

The Mausoleum of the Combatants of the Great War, in Lisbon

Martim ARINTO, Agnès LE GAC, Ricardo LOPES

Alto de São João Cemetery, First Cemetery of Lisbon, is especially important regarding the remembrance of the First World War, although this reality is far from familiar to most people. In fact, the Burial Plot for the Combatants and its mausoleum are a clear symbol of the Portuguese participation in the Great War. The memorial hosts a central figure that rises above the whole graveyard: the monumental statue of a combatant, cast in bronze.

Within the framework of the centenary of the First World War, a scientific investigation has recently been carried out on the material and immaterial aspects of this very statue. We invite all those interested to contact us and attend on site a conference on the memorial of the Combatants and a guided tour to learn more about it. The manufacturing process and construction of this monument, the symbolism that this case reflects in the remembrance process of the Portuguese participation in the conflict, and the impact that the historical and political context had on its development will be addressed.



As an assistant professor at the Faculty of Science and Technology (FCT) of the Universidade Nova de Lisboa (UNL), in the area of Conservation and Restoration, **Professor Agnès Le Gac** developed extensive expertise in the area of sculptural heritage. She has published numerous papers in peer-reviewed scientific journal and international conferences proceedings. Material and technological characterization of cultural assets comprising pictorial layers, and research in documentary sources (of any kind: historic features and remains, technical treatises, account books, legal documents, imaging records, interviews, etc.), essential to the contextualization and better understanding of artistic practices, are two of her main fields of activity.