



Research Area: ENABLE: Design and Art Competences, Material Culture and Human Development | Project Timespan: 2015-ongoing

Nü-Shu. Women of (digital) design

Team:

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Nü-shu is the secret script developed by Chinese women of the Huan province in XVII century. Inspired by this unique experience in which women try to find a room of their own, the research attempts to map the stories of the women of the digital design epopea, visible in old fading pictures but forgotten by the official storytelling as other minorities. Although the research is mainly focused on the female personalities, it works on a broader systematic level and critic reinterpretation of the history of almost the last five decades of the relationship between Information Communication Technologies and design their impact on the media culture of our society.

Further more, the project faces the challenge of writing a historiography of recent years, in which documental and primary sources are affected by digital obsolescence and a sort of history black hole – as stated by Google engineer Vinton Cerf – never seen before, questioning the very concept of digital memory.

Ongoing outcome:

Guest editor, with F.E. Guida of the monographic issue of PAD journal 23/2022: Digital Memories

Call for paper (28 March 2022): <https://www.padjournal.net/new/call-for-articles-pad-21-2/>

Publications related to the project:

- Bollini, L. (2020). Missing in action. Women of (digital) design, PAD 19, 41-64. ISSN 1972-7887
- Bollini, L. (2019). Mentoring in education. Female role models in Italian design academic culture. In L. Gómez Chova, A. López Martínez, I. Candel Torres. (Eds.). EDULEARN19 Proceedings. (p. 225-234). Lisbona: IATED Academy. ISBN: 978-84-09-12031-4
- Bollini, L. (2017). Fotografie sbiadite. Donne, comunicazione, tecnologie (pp. 225-233). In R. Riccini (a cura di) Angelica e Bradamante. Le donne del design. Padova: Il Poligrafo. ISBN: 978-88-7115-986-7
- Bollini, L. (2016, ottobre). Le Pleiadi. Una prospettiva storica sulle protagoniste della rivoluzione tecnologica e del design digitale. AIS Design 8-2016. ISSN: 2281-7603