

Gallerie d'Italia – Naples

Work on Palazzo Piacentini began in 2020, maintaining the full continuity of both the banking activities housed in the building and the exhibition activities of Palazzo Zevallos Stigliano.

This impactful architectural project updates the building, whose main body was designed in 1940 by Marcello Piacentini, while preserving its historical value, as done for the other Gallerie d'Italia locations.

Works from the permanent collection are spread along three themed itineraries. On the second floor of the museum, the section curated by Fernando Mazzocca houses paintings and sculptures, mainly from the Neapolitan and southern areas, dating from the early 17th century to the first decades of the 20th century, starting with the absolute masterpiece of the collections, Caravaggio's *Martyrdom of Saint Ursula*, the last painting by the master made in May 1610, a few weeks before his death. Notable names include Artemisia Gentileschi, Luca Giordano, Gaspar van Wittel, Anton Smink Pitloo, Giacinto Gigante and Domenico Morelli. A collection of drawings and sculptures by Vincenzo Gemito forms one of the most important collections of the great artists' work, effectively documenting his extraordinary artistic career.

The second floor will house exhibitions of Attic and Magna Graecia ceramics and works from the modern and contemporary art collections. The former exhibition, curated by Fabrizio Paolucci, presents for the first time to the public in its entirety Intesa Sanpaolo's historic Caputi Collection, consisting of over 500 vases and other artefacts made in Athens, Apulia and Lucania between the 5th and 3rd centuries BC, all from Ruvo di Puglia, a town in the province of Bari that played a very important political, economic and cultural role in Magna Graecia.

On the same floor, a row of rooms overlooking Via Toledo hosts the second exhibition: a selection of works from Intesa Sanpaolo's collection of 20th and 21st century art, curated by Luca Massimo Barbero, an evocative journey through chronological juxtapositions from the post-War period to contemporary art. There are works by Lucio Fontana, Alberto Burri, Piero Manzoni, Enrico Castellani, Mario Schifano, Giulio Paolini, Alighiero Boetti, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Giosetta Fioroni, Carol Rama, Afro, Emilio Vedova, Gerhard Richter, Jannis Kounellis and Sol LeWitt.

The Gallerie d'Italia – Naples is, for all intents and purposes, a place for the people. Continuity and close connection with the urban space is established by the monumental entrance hall, which functions in symbiosis with the street. The beating heart of the building will be the large hall on the ground floor dedicated to temporary exhibitions and major cultural initiatives by top international artists and curators. The cafeteria-bistro and the bookshop can be freely accessed from Via Toledo.

Three classrooms on the second floor allow the expansion of educational activities for schools and specific audiences, always free of charge, which over the years have represented a fundamental element of the Bank's commitment to the community. A new library with a set of volumes from Intesa Sanpaolo's book collection, connected to Italy's National Library Service, will offer scholars and enthusiasts the opportunity to delve into themes and aspects related to the works in the museum's collections and temporary exhibitions.

The Neapolitan museum will continue to be run by Michele Coppola, Executive Director Art Culture and Historical Heritage and Director of the Gallerie d'Italia, assisted by Deputy Director Antonio Ernesto Denunzio.

The first temporary exhibition hosted in the new location will be the final exhibition of the 19th edition of **Restituzioni**, the two-year programme of safeguarding and enhancing the national artistic heritage that Intesa Sanpaolo has been conducting for over 30 years in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Culture. The public heritage works from archaeological sites, museums and places of worship from all over Italy restored thanks to Intesa Sanpaolo over the last three years (the pandemic has delayed, but stopped, the project) will be exhibited to the public.

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