

The 'Shooting' of the Forty Martyrs: Film as Document and as Call to Action

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An introduction by the director to, and first screening of, a short documentary film on the conservation in Summer 2012 of a *sinopia* depicting *The Forty Martyrs of Sebaste* in the Church of Saints Peter and Paul, Famagusta. The director, who has previously produced films about Famagusta's heritage, discusses the role of film in both the *factual* documentation of history / heritage issues *and* in the *affectual* production of a call to action. Like the work of the conservator, the medium of film addresses cultural heritage with tools and attitudes derived from both science and art. This latest documentary highlights urgency, and also charts in detail the painstaking and laborious process of conserving such art historical treasures as *The Forty Martyrs*. It features the work of conservator Werner Schmid in a project sponsored by the World Monuments Fund, Famagusta Turkish Municipality and Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.