

ITALIAN EVENTS NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2016

ART EXIBITIONS

SAN GIMIGNANO

BENOZZO GOZZOLI



Pinacoteca, San Gimignano, Tuscany

Until 1 November 2016

www.sangimignanomusei.it

FLORENCE

PAINTED WOOD SCULPTURES IN 15TH CENTURY FLORENCE

Uffizi Gallery

Until 28 August 2016

www.uffizi.com

JOHN CURRIN – PAINTINGS

Museo Stefano Bardini

Until 2 October 2016

<http://museicivici-fiorentini.comune.fi.it/bardini/>

THE GREAT MASTERS OF CONTEMPORARY ART COMPARED WITH MICHELANGELO

Galleria dell'Accademia

Until 8 Jan 2017

www.accademia.org

AI WEIWEI at PALAZZO STROZZI

Palazzo Strozzi

23 Sept 2016 – 22 Jan 2017

www.palazzostrozzi.org

MILAN

MIRO'

Mudec – Museo delle Culture

Until 11 Sep 2016

www.mudec.it

FERRARA

ORLANDO FURIOSO, 500 YEARS. WHAT ARIOSTO SAW WHEN HE SHUT HIS EYES



Palazzo dei Diamanti
24 Sep 2016 – 8 Jan 2017
www.palazzodiamanti.it

TRENTO-ROVERETO

PAINTERS OF LIGHT, FROM DIVISIONISM TO FUTURISM

MART – Rovereto
Until 9 October 2016
www.mart.tn.it

OSIMO, NEAR ANCONA – MARCHE

LOTTO, TIZIANO, ARTEMISIA. THE SECRET ROOMS OF VITTORIO Town: Osimo
Palazzo Campana
Until 29 October 2016

www.comune.osimo.an.it



NEW MUSEUMS/ ATTRACTIONS/EVENTS

LAKE ISEO

THE FLOATING PIERS

18 Jun -3 Jul 2016
Installation on Lake Iseo created by the artist Christo
<http://www.christojeanneclaude.net/projects/the-floating-piers#.Vm7GCtLhCUk>

VERONA

NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM AT THE ROMAN THEATRE



The New Archaeological Museum has been recently re-opened in Verona. The museum is located in an ex-convent on the San Pietro hillside and affords breathtaking views of the city and the Roman theatre below. The Museum is dedicated to the Roman Verona and makes the visitors re-live the everyday life of Verona's inhabitants more than 2000 years ago.

<http://www.museoarcheologicoverona.it/>

MANTUA

MUSIC ON THE LAKE

31 August – 30 November 2016

www.mantova2016.it

As part of the events celebrating Mantua Italian Capital of Culture 2016, the architect Joseph Grima will build floating installations on Lago Inferiore, one of the three lakes that surround the city. Visitors will be able to walk on the seven linked-up floating "islands" and experience music and other events live on this "archipelago" resembling lotus flowers on a pond.

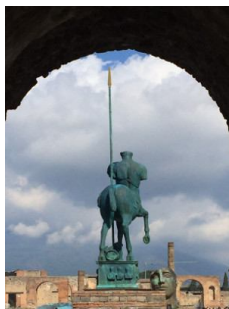
CUMAE, NEAR NAPLES

CAVE OF THE SYBIL NOW RE-OPENED

The entrance to the legendary Cave of the Sybil in Cumae has recently been re-opened after a period of restoration and it is now open every day to visitors. The cave is an artificial gallery built in the Roman era and, according to history sources, was the place where the famous Cumae Sybil operated and divulged her "oracles", guidance for the Roman people to follow, given to the Sybil by the Gods.

POMPEII

MITORAJ IN POMPEII



Until 8 Jan 2017

<http://www.pompeiiites.org/Sezione.jsp?idSezione=7191>

The latest exhibition of the works of the Polish sculptor Igor Mitoraj is now open in Pompeii's Archaeological Park. The Centaur and the Blue Icarus are displayed in the Roman Forum, Dedalus in the Temple of Venus, the Centurion in the Terme Stabiane and the Winged Icarus in the Triangular Forum. Until January 8 2017, these thirty sculptures by Mitoraj will inhabit the most famous and evocative places of Ancient Pompeii, in close connection with its streets and squares.

