



From Sprayed Chaos to Smart Queries

Geert Verhoeven | *project coordinator*
projectindigo.eu

*The INDIGO graffiti project was funded by the Heritage Science Austria
programme of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ÖAW)*





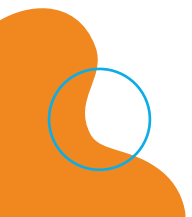
graffiti are
unique
complex
short-lived
socially relevant
cultural heritage



**the potential
of graffiti
to understand
society
is under-exploited**

In
di
g
o



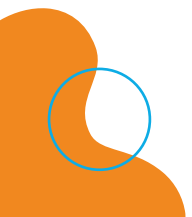


Inventory and
disseminate
graffiti along the
d **O** naukanal



Inventory and
disseminate
graffiti along the
donaukanal

WHAT



Inventory and
disseminate **WHAT**
graffiti along the
donaukanal **WHERE**

Inventory and
disseminate
graffiti along the
dock canal

WHAT

WHERE

digitally preserve
and
analyse

WHY

Inventory and
disseminate
graffiti along the
donaukanal

WHAT

WHERE

digitally preserve
and
analyse

WHY



WHO

Inventory and
disseminate
graffiti along the
dock canal

WHAT

WHERE

digitally preserve
and
analyse

WHY

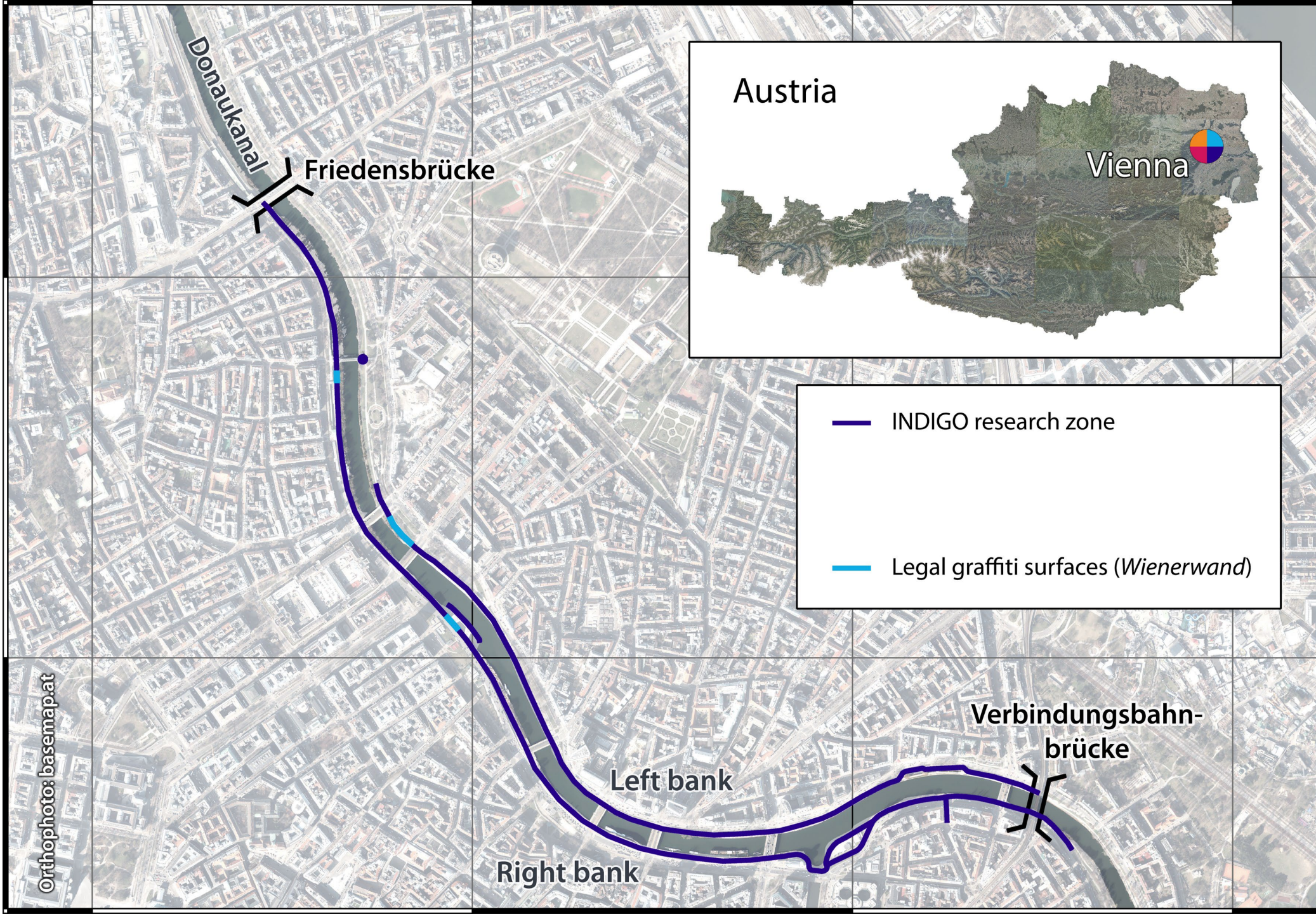


WHO

