

NEWSLETTER 75

Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

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APPLICATIONS

CLOSE UP ON RAPHAEL: RESULTS OF THE SURVEY CAMPAIGN ON THE FORNARINA PRESENTED

The results of the survey campaign on the Raphael's Fornarina, carried out from January 28 to 30 using innovative techniques and

cutting-edge machinery, followed by months of in-depth study and historical and scientific evaluation of the data acquired, were presented on September 21 at the National Gallery of Ancient Art in Palazzo Barberini. The day's proceedings featured INFN, the Barberini Corsini National Galleries, the Cultural Heritage Conservation (CBC) social cooperative and ENEA.

Thanks to the new imaging campaign, it was possible to map the distribution of the chemical elements present on the work with extraordinary accuracy, thus identifying the pigments used and understanding the process with which Raphael applied them.

In particular, the results presented concerned the survey carried out with "macro fluorescence X-ray scanning" (MA-XRF) on Raphael's work by Emmebi Artistic Diagnostics and Ars Mensurae and implemented with tools developed within MUSA (Multichannel Scanner for Artworks), a project implemented with the funding of the Regione Lazio and the collaboration of the INFN Roma Tre Division, CHNET (INFN Cultural Heritage Network), CNR ISMN, the Department of Sciences of Roma Tre University and the Department of Basic and Applied Sciences for Engineering of the Sapienza University of Rome. ■