

PUBLIC LECTURE

Rising from the Rubble

Beirut, the Phoenix of the Mediterranean

Joe Kallas

Architect, Cultural Heritage Specialist

Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Architectural Engineering, Penn State University

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 6:00 pm
Carleton University, Azrieli Theatre Room 101

Spanning a history of 5,000 years, Beirut has often been likened to the Phoenix for its recurring destruction and rebirth, recorded seven times over. This presentation delves into the remarkable resilience of Beirut, with a particular focus on the aftermath of the devastating 2020 explosion. It highlights how the deployment of innovative tools has facilitated a faster-than-expected recovery, especially amid the severe economic crisis Lebanon has faced since 2019. At the heart of this narrative is the introduction of a digital methodology designed for the rapid assessment of historical structures post-disaster, with a particular focus on 3D image-based modeling. This technology not only accelerates the recovery process but also significantly enhances decision-making during such critical times. Additionally, the presentation will examine the restoration of two heritage buildings from the 1850s, illustrating the pivotal role of technological advancements in supporting Beirut's ongoing reconstruction efforts. Ultimately, this talk aims to highlight the indispensable role of digital tools and community collaboration in the preservation and revitalization of Beirut's cultural heritage, thereby continuing its legacy as the Phoenix of the Mediterranean.

In-person lecture, not available online.

Refreshments will be served. This lecture is co-sponsored by:

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