Heritage Science Austria programme | € 580 k | 2 years

**LEGAL
SURFACES**
0.3 km

**MONITORED
SURFACES**
12.9 km





INTERACTIVE 3D dissemination

archaeologists / art historians

sociologists / linguists

ethnographers / anthropologists

architects / geographers

5
research
pillars

INDIGO approach

INDIGO approach

5
research
pillars



INDIGO approach

5
research
pillars

creation



acquisition



INDIGO approach

5
research
pillars

creation



acquisition



processing



INDIGO approach

5
research
pillars

creation



acquisition



processing

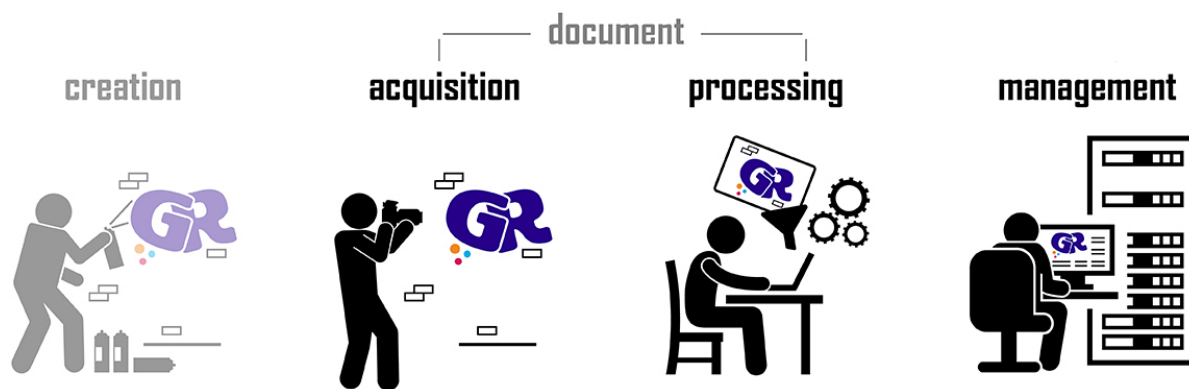


management



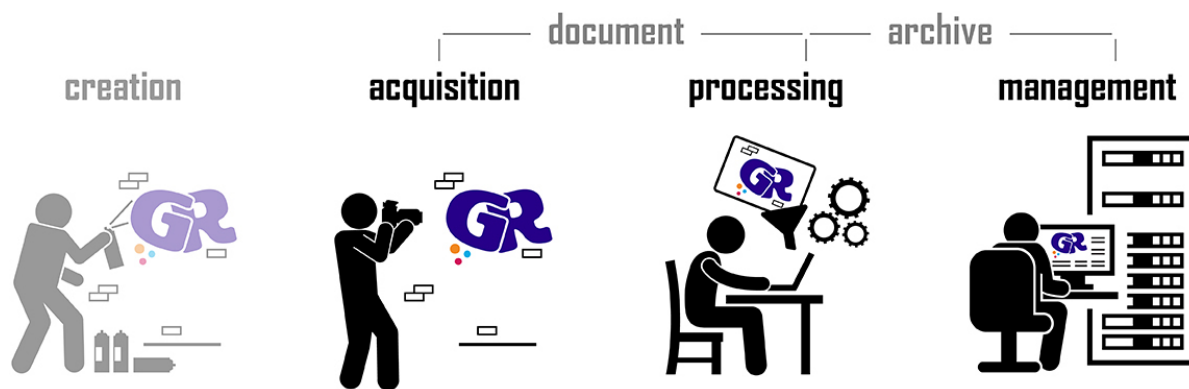
INDIGO approach

5
research
pillars



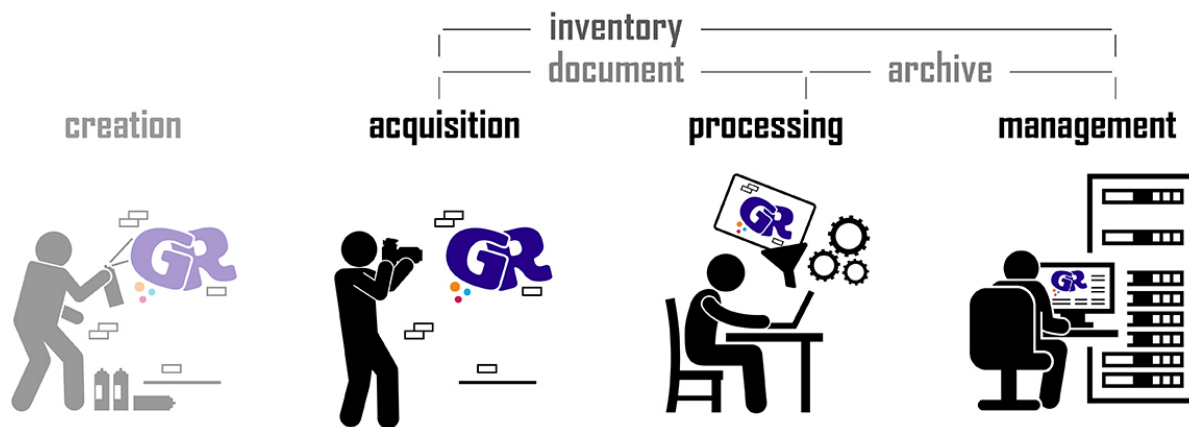
INDIGO approach

5
research
pillars



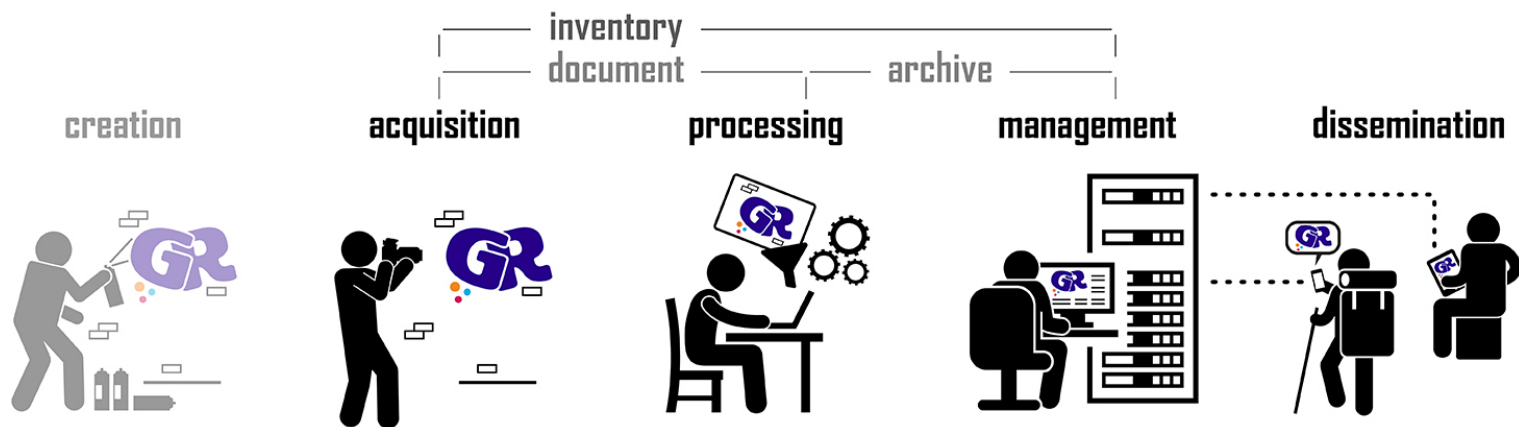
5
research
pillars

INDIGO approach



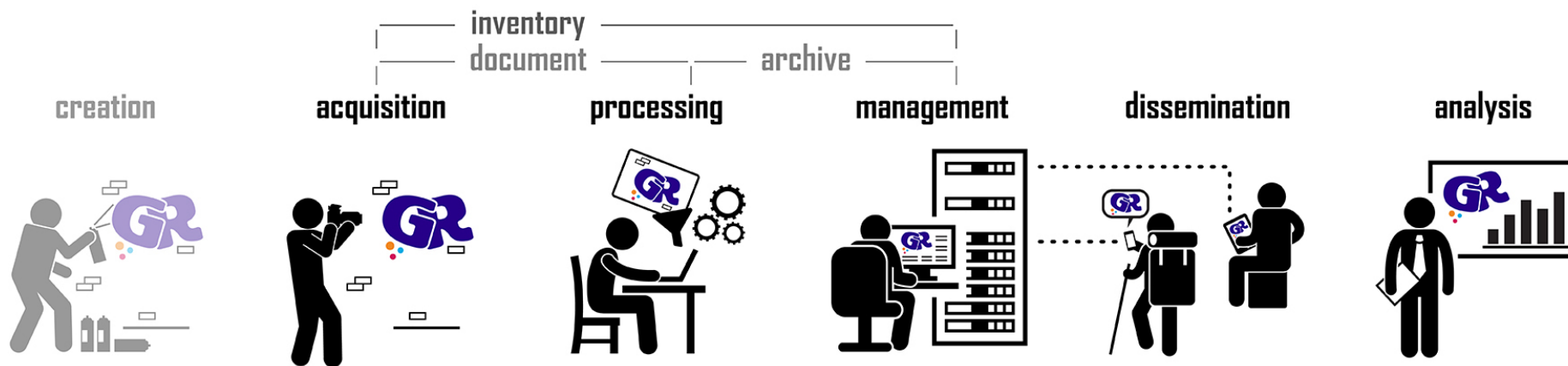
INDIGO approach

5
research
pillars



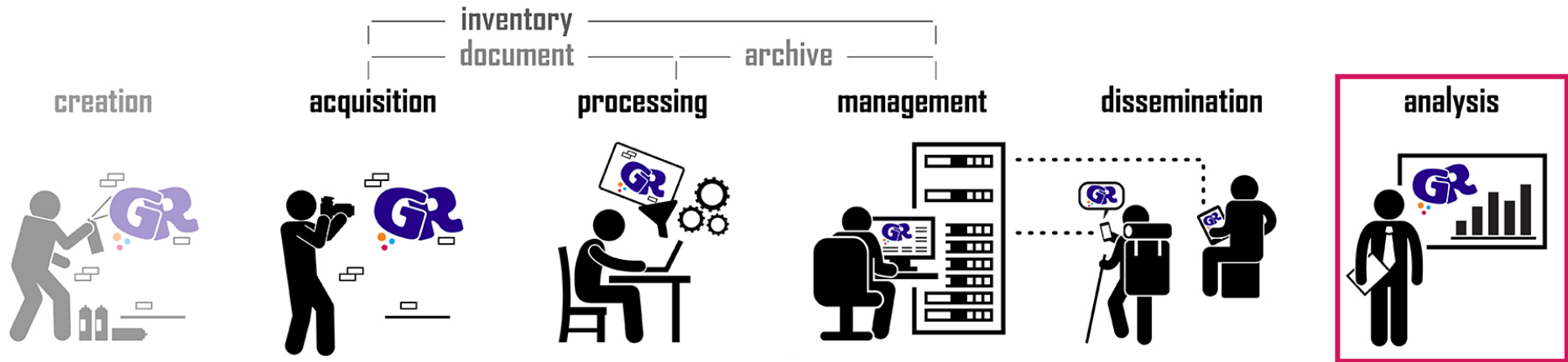
INDIGO approach

5
research
pillars

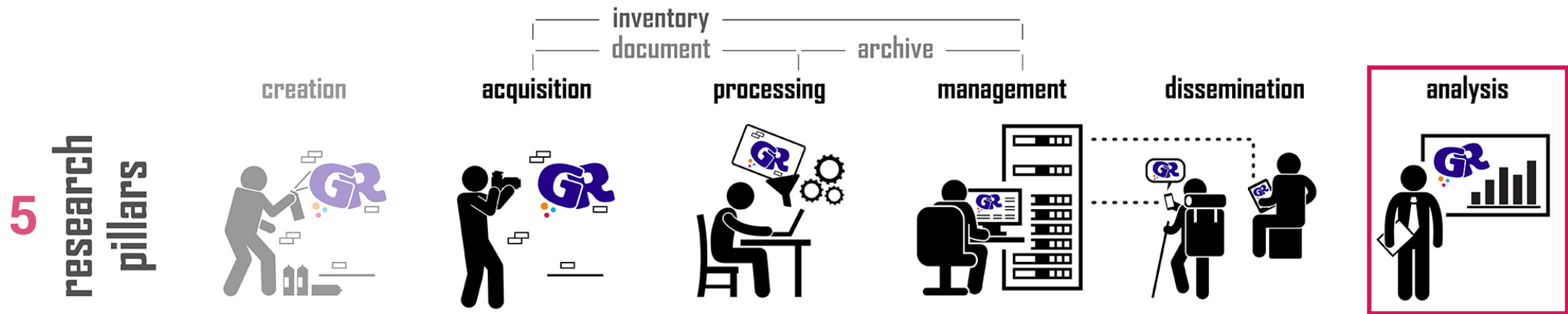


POTENTIAL questions

5 research pillars



POTENTIAL questions



Along the Donaukanal,

where do aerosol wildstyle pieces occur,

which crews made them between 2018–2024,

and what are their main colours and typical size?

POTENTIAL questions

GRAFFITI *LOCATION*

Along the Donaukanal,
where do aerosol wildstyle pieces occur,
which crews made them between 2018–2024,
and what are their main colours and typical size?

POTENTIAL questions

GRAFFITI *LOCATION*

GRAFFITI *TEMPORALITY*

Along the Donaukanal,
where do aerosol wildstyle pieces occur,
which crews made them **between 2018–2024**,
and what are their main colours and typical size?

POTENTIAL questions

GRAFFITI *LOCATION*

GRAFFITI *TEMPORALITY*

GRAFFITI *TERMINOLOGY*

Along the Donaukanal,
where do **aerosol wildstyle pieces** occur,
which crews made them between 2018–2024,
and what are their main colours and typical size?

POTENTIAL questions

GRAFFITI *LOCATION*

GRAFFITI *TEMPORALITY*

GRAFFITI *TERMINOLOGY*

GRAFFITI *CHARACTERISATION*

Along the Donaukanal,
where do aerosol wildstyle pieces occur,
which crews made them between 2018–2024,
and what are their **main colours** and **typical size**?