RE-OPENING OF THE ANTIQUARIUM AND OPENING OF THE VILLA REALE

After 36 years of closure due to the Irpinia earthquake, the restored Antiquarium in Pompeii has now re-opened. It hosts relics of the ancient Roman city in a new set up with multimedia aids to help the visitor to re-live the atmosphere of Pompeii in real time. Also there is an important new addition, the Villa Reale, never seen by the public where the visitors can admire reconstructions of Roman daily life in Pompeii such as the imposing dining room, the triclinium, the frescos of Ariadne, Teseus and the Minotaur, Dedalus flight etc.

REGGIO CALABRIA

RE-OPENING OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM – RIACE'S BRONZES

<http://www.archeocalabria.beniculturali.it/>

The Reggio Calabria Archaeological Museum has recently re-opened after a period of intensive restoration work and hosts significant relics of the Calabrian colonies of Magna Graecia. The museum's building stands in the heart of the city, facing Piazza de Nava, at a short distance from the famous "I. Falcomatà" promenade. From 1981 it hosts the celebrated Riace Bronzes, found underwater in 1972, and which have now been given new space to be admired in all their splendour.

FESTIVALS AND OTHER CULTURAL EVENTS

CARACALLA THERMAL BATHS OPERA SEASON IN ROME

Rome 22 Jun – 10 Aug 2016

www.operaroma.it



This year the Caracalla Opera Season will present a rich programme of opera and ballet in the magnificent Caracalla Thermal Baths in Rome. The spectacular backdrop will enhance the enjoyment of operas such as: Nabucco, Il Barbiere di Siviglia, Madame Butterfly and ballet such as Nureyev tribute and a recital by the acclaimed dancer Roberto Bolle. Performances by the Chinese pianist Lang Lang, and legends like Lionel Ritchie and Neil Young are also in the programme. This year, with the MyCaracalla initiative it is also

possible to combine a guided visit to the Caracalla Thermal baths at night and a gourmet aperitif before an opera or ballet of your choice.

ARENA DI VERONA

Verona – 24 June – 28 August 2016

www.arena.it

The International Opera Festival, now in its 94th edition presents a rich calendar of events. The operas to be performed this year are: Aida, Carmen, La Traviata, Turandot, Il Trovatore. Arena di Verona welcomes once again artists and public in its magnificent setting.

62nd PUCCINI FESTIVAL

Torre del Lago – 15 July – 13 August 2016

www.puccinifestival.it

Torre del Lago hosts the Festival Puccini, created by Puccini himself, since 1930. The outdoor theatre, close to Villa Mausoleo where the Master's remains lie, is an amazing setting to enjoy the music of one of the most outstanding and esteemed Italian artists worldwide. Operas on show in 2016 are: Madame Butterfly, Tosca, La Bohème and Turandot.

SFERISTERIO OPERA FESTIVAL

Macerata, 22 July – 13 August 2016

www.sferisterio.it

This will be the 52nd edition of the Festival and it will stage : Othello, Norma, Il Trovatore. The Opera Festival is hosted almost entirely in the magnificent theatre-shaped Sferisterio, unique in its architectural genre. Designed in 1823 by architect Ireneo Aleandri, it derives its name and its half-

circumference shaped plan from the name of the game played inside: the “armband ball” or Pallone col bracciale.

ROSSINI OPERA FESTIVAL

Pesaro, 8-20 August 2016

www.rossinioperafestival.it



This festival is entirely dedicated to the music and operas of Gioacchino Rossini, who was born in the Le Marche city of Pesaro. This year will be the 37th edition of the festival and the programme includes: La donna del lago, Il Turco in Italia, Ciro in Babilonia and Youth Festival.

55th STRESA FESTIVAL

Stresa 19 Jul- 6 Sep 2016

www.stresafestival.eu

Stresa Festival opens its doors to the public continuing its tradition of excellent music, art and culture, held in a number of venues around Lake Maggiore, Lake Orta, Val d'Ossola on various dates.

17th EDITION OF SUMMER JAMBOREE

Senigallia, Marche

30 Jul- 9 Aug 2016

www.summerjamboree.com

This music Festival is dedicated to the music and culture in America in the '40s and '50s with live concerts of dj set swing, rock'n'roll, jive, doo-wop, rhythm'n'blues, hill-billy e western swing .Stands will sell: juke box, hats, gadgets, guitars, vynils, CDs and other objects of that era. There will also be a '40s and '50s classic cars show.

VENICE FILM FESTIVAL

Venice, 31 Aug – 10 Sept 2016

www.labiennale.org

Venice will host the 73rd edition of this film festival, one of the oldest and most famous. Thousands of visitors, dozens of stars and hundreds of projections are crammed into ten days of fabulous festivities and parties. The Festival is hosted at the Lido Island in the Venice Lagoon.

