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# Promoting research in cultural heritage

A MEMORANDUM of Understanding (MoU) between The Cyprus Institute and the Costas and Rita Severis Foundation reaffirms the commitment of both institutions to promoting research in cultural and digital heritage.

The agreement foresees in studying and documenting the art collections of the Costas and Rita Severis Foundation, and plans to implement joint research programmes, educational courses, curatorial projects and workshops.

The MoU also commits The Cyprus Institute and the Costas and Rita Severis Foundation to promoting sustainable design and energy efficient architectural solutions, to the renovation of the building that will accommodate the Foundations' Centre for Visual Arts and Research which is scheduled to open in 2012.

The agreement was signed by Costas Severis, Chairman of the Board, Costas and Rita Severis Foundation and Professor Costas N. Papanicolas, President of The Cyprus Institute, in the presence of more than 100 people, including Ambassadors, politicians and business executives.

Severis welcomed the opportunity to conclude an agreement with The Cyprus Institute, and acknowledged the important contribution the Institute can make to the digitalisation of the collection, placing Cyprus on

the cultural map of the internet, and promoting the little known of the researched aspects of Cyprus's travel literature and artistic representation.

Severis said: "What The Cyprus Institute is herewith taking up, is laying the foundations of a project of everlasting value."

Papanicolas added: "The visual memories preserved in the art collections of the Costas and Rita Severis Foundation, present an excellent resource for study and research. The remarkable collection offers great potential for the study of the cultural heritage of Cyprus."

The Cyprus Institute was founded in January 2005. It is a non-profit science and technology research institution, pursuing issues of regional importance and of global significance in the Eastern Mediterranean, the Middle East and North Africa.

The Costas and Rita Severis Foundation is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation formed in 1999 and committed to education, understanding and cooperation amongst the people of Cyprus and between Cyprus and its neighbours. It is dedicated to promoting the culture of Cyprus and its history locally and abroad and to become a forum for research, discussions and events in the framework of peaceful coexistence amongst all the communities in Cyprus.