GRAFFITI metadata

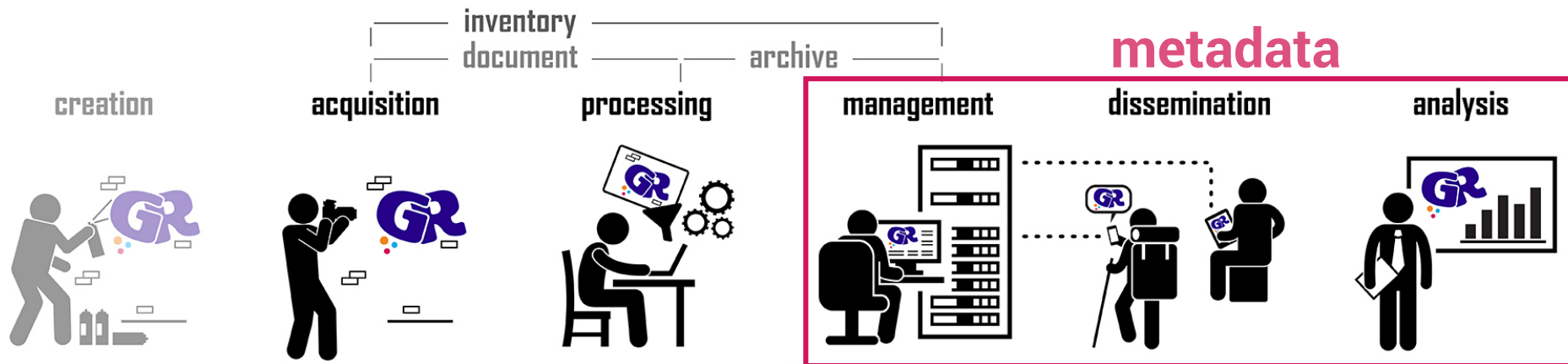
GRAFFITI *LOCATION*

GRAFFITI *TEMPORALITY*

GRAFFITI *TERMINOLOGY*

GRAFFITI *CHARACTERISATION*

5
research
pillars



GRAFFITI **controlled vocabulary**

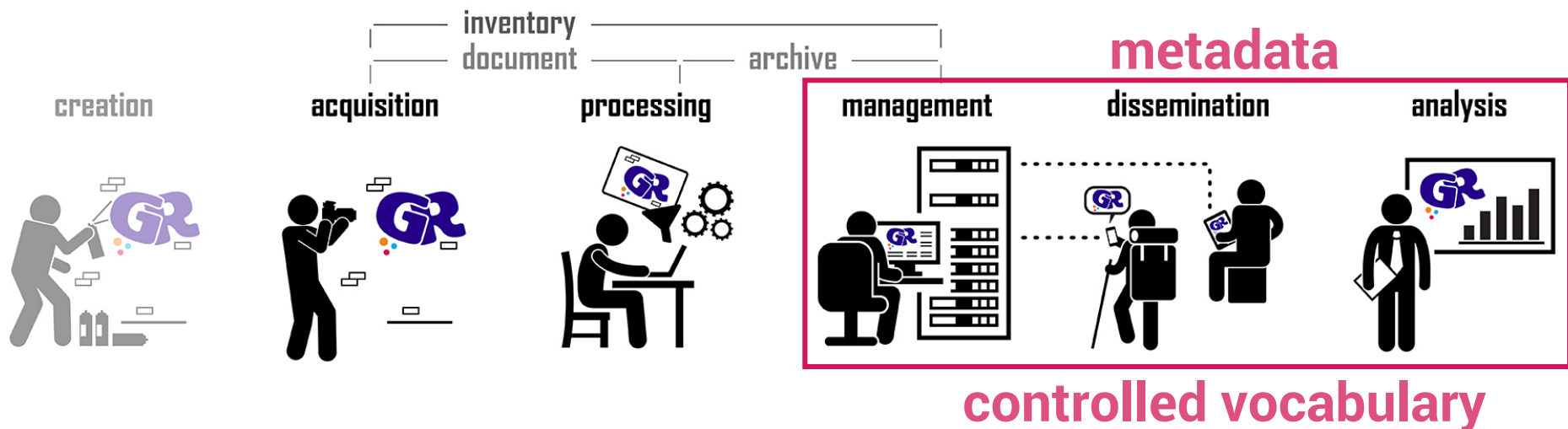
GRAFFITI *LOCATION*

GRAFFITI *TEMPORALITY*

GRAFFITI ***TERMINOLOGY***

GRAFFITI *CHARACTERISATION*

5
research
pillars



GRAFFITI **ontology**

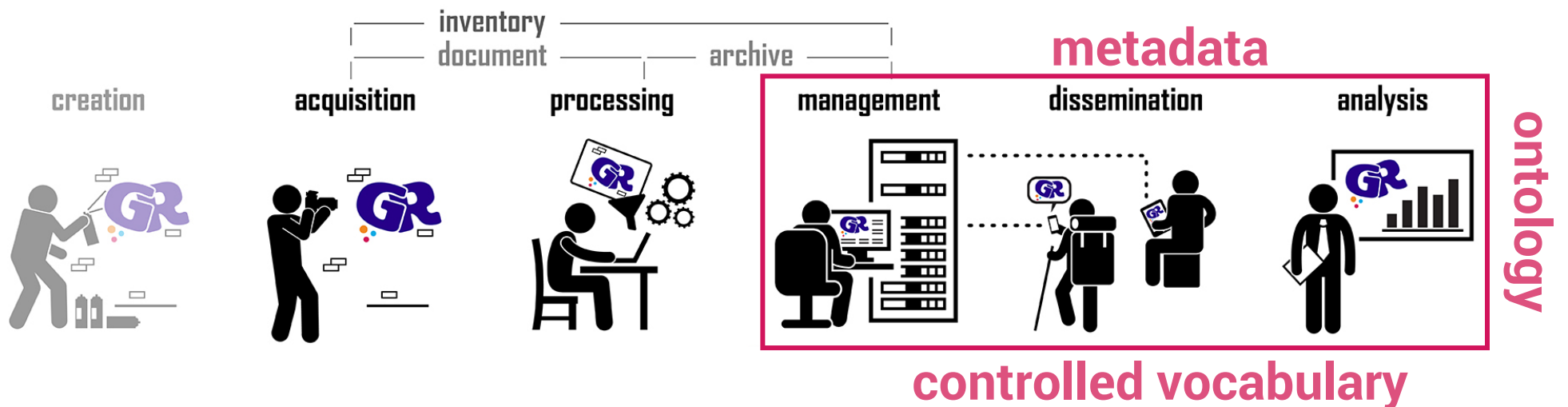
GRAFFITI **LOCATION**

GRAFFITI **TEMPORALITY**

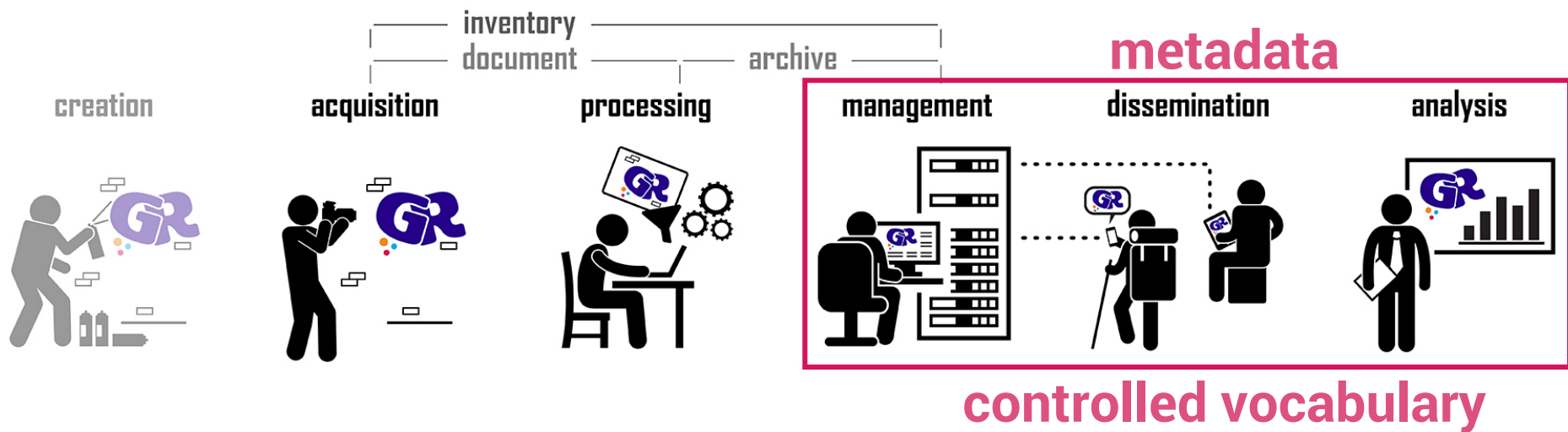
GRAFFITI **TERMINOLOGY**

GRAFFITI **CHARACTERISATION**

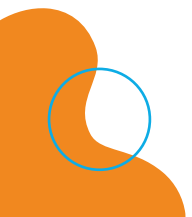
5
research
pillars



5 research pillars



GRAFFITI metadata



GRAFFITI metadata

16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET

GRAFFITI metadata



16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET



GRAFFITI metadata



16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET



GRAFFITI metadata



16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET



date + time



© Sophie Hay



date + time

GRAFFITI metadata

creation event
date + time



© Sophie Hay



16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET



date + time
creation event

GRAFFITI metadata

photo | graffito
creation event
date + time



© Sophie Hay



16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET



date + time
creation event
photo | graffito

INDIGO METADATA

real graffito
vs
digital derivatives

GRAFFITI metadata

photo | graffito
creation event
date + time



© Sophie Hay



16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET



date + time
creation event
photo | graffito

INDIGO METADATA

real graffito
vs
digital derivatives

GRAFFITI metadata

author

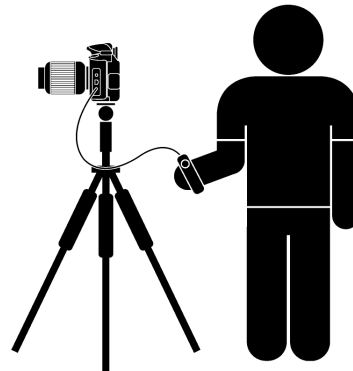
photo | graffito
creation event
date + time



© Sophie Hay



16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET



date + time
creation event
photo | graffito

author

INDIGO METADATA

real graffiti
vs
digital derivatives

GRAFFITI metadata

location

author

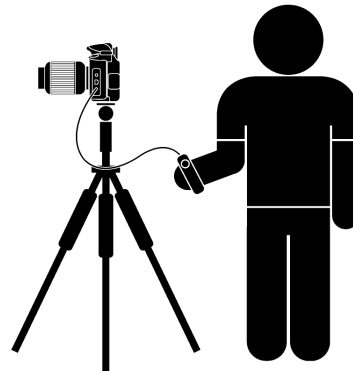
photo | graffiti
creation event
date + time



© Sophie Hay



16 June 2023 @ 10:25 CET



date + time
creation event
photo | graffiti

author

location



INDIGO

core division



INDIGO

core division

real graffito
physical resource



INDIGO

core division

real graffito
physical resource

approximations
digital resources



INDIGO

core division

real graffiti
physical resource

approximations
digital resources

digital photos

textured 3D models

orthophotographs

polygons



INDIGO

core division

real graffiti
physical resource

approximations
digital resources

digital photos

textured 3D models

orthophotographs

polygons

metadata

metadata



INDIGO

core division

real graffiti
physical resource

approximations
digital resources

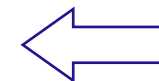
digital photos

textured 3D models

orthophotographs

polygons

metadata



metadata



INDIGO

core division

real graffito

