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3 in 1 Preservation Box for Scrolls

The conservation of scrolls is one of the most challenging problems for a book conservator. While flattening is recommended as the best practice, it poses a problem because it changes dramatically the scroll's nature. An innovative modular box for the preservation of hand scroll overcomes the risks that arises during the three fundamental situations:

• Storage: the box is made of archival quality cardboard and provides sufficient room for the scroll, without any variation of its nature or physical aspect.

• Handling: the box provides a safe, clean, housing enclosure. Fitting the scroll on cores in the box reduces the handling of the scroll and avoids the use of temporary and risky methods which would otherwise be necessary to prevent the scroll rolling off the table.

• Display: the scroll does not have to be removed from its box either for transportation or for exhibition. The box includes an element that keeps the scroll at the ideal slope for exhibition.

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Claudia Benvestito is a book and paper conservator at the Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana in Venice, Italy. She has been working there since 1999. Main interests include bookbinding historical techniques and non-invasive conservation practices. She gets challenge finding original solutions to box design for best preservation. She recently patented an interlocking slip case: non-adhesive, cheap and very easy to make.

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Paola Bottega is an environmental engineer. She took her Master Degree at the University of Udine in July 2012 and had an intern as a EHS junior specialist. Her main interests are: wastewater treament, air pollution control, soil remediation and remediation plants design.