

# REPORT Research Panels

WP 1 Management – D1.8

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# film\_eu\_RIT

RESEARCH \_ INNOVATION \_ TRANSFORMATION  
EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCE

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# film\_eu

## Executive Summary

The present report constitutes a deliverable in the work package dedicated to “Management”. This report records the **FilmEU\_RIT research panels** at the joint FilmEU / FilmEU RIT summit held at Dublin in June 2022. In particular, it summarises the research panels that discussed the first phase of the FILMEU-RIT pilot projects as described in the deliverable “REPORT STRATEGIC ROADMAP FOR DYNAMIC RESEARCH CLUSTERS (WP2 D2.1)”.

## Review of report

Given its nature as a record of an activity, the review process was limited to a final review by the FilmEU\_RIT coordinator and the FilmEU Management Board.

## Introduction

FILMEU, The European University for Film and Media Arts (Project: 101004047, EPP-EUR-UNIV-2020 - European Universities, EPLUS2020 Action Grant) brings together four European Higher Education Institutions (henceforth, HEIs):

- Lusófona University of Humanities and Technology, Lisbon, Portugal (ULHT)
- LUCA School of Arts from Brussels, Belgium (LUCA)
- Dún Laoghaire Institute of Art Design and Technology, Dublin, Ireland (IADT)
- Baltic Film, Media and Arts School, Tallinn, Estonia (BFM)

These institutions collaborate around the common objective of jointly promoting high-level education, innovation and research activities in the multidisciplinary field of Film and Media Arts and, through this collaboration, consolidate the central role Europe plays as a world leader in the creative fields, and promote the relevance of culture and aesthetic values for our societal wellbeing.

FilmEU\_RIT is the Horizon 2020 funded project running alongside FilmEU. With funding from the call H2020-IBA-SwafS-Support-2-2020 (Ref. 101004047), the partners intensify their cooperation in the domains of Research – Innovation – Transformation, with work packages in respect of resources and strategic agendas, impact and engagement, talent, and networking.

FilmEU\_RIT will increase the Alliance’s competences and reinforce its ability to develop activities that span all the areas of the knowledge square: education, research, innovation, and service to society, while helping the creative sector to affirm its potential for innovation and resilience in a post COVID-19 context. FilmEU\_RIT’s main objective is the capacitation of the individual HEIs that integrate the Alliance via the joint design of strategies and action plans that ensure the transformation of the future European University into an Institution that puts Research and Innovation in the fields of Film and Media Arts at the centre of its activities and operates as a highly valuable critical cultural intermediary. The Alliance wants to implement cooperatively designed policies and action plans in order to increase the profile of Film and Media Arts innovation and research, and develop projects supported by a common agenda for artistic research that, in a critical and reflexive manner, exploits technologies, consolidates alternative

paths for PhDs in this field, and reinforces the societal impact of the knowledge produced in the institutions that integrate the Alliance.

## Context of the FilmEU\_RIT D1.8 report

As part of the first work package (WP1) of FilmEU\_RIT, this report wants **to record on the research panels at the joint FilmEU/FilmEU\_RIT summit held in Dublin in June 2022.**

The objective of WP1 is to address the need for overall project management for the funding period, including different activities that establish team work, decision making, communications and collaboration, reporting, financial management and quality control.

The organisation of research panels are a key part to communicate and link the results of the **team work** of a number of research pilots with the **FilmEU research community** as a whole.

The research panels are therefore organised within the context of a summit where the FilmEU community meets yearly. This deliverable therefore is related to deliverable D2.1 (describing the selection and organization of the 5 FilmEU RIT pilots within the context of the Dynamic Research Clusters) and deliverable D1.5 (reporting on the FilmEU summit program in Dublin) .

## 1. The FILMEU-RIT Pilots

The selection and follow-up of the 5 FilmEU-RIT Pilots is thoroughly discussed in deliverable D2.1. We therefore only limit the description of these pilots in this report to a short abstract.

### 1.1 The European Archive of Short Animation

This project will produce a detailed state of the art report identifying and recording relevant sources of information on the production and exhibition of short animated films, in small European countries. The aim is to understand the future funding and resources needed for the creation of a relational database and digital archive of European short animated film, as a resource for theoretical and artistic research.

### 1.2 Decolonising the Panorama of Congo: A Virtual Heritage Artistic Research

The pilot CONGO-VR will study and re-interpret one of the late panoramas, probably the most forgotten and overlooked Belgian colonial media heritage item: the Panorama of Congo. A recall icon of the violent imperialist policies perpetrated in the former Belgian colony of Congo (1885-1960), the Panorama of Congo, by Paul Mathieu and Alfred Bastien, was dismantled and rolled up after the two colonial exhibitions where it was displayed (Gent, 1913; Brussels, 1935), and fell into oblivion for about 100 years. This giant ‘skeleton in the closet’, measuring 14mx115m, remains inaccessible and unphotographed until today.

### 1.3 Expanded Memories: Artistic Experiments into Hybrid Analogue-Digital Film Production

In this artistic research project the researchers will experiment with hybrid forms of analogue-digital (animation) film in order to create objects of tertiary memory. The project targets the following artistic and theoretical goals: (1) to expand the boundaries of the medium by making crossovers to the performative and fine arts; (2) to generate new understandings of audience embodiment, cognition and participation; (3) to develop a co-creative and interdisciplinary production process; and (4) to explore new formats of exhibition and curation beyond the traditional two-dimensional screen.