digital resources

digital photos

textured 3D models

orthophotographs

polygons

metadata



INDIGO

core division

real graffito

digital resources

digital photos

textured 3D models

orthophotographs

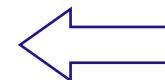
polygons

metadata

database

GRAFFITI metadata

<i>INDIGO metadata (physical graffito)</i>	
Category Level	Category Name
1	Descriptive metadata
1.1	Core metadata
1.2	Locational metadata
1.3	Temporal metadata
1.4	Contentual / aboutness metadata
1.5	Formal / appearance metadata
2	Administrative metadata
2.1	Rights metadata
2.2	Access metadata
2.3	Technical metadata
3	Structural metadata
3.1	Origin relationships
3.2	Graffiti ensemble relationships
3.2	Spatio-temporal relationships



metadata

GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

image-level



GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

image-level

identifier: INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg



GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

author: WOX INK

image-level

identifier: INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg

author: Stefan Wogrin



GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

author: WOX INK

creation date: between 2023-04-05T10:34
and 2023-04-12T11:55

image-level

identifier: INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg

author: Stefan Wogrin

creation date: 2023-04-12T11:55



GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

author: WOX INK

creation date: between 2023-04-05T10:34
and 2023-04-12T11:55

location: 48.21886° N, 16.37085° E (EPSG:4326)

image-level

identifier: INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg

author: Stefan Wogrin

creation date: 2023-04-12T11:55

location: 48.21882° N, 16.37079° E (EPSG:4326)



GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

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graffito-level

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author: WOX INK

creation date: between 2023-04-05T10:34
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location: 48.21886° N, 16.37085° E (EPSG:4326)

technique = aerosol painting

style: angel character with slogan and tag

colours = black, yellow, grey, white

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author: Stefan Wogrin

creation date: 2023-04-12T11:55

location: 48.21882° N, 16.37079° E (EPSG:4326)

camera: Nikon Z7ii

shutter speed: 1/200 s

GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

author: WOX INK

creation date: between 2023-04-05T10:34
and 2023-04-12T11:55

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author: Stefan Wogrin

creation date: 2023-04-12T11:55

location: 48.21882° N, 16.37079° E (EPSG:4326)

camera: Nikon Z7ii

shutter speed: 1/200 s

graffito depicted: INDIGO_2023_000512



GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

author: WOX INK

creation date: between 2023-04-05T10:34
and 2023-04-12T11:55

location: 48.21886° N, 16.37085° E (EPSG:4326)

