

Demo: A Virtual Museum

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Abstract. This demo covers the concept of preserving our historical consciousness in the vast and never stopping world in which we currently live – using the technology of today to create an application, recreating key museums and granting access to everybody, from everywhere.

Keywords: virtual museum, reconstruction, 3d, model, concept.

“Imagine a world in which every single person on the planet is given free access to the sum of all human knowledge. That's what we're doing.”

Jimmy Wales, founder of Wikipedia

1 Introduction

In the world of today, time is a resource which every one of us is slowly losing. In order to live life, we sacrifice free time activities so that we can study and or work. Steadily people start to forget their national history. As sad as it may be, it is a fact. However, technology is evolving, giving us new ways to preserve historical heritage.

2 The Project “A Virtual Museum”

This project in its core differs from other reconstructions. We use modern 3d visualization technology [1] and have a specific historical heritage in mind: Regional Museum of History – Plovdiv [2]. One of Bulgaria's key monuments, it houses many historical relics. One of the many exhibitions that make the museum stand out is “The Unification of Principality of Bulgaria and Eastern Rumelia of 1885”. There are others projects that have gone for 2d visualization, like Google's Art Project [3]. However, our aim is not only to show, but also to tell the story behind the exhibits.

3 Demo

From the moment the application has been downloaded and installed on the computer of the user, he now has complete access to the virtual museum. Running the program, he will find himself in the main menu, “in front of” the Regional Museum of History. Once having entered, one of the choices the visitor can make is to freely explore the expositions and artifacts. If he wants to know more, he could go on a guided tour, which will introduce him to everything, explaining key exhibits.

4 Conclusion

Ideally, with the creation of such virtual museums, where people can come as close as an actual visit to a museum, this will ignite the passion in young and old alike to get to know their history and culture.

“Know from whence you came. If you know whence you came, there are absolutely no limitations to where you can go.”

James Baldwin

References

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