## 1.4 Machine Acts – Collaborative Screenplay Writing with GTP-3

This joint research tries to combine the enormous potential of machine learning process with human artists that work within the field. The project aims for an inclusive approach to develop different models of collaboration. Despite AI's artistic potential, we also aim to consider the material and political implications of the use of AI for artistic production that go beyond questions of authorship.

### 3.4.5 Artistic Research and Cognitive Film Studies. Towards a transdisciplinary understanding of cinema

The goal of this integrative project is to further transdisciplinary collaboration between artistic researchers and cognitive scholars working in the field of media- and film studies by establishing a common research agenda –founded in the heuristics of film practice and the overall research programmes of embodied cognition and neurocinema – that will serve as an overall theoretical framework and guideline for joint research projects and interdisciplinary and participatory experiments. More specifically, this project aims to demonstrate the heuristic and epistemological value of film practice by exploring how the artistic creative processes that are at the core of this practice (e.g., sound design, cinematography, editing) can contribute to questions that are pertinent to the cognitive study of the moving image.

The research teams of **the different pilot projects** are composed of researchers of the different partners in the FilmEU-RIT consortium.

## 2. Research Panels during the FILMEU-RIT seminar DUBLIN 2022

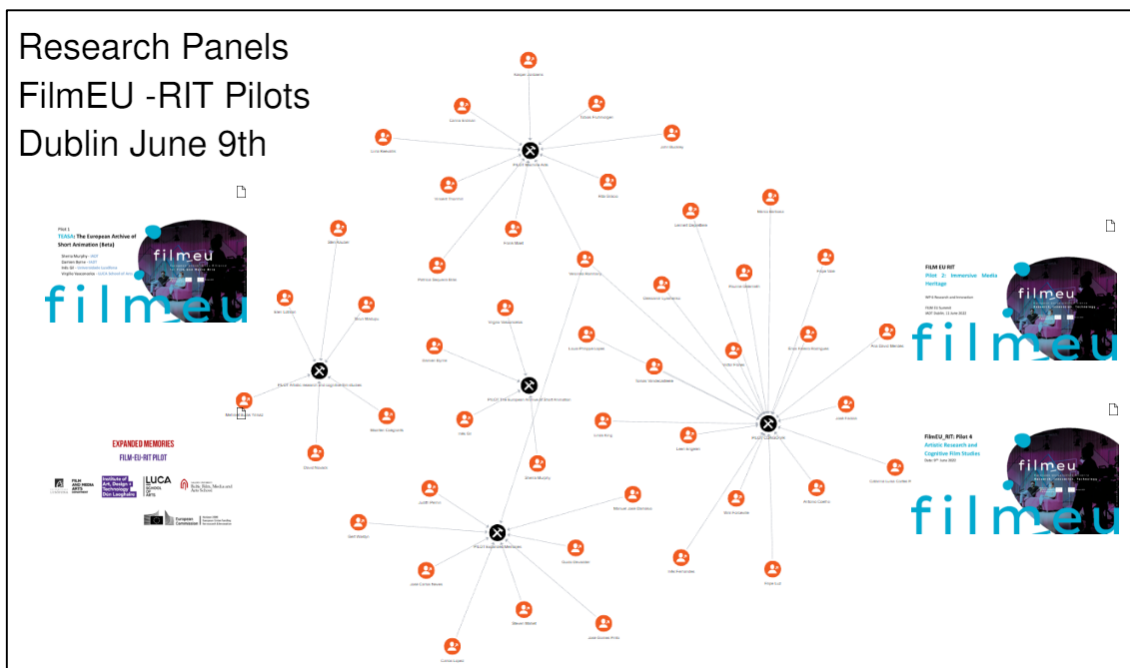
The FilmEU and FilmEU\_RIT Summit took place in Dublin in June 2022. This event had the functions of showcasing progress in the development of the projects, sharing results with the broader academic community and explore a topic the consortium considers pivotal.

In the FILMEU-RIT report D2.1 it is outlined that within the FilmEU-RIT pilot projects, there is an important focus on **networking**. This encompasses internal or external networking. Each pilot project organizes or participates in either live or online meetings to expand the expertise of the researchers by inviting other researchers of the HEIs researchers or experts in the field that can take up the role of advisors or evaluators.

The research panels organized within the scope of the yearly Summit are an extra opportunity for the researchers of the FilmEU-RIT pilots to reach out to the broader FilmEU community.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 the joint research teams presented the current status of the different research projects in 5 research panels each with the focus on one of the pilots. There was the opportunity for the full audience, drawn from across the FilmEU institutions and including a range of other researchers, teachers, students and industry partners, to ask questions and offer feedback to the research teams.

The different presentations were archived in a dedicated exposition in the research catalogue.



**Figure 1** – Source and ©: Artistic Research Catalogue ([Research Catalogue - Research Panels Exposition](#)) and Networkkeys.be ([Research Network \(networkkeys.be\)](#))

## 5. Conclusion

Although the FilmEU Summit ran for the first time in 2021, in 2022 it was the first joint FilmEU/FilmEU\_RIT Summit, in light of the latter’s commencement in September 2021. In 2022 it was the first time we organized research panels in the context of the Summit. This year the research panels focused on the kick-off of the FilmEU-RIT pilot projects and were presented by the interdisciplinary research teams of the different alliance partners.

On account of the growing volume of research activity in FilmEU, the next FilmEU\_RIT summit will take place over a longer period in Lisbon in 2023. The feedback on this event, and the areas identified as appropriate for further discussion, will inform the planning of the next research panels.