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author: Stefan Wogrin

creation date: 2023-04-12T11:55

location: 48.21882° N, 16.37079° E (EPSG:4326)

camera: Nikon Z7ii

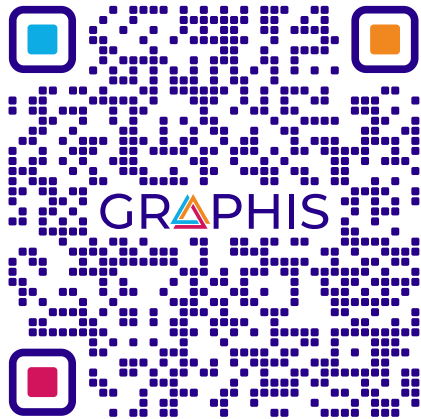
shutter speed: 1/200 s

graffito depicted: **INDIGO_2023_000512**



GRAFFITI metadata

GRAPHIS



MENU

Database statistics

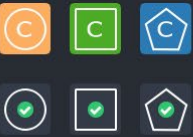
Nr. of images **1**

Circles **0**

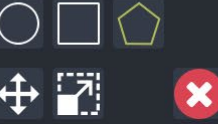
Rectangles **0**

Polygons **1**

Region appearance



Region operations



Welcome GEERT VERHOEVEN.
Enjoy working with GRAPHIS
New database was created:
PolygonTest.sqlite
Importing images
Start to import 1 images

INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg

F:\Projects\Projects_LBIArchPro\INDIGO\Supplementary\WP 18-Symposium_2\03Presentations\Day3_20230618\SessionG\g oINDIGO2023_VerhoevenAndSchlegel_SpatioTemporal\Figures\INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg



User information

Name: Geert Verhoeven

Identifier: 0000-0003-4825-9604

Change region info View region info All region info

Region

Region Identifier: INDIGO_20230412_G0001

Region Name: graffiti

Region Role

Identifier: https://vocab.s.acdh.oeaw.ac.at/graphis-imgreg/mainSubjectArea

Name: main subject area

Region Content Type

Identifier: https://vocab.s.acdh.oeaw.ac.at/graphis-imgreg/graffiti

Name: graffiti

Region Creator Description Transcription

Identifier: 0000-0003-4825-9604

Name: Geert Verhoeven

Role: https://vocab.s.acdh.oeaw.ac.at/graphis-imgreg/imgRegCreator

GRAPHIS @ INDIGO 2023 - https://projectindigo.eu

2.1.2

GRAFFITI metadata

GRAPHIS
2D polygon (pixel coordinates)

MENU

Database statistics

Nr. of images **1**

Circles **0**

Rectangles **0**

Polygons **1**

Region appearance

Region operations

Welcome GEERT VERHOEVEN.

Enjoy working with GRAPHIS

New database was created:

PolygonTest.sqlite

Importing images

Start to import 1 images

?



INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg

F:\Projects\Projects_LBIArchPro\INDIGO\Supplementary\WP 18-Symposium_2\03Presentations\Day3_20230618\SessionG\g oINDIGO2023_VerhoevenAndSchlegel_SpatioTemporal\Figures\INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg



GRAPHIS

User information

Name: Geert Verhoeven

Identifier: 0000-0003-4825-9604

Change region info View region info All region info

Region

Region Identifier: INDIGO_20230412_G0001

Region Name: graffiti

Region Role

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Name: main subject area

Region Content Type

Identifier: https://vocabs.acdh.oew.ac.at/graphis-imgreg/graffiti

Name: graffiti

Region Creator Description Transcription

Identifier: 0000-0003-4825-9604

Name: Geert Verhoeven

Role: https://vocabs.acdh.oew.ac.at/graphis-imgreg/imgRegCreator

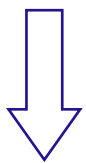
GRAPHIS @ INDIGO 2023 - <https://projectindigo.eu>

2.1.2

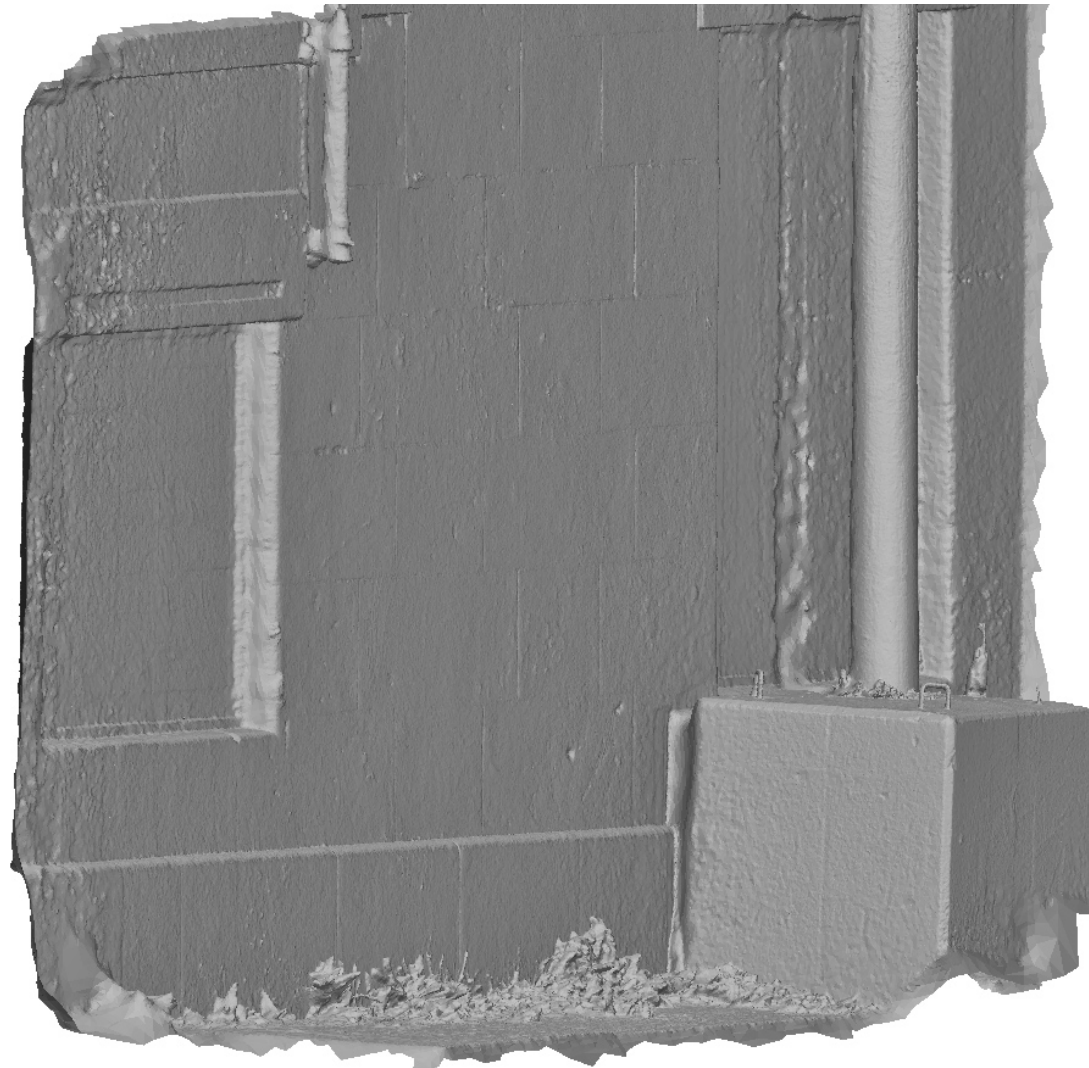
GRAFFITI metadata

GRAPHIS

2D polygon (pixel coordinates)



