

Consell de Formentera president Alejandra Ferrer and the daughter of photographer Reinald Wünsche, Alma Ajna Wünsche Matilla, have signed a deal to promote cultural heritage by securing new images for the Image and Sound Archive of Formentera (Arxiu d'Imatge i So, AISF). Staffer Xavi Oliver and Raquel Guasch, head of the island's heritage department, which oversees AISF, were present for the signing as well.

Under the arrangement, Alma Wünsche will grant local government use of 34,000 negatives and 271 slides. Shot between 1970 and 2007, the images depict scenes from Formentera and Wünsche's life.

The Wünsche material is noteworthy from both a historical and artistic standpoint, and it is indexed in the island's Inventory of Documentary Heritage.

The deal grants Formentera's government access to digital copies of what will be known as the "Reinald Wünsche Holdings". After digitising the negatives and creating back-ups, AISF will make the images freely available for any endeavour furthering conservation, research, education or cultural dissemination as per the archive's charter. Neither party will receive financial gain as a result of the hand-off.

Reinald Wünsche

Reinald Wünsche was born in Berlin in 1943 and lived on Formentera from the 1970s until his death in 2008. His black and white photographs are imbued by a commitment to the island of Formentera.

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