

# The Portinari Project: Science and Art Team Up Together to Help Cultural Projects

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Candido Portinari (1903-1962) is the most famous Brazilian painter, whose production of more than 5,400 works is spread all over the world. The son of poor Italian immigrants, he was born in a coffee plantation, near the small village of Brodowski, in the inland of the State of São Paulo. He lived in a period of time which was very significant in the development of modern Brazilian culture. His work and interaction with other artists, poets, writers, architects, journalists, educators and politicians reflect the essence of the aesthetic, artistic, cultural, social and political concerns of 20th-century Brazil.

The Portinari Project - PP is a 40-year effort, always busy assembling the far-flung pieces of Portinari's oeuvre, life and times, to make it by all possible means accessible to researchers, students, and the public at large. In this process the Portinari Project published the first Catalogue *Raisonné* of the complete works of a Latin American painter, and undertook the "War and Peace Project", in which the monumental "War and Peace" murals that stand at the entrance hall of the delegates to the General-Assembly room at the United Nations headquarters in New York, were brought to Brazil to be restored and shown in Brazil and at the *Salon d'Honneur of the Grand Palais*, in Paris, among many other achievements.

The 'War and Peace Project' is summarized in:

<https://vimeo.com/142678776>

The PP was born in the Mathematics Department at the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, and throughout its development always maintained strong ties to the work of colleagues endeavoring scientific and technological activities. The most recent paper along these venues was submitted by Prof Nivio Ziviani, of the Computer Science Dept. of the Federal University of Minas Gerais, to **SPIRE 2019**, the 26th International Symposium

on String Processing and Information Retrieval, with the title *Improving the Search for Painting Artworks with Tags Extracted from Diachronic Descriptions*. Its most recent development is its partnership with the Google Arts & Culture Program, as can be seen in:

<https://artsandculture.google.com/project/portinari?hl=eng> and

in:

<http://tiny.cc/ne888y>