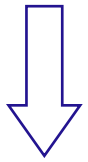
AUTOGRAF



GRAFFITI metadata

GRAPHIS

2D polygon (pixel coordinates)



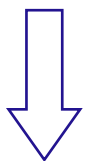
AUTOGRAF



GRAFFITI metadata

GRAPHIS

2D polygon (pixel coordinates)



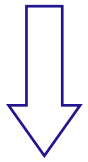
AUTOGRAF



GRAFFITI metadata

GRAPHIS

2D polygon (pixel coordinates)



AUTOGRAF

3D polyline (real-world coordinates)



GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

author: WOX INK

creation date: between 2023-04-05T10:34
and 2023-04-12T11:55

location: 48.21886° N, 16.37085° E (EPSG:4326)

technique = aerosol painting

style: angel character with slogan and tag

colours = black, yellow, grey, white

area: 3.5 m²

image-level

identifier: INDIGO_2023-04-12_Z7ii-B_0685.jpg

author: Stefan Wogrin

creation date: 2023-04-12T11:55

location: 48.21882° N, 16.37079° E (EPSG:4326)

camera: Nikon Z7ii

shutter speed: 1/200 s

graffito visible: INDIGO_2023_000512



GRAFFITI metadata

graffito-level

identifier = INDIGO_2023_000512

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GRAFFITI controlled vocabularies

graffito-level

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camera: Nikon Z7ii

shutter speed: 1/200 s

graffito visible: INDIGO_2023_000512



GRAFFITI controlled vocabularies

TERMINOLOGY & HIERARCHY

Graffiti ? Street Art ?



GRAFFITI controlled vocabularies

TERMINOLOGY & HIERARCHY

Graffiti ? Street Art ?

Graffiti
|___ Street Art



GRAFFITI controlled vocabularies

TERMINOLOGY & HIERARCHY

Graffiti ? Street Art ?

Graffiti

|___ Street Art

Street Art

|___ Graffiti



GRAFFITI controlled vocabularies

TERMINOLOGY & HIERARCHY

Graffiti ? Street Art ?

Graffiti

|___ Street Art

Street Art

|___ Graffiti

Graffiti | Street Art



GRAFFITI controlled vocabularies

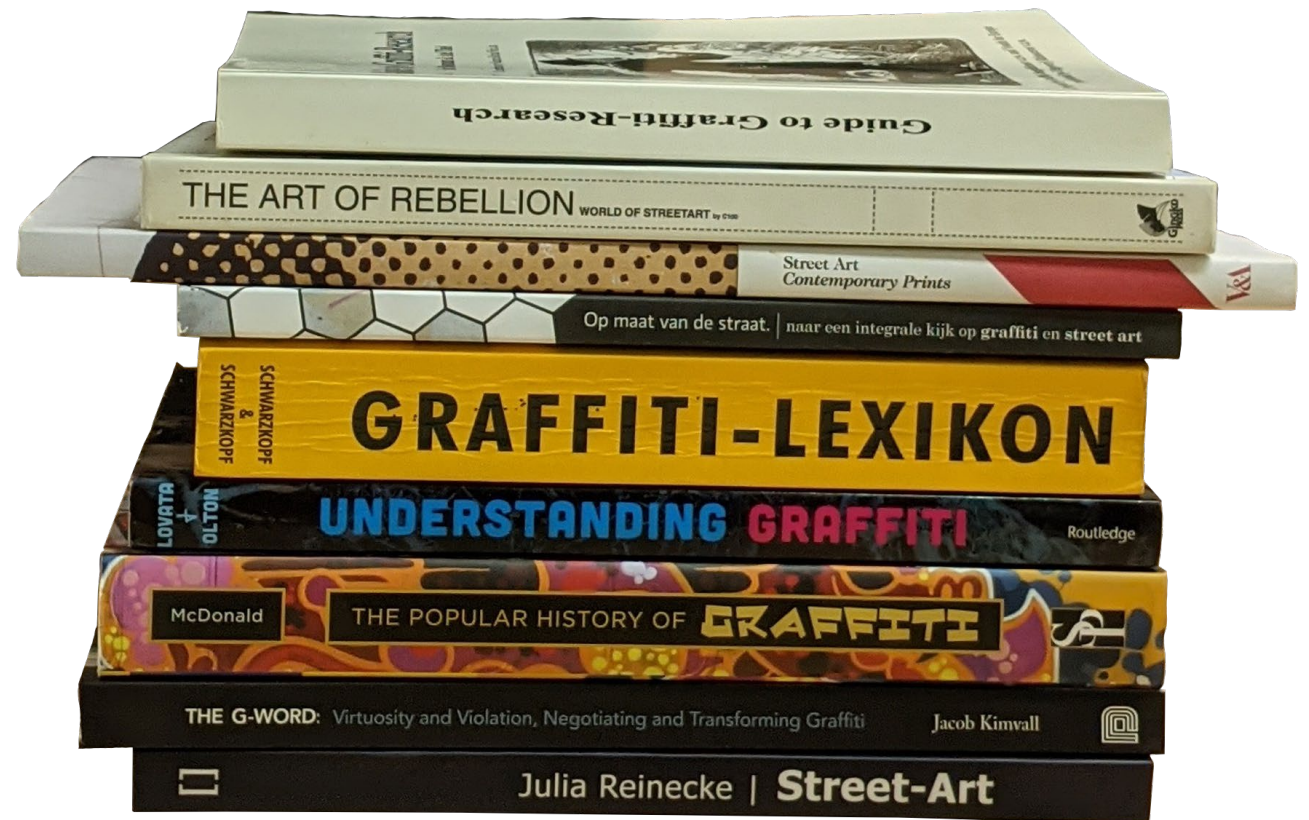
TERMINOLOGY & HIERARCHY

Graffiti ? Street Art ?

