

## Invisible restoration in the Alhambra with a fluorescent mortar

**LOCATION:** Granada

**DURATION:** 1'37"

**SUMMARY:** A mortar that is not distinguishable by normal light but is perfectly visible with an ultraviolet light. The Patronage of the Alhambra has a patent on this mortar to differentiate between the changes made in the heritage. It has been used for some time in the Nazarí monument, and those responsible for the conservation of patrimony sites in other countries have expressed interest.

### VTR:

A mortar for restoration that is not distinguishable by normal light but is perfectly visible when applying ultraviolet light. The Patronage of the Alhambra has a patent on this mortar, and it is already being used in the Alhambra. It is a useful tool for the restoration professionals such as those working in the plaster workshops.

### **Ramón Rubio** Restorer

*"This new method allows you to make all kinds of volumetric reintegration, or polychromy details of any kind of material. It is completely invisible except for the radiation of ultraviolet light. It's a material that we could work with, guaranteed that we wouldn't be committing falsification of our patrimony."*

It is applied in the same way as other similar materials, but it contains fluorescent properties that glow under ultraviolet light.

### **Honorato Justicia** Restorer in training

*"It is very easy to work with this product since it is a mortar with the normal, easy preparation steps."*

### **Alicia Rodríguez** Restorer

*"Imperceptible at first glance, but apply the ultraviolet light and you can see all the reconstructions that they are doing with both spatulas and brushes."*

Through working with this material, the professionals can distinguish between the original part and that which has been restored.

### **Ramón Rubio** Restorer

*"For the professionals it allows them to locate in real time the interventions from the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Like I said, in real time, and that means that they don't need to sample the piece."*

More than only in the plaster workshops of the Alhambra, this mortar will be used in the Tin Mal Mosque in Morocco and the Santa Clara Monastery in Tordesillas. They are also in contact with those responsible for the patrimony conservation in England and the Louvre Museum in Paris.

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