The only national Equestrian Art Library makes its catalogue available online

- Only Equestrian Art Library open to the public
- 1,400 printed works and manuscripts
- Around 200 engravings and original prints
- Collection includes various rare examples
- http://bibliotecaarteequestre.parquesdesintra.pt

Sintra, 28 November 2017 - Parques de Sintra is henceforth providing free access to the online catalogue of the Diogo de Bragança, 8th Marquis of Marialva Equestrian Art Library, the only national library dedicated exclusively to Equestrian Art, in the National Palace of Queluz, open to the public and part of the visitor route to this monument.

The launch commemorates the birthday month of Diogo de Bragança (1930-2012) and pays due homage to this distinguished rider and equestrian art specialist. He was a worthy successor to the 6th Marquis of Marialva, Stable Master to King José and his forefather, known for his decisive role in perfecting the Picaria Real techniques and equestrian art in Portugal in the second half of the 18th century. A highly esteemed rider, over the course of his life, Diogo brought together a vast collection of works dedicated to Equestrian Art, Bullfighting and Hunting and was himself the author of various works of great merit that drew him both national and international recognition.

Parques de Sintra, manager of EPAE – the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art, headquartered in Queluz, acquired this collection with the objective of interlinking EPAE with the study of Equestrian Art. Inaugurated in 2015, the Equestrian Art Library contains around 1,400 titles (around 2,000 works, some of which are significantly rare, including printed works and manuscripts from the 16th century to the 20th century and in addition to about 200 engravings and original prints.
The Library collection was subject to a conservation and restoration project that simultaneously included embarking on its documental processing in keeping with Portuguese and international norms for bibliographies. This involved the classification of the collection with the drafting of a catalogue table of the themes interrelated with Equestrian Art so as to divide the set of works into their various different themes. The cataloguing and indexing of the collection’s contents made recourse to a library software management program essential to appropriately providing the information and reference numbers that correspondingly locate the copies on the library’s shelves.

The online catalogue, now available either from the Parques de Sintra homepage or directly at http://bibliotecaarteequestre.parquesdesintra.pt, represents a research tool that enables more efficient access to the collection and the knowledge therein contained and correspondingly expanding the universe of potential users, whether researchers, academics, students or simply equestrian art enthusiasts.

The Equestrian Art Library, the only such national specialist establishment and a national and international benchmark reference, preserves and promotes the precious cultural legacy of Diogo de Bragança, which it aims to continue deepening through acquisitions, donations and bequests.

Equestrian Art Library Video: https://youtu.be/eYJDGl9OeQ

Useful information:
- Timetable: 9.30am to 1pm / 2pm to 5pm (from Monday to Friday; closed public holidays)
- Researcher and academic access charge: free following prior reservation via email to sandra.oliveira@parquesdesintra.pt
- Visitor charge: ticket for the National Palace of Queluz
- Further information at: http://bibliotecaarteequestre.parquesdesintra.pt

- End -

About Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua

Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua, S.A. (PSML) is an entirely state owned company founded in 2000 in order to meet the challenges arising out of the UNESCO classification of the Sintra
Cultural Landscape as a World Heritage site. The entity does not resort to the State Budget and the restoration and maintenance of the heritage in its care are ensured by the revenues resulting from sales at its ticket offices, stores, cafeterias and the rental of facilities for the hosting of events. In 2016, the sites managed by PSML (the Park and National Palace of Pena, the National Palaces of Sintra and Queluz, the Chalet of the Countess of Edla, the Moorish Castle, the Palace and Gardens of Monserrat, the Convent of the Capuchos and the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art) welcomed 2,625,011 visits, around 83% of whom were international in origin. In 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016, PSML was distinguished with the World Travel Award for the “World’s Leading Conservation Company”. The PSML shareholders are the General Directorate of the Treasury and Finance (representing the Portuguese state), the Portuguese Institute of Nature and Forestry Conservation, the Portuguese Tourism Board and Sintra Municipal Council.

www.parquesdesintra.pt / www.facebook.com/parquesdesintra

About the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art
The Portuguese School of Equestrian Art, with its headquarters in the gardens of the National Palace of Queluz, was founded in 1979 with the goal of fostering the teaching, the practice and the profile of traditional Portuguese Equestrian Art. This draws on and recovers the traditions of the Real Picaria, the 18th century equestrian academy of the Portuguese court, which used the Royal Riding Ring of Belém, today the National Coach Museum, and exclusively rides Lusitano horses bred at the Alter Stud Farm. The management of the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art was awarded by the government to Parques de Sintra in conjunction with the management of the National Palaces of Sintra and Queluz in September 2012.

www.arteequestre.pt / www.facebook.com/escolaportuguesadearteequestre
www.instagram.com/arte.equestre/

About Diogo de Bragança, 8th Marquises of Marialva (1930-2012)
Diogo de Bragança was born in Lisbon’s Palace of Grilo on 14 November 1930, the fourth male descendent of the eight children born to the 5th Duke of Lafões and the 6th Marquise of Marialva. He was educated in a simultaneously austere and cosmopolitan environment that was highly demanding culturally. A jurist and musician by education – he graduated in Law from the University of Lisbon and completed the General Composition program at the National Conservatory – he was a farmer and a breeder, activities in which he demonstrated his ability to conjugate both theory and practice, and the past and the present. Those with whom he spent time describe him as happy and expansive and an excellent conversationalist, endowed with great learning and a fine sense of humour. Single, a bon vivant, and gourmet of renown, he was a great enthusiast of fado and Portuguese literature, reciting by heart the poetry of Fernando Pessoa, an author he greatly appreciated.

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