Graffiti
|___ Street Art

Street Art
|___ Graffiti

Graffiti | Street Art



GRAFFITI thesaurus

Vocabs

VocabulariesAboutEditorAPI

Help | Interface language: English ▾

INDIGO Graffiti Thesaurus

Content languageEnglish ▾

Search

AlphabeticalHierarchyGroups

- Activities <facet>
 - Physical and Mental Activities <hierarchy name>
 - Processes and Techniques <hierarchy name>
- Agents <facet>
 - People <hierarchy name>
- Associated Concepts <facet>
 - Associated Concepts <hierarchy name>
- Objects <facet>
 - Built Environment <hierarchy name>
 - Components <hierarchy name>
 - components (objects parts)
 - components by specific context <guide term>
 - Visual and Verbal Communication <hierarchy name>
- Physical Attributes <facet>
 - Design Elements <hierarchy name>
 - design elements (attributes)
 - motifs
 - @ signs (motif)**
 - anarchy symbols
 - arrows (motif)
 - bubbles (motif)
 - clouds (motif)
 - cracks (motif)
 - crowns (motif)
 - drips (motif)
 - gender signs (motif)
 - glories
 - hearts (motif)
 - natural element motifs
 - smilies (graffiti)
 - swirls (motif)

- Styles and Periods <facet>

Physical Attributes <facet> > Design Elements <hierarchy name> > design elements (attributes) > motifs > @ signs (motif)

PREFERRED TERM

@ signs (motif) 

BROADER CONCEPT

motifs

ENTRY TERMS

@
at
at-sign
at-signs
@ sign
@-sign
@-signs

BELONGS TO GROUP

sign and element

CREATOR

Jona Schlegel
Stefan Wogrin

EDITORIAL NOTE

The "@ sign (motif)" in graffiti can serve multiple purposes. It can appear as an individual symbol, a decorative element, or most commonly, in conjunction with a social media handle. This motif is a reflection of the digital age and the increasing interplay between online and offline forms of expression. It signifies the graffitiist's presence not only in the physical world but also in the digital sphere, serving as a bridge between their graffiti work and their online identity. As with all motifs in graffiti, it should be understood within its specific cultural and aesthetic context.

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BROADER CONCEPTmotifs

ENTRY TERMS

- @
- at
- at-sign
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BELONGS TO GROUPsign and element

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Stefan WogrinEDITORIAL NOTE

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PREFERRED TERM @ signs (motif) 

BROADER CONCEPT motifs

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Stefan Wogrin

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Indigo

IN-ventory
and

DI-sseminate

G-raffiti
along the

d-O-naukanal

graffiti makes people laugh, wonder, angry, think
graffiti is a **unique** | **complex** | **short-lived** | **socially relevant** form of cultural heritage

the two-year INDIGO project aims to build the basis to systematically *document* | *disseminate* | *analyse* almost 13 km of uninterrupted graffiti along Vienna's *Donaukanal* (Eng. Danube Canal) in the next decade

graffiti community engagement and *regular photo visits* allow INDIGO to build a spatially, spectrally, and temporally accurate record of most (il)legal sprayings, engravings and other personal expressions on the Canal's public urban surfaces

a *spatial database* manages all images and *relevant metadata* like style, artist pseudonym and creation data, while the involvement of graffiti creators and scholars safeguard (meta)data correctness and completeness

this database feeds a *free online platform* that empowers everyone to explore (through virtual walks or displaying the change of graffiti

INDIGO team



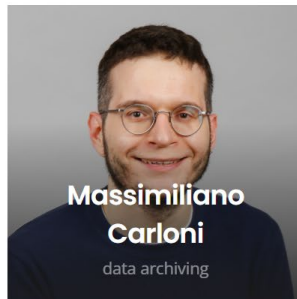
Geert Verhoeven



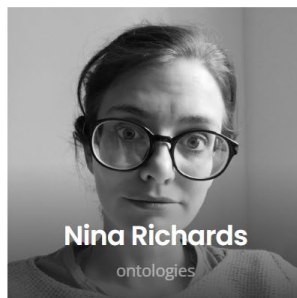
Norbert Pfeifer



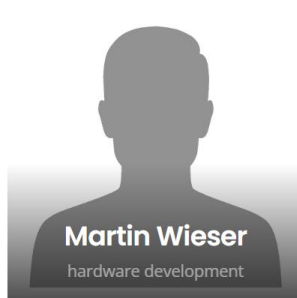
Stefan Wogrin



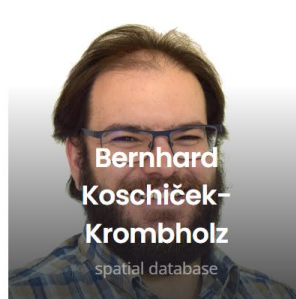
Massimiliano
Carloni
data archiving



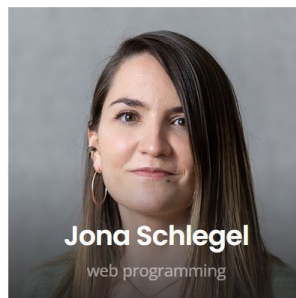
Nina Richards
ontologies



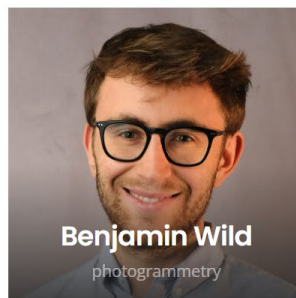
Martin Wieser
hardware development



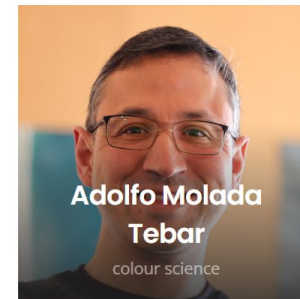
Bernhard
Koschiček-
Krombholz
spatial database



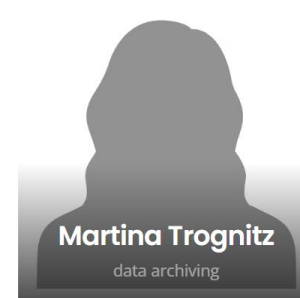
Jona Schlegel
web programming



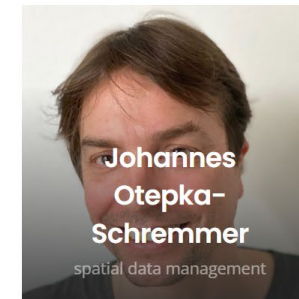
Benjamin Wild
photogrammetry



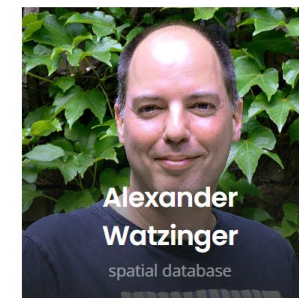
Adolfo Molada
Tebar
colour science



Martina Trognitz
data archiving



Johannes
Otepka-
Schremmer
spatial data management



Alexander
Watzinger
spatial database



From Sprayed Chaos to Smart Queries

