



## GIBRALTAR HERITAGE TRUST

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### LAUNCH OF TIMELAPSE VIDEO OF FRANCISCAN FRESCOES RESTORATION

Following on from the launch of the restored frescos in February this year, and as a further method of improving the accessibility to the 16<sup>th</sup> Century Franciscan Fresco Project to the public, time lapse videos of the restoration process have been launched across a number of platforms.

Funded by The Friends of Gibraltar and supported by the Gibraltar Heritage Trust in collaboration with His Excellency the Governor, his staff and HM Government of Gibraltar Ministry for Heritage the restoration project brings to light a hitherto 'forgotten' aspect of the history of the Convent.

A spokesperson for the Gibraltar Heritage Trust said 'Due to the location of the frescoes within the Convent frequent access is limited. The videos highlight another dimension of the detailed and delicate restoration the murals underwent and put them out into the public domain. We are very grateful to the Friends of Gibraltar for their continued support of this project.' Richard Lord from the Friends of Gibraltar Society added 'we are delighted to have been associated with this historical and important project. We have been particularly struck by the way that all the authorities have worked together to bring it to a successful conclusion. The videos will allow a better understanding of the work undertaken especially for those unable to visit'.

The video can be viewed on the Friends of Gibraltar website, [www.friendsofgibraltar.org.uk](http://www.friendsofgibraltar.org.uk), the Gibraltar Heritage Trust YouTube Channel accessible via [www.gibraltarheritagetrust.org.gi](http://www.gibraltarheritagetrust.org.gi) or a shorter version on the Trust's FaceBook page.

There is a programme of guided tours to the Frescos running throughout the year. For more information visit [www.gibraltarheritagetrust.org.gi](http://www.gibraltarheritagetrust.org.gi) or call the office on 20042844.

#### BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT:

Dating to the 1530's, these frescos were in the refectory of the old Franciscan monastery. Following the British conquest of Gibraltar in 1704, and especially following The Convent's conversion into the Governor's official residence these frescos were forgotten and covered over by plaster and paint. Rediscovered in 2004 during routine works, in 2016 funding was secured from the Friends of Gibraltar for their complete restoration. This work was undertaken by Ms. Ainoa Rodríguez Rueda, a professional conservator of the *Escola Superior de Conservació i Restauració de Béns Culturals de Catalunya*, Barcelona. The historical research was compiled by Dr. Kevin Lane, Mr. Ryan Asquez and Mr. Manolo Galliano.