PRESS RELEASE

# ARCHIVISSIMA 27
# THE FESTIVAL AND THE NIGHT OF THE ARCHIVES
# June 3–6, 2027

*November 4, 2026, Turin.* The tenth edition of **Archivissima**, the festival dedicated to promoting and celebrating archival heritage, will take place in Turin from **June 3 to 6, 2027**.
Born in 2018 out of the experience of **La Notte degli Archivi** (The Night of the Archives) - a format created in 2016 by Promemoria Group to introduce the general public to the wealth of stories, testimonies, and knowledge preserved in the historical archives of organizations, institutions, and major companies - **Archivissima** will also celebrate the twelfth edition of the Night in 2027, scheduled for **Friday, June 4**.
The Festival's Main Partner is **Intesa Sanpaolo**, with **Gallerie d'Italia – Turin**.

The theme of this new edition is **It's All True? | È tutto vero?** Finding reliable answers is no easy task. Asking questions, exploring the how and why, and investigating the roots of events are the only constructive ways to rebalance the challenge between truth and falsehood, history and legend, information and propaganda. This journey may lead us somewhere we never imagined. But one thing is certain: the starting point. Archives - the memory we all share - are there, ready to light the way. *Archivum semper certum est, Historia numquam.*
*"In the late 1930s, Orson Welles sparked panic across America when he broadcast a fictional news report on CBS announcing the landing of hostile extraterrestrials in New Jersey. It was an adaptation of the novel The War of the Worlds, but many radio listeners took it for real news. Nearly 90 years later,"* comments **Manuela Iannetti**, President and Director of Archivissima*, "that episode reminds us just how fragile the distinction between truth, plausibility, and falsehood can be, and how even the most authoritative sources can spread errors and misinformation. In an age defined by the proliferation of information, our relationship with sources has also changed, making the boundary between reality and representation increasingly blurred. Just as Orson Welles and Julien Temple did through radio, film, and television, Archivissima 27 also sets out to question and push things a little further, turning to archives themselves, the custodians of our knowledge, to ask: What happens when a copy, an incomplete account, or a plausible version of the truth stands alongside verified evidence - or replaces it? Are we sure we can tell the difference? How much do we trust our sources? We look forward to seeing what happens."*

*"Since Archivissima was first established, we have worked to make archival heritage increasingly accessible and closer to people, using languages and storytelling approaches that can reach and engage ever-wider audiences. The growth of the Festival and the Night of the Archives confirms the value of this journey and reflects the growing interest in a heritage that belongs to everyone.*
*Today, we are celebrating the winning projects of the first Archivissima Awards, an initiative created specifically to recognize the creativity of archives and their ability to innovate by experimenting with new ways of storytelling and engaging the public. We strongly believe in the*

*value of this project, which will return in 2027 with the goal of growing further, welcoming new organizations, and strengthening opportunities for exchange and collaboration among archives,"* says **Andrea Montorio**, CEO of Promemoria Group and creator of the Festival.

During the press conference, the winners of the **first edition of the Archivissima Awards** were announced. The new initiative was launched as part of **Archivissima 2026** to recognize the quality, creativity, and innovative potential of Italian and European archives. Nine awards celebrate the best digital content, live events, and archival projects presented as part of the previous edition of the Festival. The aim is to recognize original storytelling, innovative uses of archival sources, and the ability to engage audiences, while encouraging collaboration and the creation of new networks.

**The winners of the first edition are:**

• **Best Podcast,** in collaboration with **Chora Media**:
Podcast "Dove i nomi diventano storie"
"Roberto Morrione e Santo Della Volpe" Documentation Center, Rome

• **Best Video,** in collaboration with **La Stampa**:
Video "Ni muerto ni vivo. Quando l'archivio tace"
Lelio e Lisli Basso Foundation, Rome

• **"La scuola racconta un archivio" Award,** in collaboration with **Fondazione Dalmine:**
Story "Diario perduto"
Class 3F, "Bruno Munari" Art High School, Vittorio Veneto (TV), based on materials from the Municipal Archive of Conegliano (TV)

• **Best Live Event,** in collaboration with **ANAI:**
Exhibition "9278 Matera"
State Archives of Matera

• **Best Initiative - State Archives,** in collaboration with the **Direzione Generale Archivi**:
Escape room "Il sigillo spezzato"
State Archives of Milan

• **Best Initiative - Municipal Archives:**
Theatrical reading "VOCI CHE RESTANO. Il monumento mai realizzato a Giordano Bruno"
Lucca Municipal Historical Archive

