

Delphy 3D: The guardian of biodiversity of Capo Granitola

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Introduction

Cetacean strandings along the coasts of Sicily are considered a resource for research and scientific museology in the Mediterranean Basin [1]. Through storytelling, the "DELPHY" project presents behaviours, mysteries and anecdotes of the cetacean species in the Capo Granitola area, right in the middle of the Sicilian Channel (Fig.1). It enhances and disseminates the results of scientific studies in the field [2] on species once considered "monsters" or "beasts» and still nicknamed the "Guardians of the Cape Granitola Lighthouse" by local people [3] (Fig.2).



Figure 1: Capo Granitola, Mediterranean Sea.



Figure 2: Stranded cetaceans heavily decomposed along the coasts of Capo Granitola. The difficulties in classification contributed to the legend of monsters of the deep sea, "Tribuna illustrata" (1968).

Objectives

The project aims at creating a comic book character as an ideological tool that, through an approach based on research, innovation and development, suggests a line of thinking to be followed and used to enhance the knowledge of biodiversity and anthropogenic impacts for the protection and conservation of species such as Cetaceans.

Methods

In order to give to the specimen of *Stenella coeruleoalba* (Meyen, 1833) a new 'digital' life we used IReal3D pulsed light scanner following a tested process [4] that goes from the recovering of the specimen to the musealization of the skeleton (Fig.3).



Figure 3: Recovering of specimen of *Stenella coeruleoalba*, reconstruction of the skeleton, data acquisition with IReal3D scanner, finish of the scanning data process, mesh mapping processing and creation of a 3D file.

Results

The result of this process will be the birth of the character of the comic book 'Delphy', the creation of a hologram and the print of a plastic 3D model that can be used for the divulgation of the ecology, anatomy, evolution and conservation of these species or simply can be exhibited in a museum.

Conclusions

The creation of the "DELPHY" comic book and model represents an important challenge to communicate and promote the research and innovation on biodiversity. A story that tells the value of biodiversity by bringing together science, territory, innovation, culture and popular traditions to create a moment of promotion, education and communication open to all level audience.

We hope that it can become a tool to change the destiny of a Territory in to "Gallery-Museum" and enhance the concept of "waste" (beached dolphin) as a "resource" (Delphy).

References

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