural Memory, and Community Heritage</p> <p>Chair: Lei Hao Assistant: Bingjie Le</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Xu Jie (Jocelyn) 2. Hanwen Liu 	<p>Panel 8B — Transnational Perspectives on Digital Heritage and Cultural Futures</p> <p>Chair: Joanne Parkes Assistant: Hongyi Tao</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lucian Georgescu (online) 2. Anna Sowa (online)
4:30pm – 5:30pm	<p>Creative Space Showcase II: Creative Practice, Virtual Heritage, and Experimental Cultural Futures</p> <p>Chair: Vikrant Kishore Assistant: Wanwan Chen</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Aneta Postek and Fabio Silvia 2. Weigan Zhang 3. Yuchen Xu 	
5:30pm – 5:45pm	<p>Sichuan Opera performance by Zhang Shuai, presented by Mr. Zhao Yachao, Chairman, Beijing Huayi Wuzhou International Cultural Exchange Co., Ltd.</p>	
5:45pm – 6:00pm	<p>Conference Closing – (UNNC part) Professor Catriona Morrison, Dean, FHSS, UNNC</p>	

6:20pm: Day 2: Visit to the Yong Opera Research and Inheritance Center, Ningbo. The centre has arranged a short museum tour followed by a special performance by their team presenting the cultural heritage traditions of Ningbo.

The bus will depart from UNNC at 6:20pm sharp. The Conference Assistant team will help participants with bus information, boarding arrangements, and any other support required.

DAY 3 — Saturday, 30 May 2026

Venue: China National Silk Museum, Hangzhou

73-1 Yuhuangshan Rd, Xihu, Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China, 310002

Time: 7:30am – 7:00pm

Time	Session
7:30am	Departure from UNNC
10:30-10:45	Welcome – China National Silk Museum Mr Chengming Zhang, Deputy Director, China National Silk Museum, Hangzhou
10:45am – 11:25am	Keynote Session – Dr Nic Leonhardt, LMU, Munich, Germany <i>Title: Between times, between worlds – Digital Futures of Past Performance Pleasures</i>
11:25am – 12:00am	Plenary – Ambrish Saxena, South Asia University, New Delhi, India <i>Title: Digitizing Culture, Leaving People Behind: Access Inequalities in Digital Cultural Heritage in India</i>
12:00am – 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm – 1:45pm	Roundtable Discussion: Digital Futures Conference - The Way Forward
1:45pm – 2:00pm	Closing: Dr Vikrant Kishore
2:00pm – 3:00pm	Museum Visit and Exhibition Tour
3:15-6:30pm	West Lake Tour
7:00pm	Departure for Ningbo