• **Best Initiative - Corporate Archives, in collaboration with SEC Newgate:**
Video "L'Anatomia di un Gigante. Oltre l'orizzonte sospeso - Geografia di una rinascita tra le carte dell'Archivio Barracco"
Barracco Archive, Spezzano della Sila (CS)

• **Best Network Initiative:**
Video and project "Un archivio, anzi due. Riannodare il filo"
Liceo Classico Galileo-Michelangiolo of Florence

• **Best European Initiative,** in collaboration with the **European Heritage Label Bureau:**
Podcast "M.I.A. – Missing in Archives. EPISODIO 4"
State Archives of Siena

The numbers for **Archivissima** and the **Night of the Archives** continue to grow. In 2026, the event involved **more than 500** organizations across all **20 Italian regions**. **A total of 283 events were held: nearly 240 across the country as part of the Night of the Archives** (on Friday after 6 p.m.), **30 as part of Archivissima Extra** (held on different days and at different times in Turin), **and 23 within the Festival's main program**. These figures reflect steady growth compared with previous years. **Around 25% of the archives taking part in this edition had never participated before**, demonstrating the important work carried out by Archivissima and its partners to discover and support lesser-known organizations and bring them into the spotlight.
**Digital participation also saw a significant increase, with the website recording 45,000 visits during the Festival alone**, from Italy as well as France, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
The world of archives involved in the Festival is becoming increasingly rich, interconnected, and open, creating meaningful connections between organizations, institutions, and the public.

The previous edition also generated particular enthusiasm for "**La scuola racconta un archivio**", the storytelling contest for schools, which brought together 20 schools and 52 stories. The result of the competition is the book "***Ombre scritte a macchina***", a collection featuring a selection of the best stories created by students. For the first time, these works have been brought together in a published book, available in bookstores and online thanks to **Editrice Bibliografica**. The book was presented on October 29 in Bergamo at **Fondazione Dalmine**, a project partner. The event also featured a talk by writer **Matteo Nucci**, who led a discussion on the importance of using sources in storytelling and the creative process behind his latest book, *"Platone. Una storia d'amore"*.

**The Cantieri di Archivissima** will also return in 2027. This series of online sessions, dedicated to the archives participating in the Festival, was successfully launched during the previous edition. The program offers opportunities for further exploration and training in the different approaches to promoting archival heritage. In 2026, it featured **Giancarlo De Cataldo, Vanessa Roghi, Alina Marazzi,** and **Gabriella Botte**, who explored how to create a story, a podcast, an audiovisual project, and a live event. The series was made possible with the support of **Colloco** and **Makros** and in collaboration with **Fondazione Dalmine, Festival CinemAmbiente, and KappaFuturFestival**.
**The new series** will begin in December 2026, with one session per month through March 2027. Among other topics, it will explore the different thematic angles of the 2027 concept and guide archives in developing their own projects and initiatives.

On October 15 in Milan, as part of the celebrations marking Agip's 100th anniversary, Archivissima brought high school students closer to archives as tools for research, knowledge, and storytelling through "**La scuola va in archivio**". The event took place at Spazio **Teatro No'hma – Teresa Pomodoro in Milan**. The morning focused on the **centennial of Agip (1926–2026)**, explored through materials and testimonies preserved in the **Eni Historical Archive**.

The closing event of **Archivissima26** will take place in Naples from **December 11 to 13**, 2026, as part of *Documenta Maris*, at the Girolamini Monumental Complex. Naples has always read its destiny through the records of the sea. For centuries, shipping routes, ports, logbooks, maps, and letters have documented the ties between the city, its gulf, and the Mediterranean. *Documenta Maris* brings this archival heritage to light and makes it accessible to the public. The initiative is part of the **Napoli Millenaria – Chi tene 'o mare: naviga verso il futuro** program, under the artistic direction of Laura Valente, supported by the City of Naples and funded by the Metropolitan City of Naples.

All digital content presented by the archives participating in the **Night of the Archives** is available on Archivissima.it

**Archivissima** is the only Italian festival dedicated to promoting and celebrating archival heritage. Created by **Promemoria Group**, it is organized by the cultural association **Archivissima APS**.

The **Night of the Archives** is organized by **Archivissima** and is now in its **twelfth** edition. Since 2020, it has brought together archives from **every Italian region**, evolving into a **nationwide event** held under the patronage of ANAI, the Italian National Archival Association.

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