MITO SETTEMBRE MUSICA

Turin and Milan

2-22 September 2016 – various locations in Turin and Milan

www.mitosettembremusica.it

This is a major festival developed from the thirty years experience of Settembre Musica which connects Turin and Milan, in a programme of refined and stirring concerts: the world's best orchestras, baroque opera, medieval music, the great maestros of contemporary music and the music from the most distant places; jazz, open-air shows, night-time concerts...

FESTIVAL LETTERATURA

Mantova – 7-11 September 2016

www.festivaletteratura.it

This will be the 20th edition of the Festival of Literature and offers cultural events, readings, shows, concerts, all full of fun and originality.

SPORT

91st EDITION OF THE PALIO DEL GOLFO

7 August 2016, La Spezia

www.paliodelgolfo.it



The thirteen hamlets of the Gulf compete to win the *Palio* aboard handmade boats built by local craftsmen, with special characteristics that make them agile and fast. The sport competition is preceded by parades, events, shows and meetings, which liven up the entire town for days; it finishes late in the evening on the first Sunday of August, with fireworks displays.

BARCOLANA – SAIL RACE

Trieste – 9 October 2016

www.barcolana.it

Every year more than two thousand sails meet in the Gulf of Trieste. The 16 mile nautical route, Europe's biggest sailing event and the only regatta in the world to set a single start line for so many yachts.

HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENTS/FOLKLORE

QUINTANA OF FOLIGNO

Foligno – 17-18 June and 17-18 September 2016

www.quintana.it

Foligno, in the heart of Umbria and Italy, is famous worldwide for the Quintana, the jousting tournament which in June and September renews the challenge among the knights of its ten "sestieri". An exciting challenge where each knight, riding his own galloping horse, has to catch a series of rings (which gradually become smaller and smaller) hanging from a wooden statue called "Quintana". It is a great feast of people, colours and passions, but also an accurate historical, scenic, iconographic and gastronomic reconstruction of the Italian Baroque.

QUINTANA OF ASCOLI PICENO

Ascoli Piceno – 9 Jul and 7 August 2016

www.quintanadiascoli.it



Ascoli Piceno in the Marche region, hosts each year the historical Quintana, a re-enactment of Medieval customs and practices. The participants are dressed in Medieval costumes and walk in procession along the streets of the city in each "sestiere" (city quarter), followed by flag bearers and archers. In the restaurants of the city one can taste typical food and wine and the festivities culminate with the blessing of the knights participating to the Palio by the city's Bishop and the

Palio itself.

THE PALIO OF SIENA

Siena – July 2nd/ August 16th 2016

www.comune.siena.it

Everyday life grinds to a halt as Siena celebrates its most ancient and sacred ritual: horses and riders representing ten of Siena's seventeen contrade, or districts, race around the ring of tufo rock that covers the Piazza del Campo. On 2 July and 16 August the long afternoon begins in the heart of each contrada with the blessing of the horses, followed by the historical parade to the piazza. Finally, there is the race itself: the victorious contrada bears the banner triumphantly to the Provenzano Basilica for the "te deum" thanksgiving to the Madonna (2 June) or to the Madonna Assunta (16 August).

PALIO DEI NORMANNI DI PIAZZA ARMERINA

Piazza Armerina, Sicily – 12,13, 14 August 2016

www.feditgiochistorici.it

Plutia (the old Piazza Armerina) is home to the most ancient medieval event in Southern Italy which takes place every year from August 12-14 in honour of Madonna Maria SS. Delle Vittorie. The event is a re-enactment of Sicily being conquered in 1060 by the Normans, led by Ruggero of Altavilla. At the end of the event, the whole procession parades through the main streets, triumphantly displaying the city flag along with its winners.

BRAVIO DELLE BOTTI

Montepulciano, Siena

Last Sunday of August, 28 August 2016

www.braviodellebotti.com



The eight contrade, or districts, of Montepulciano compete to win a painted banner by rolling 80 kg barrels uphill along a 1,800 metre route. The route is chosen in advance, and there are eight starting points, set out in two rows. Each contrada's barrel is placed in the position assigned to it by the lot that is drawn on the morning of the race. As the bell tolls in the Town Hall bell tower the umpire gives the signal for the race to start. Two men, the "pushers", roll the barrels along the competition route, winding up

through the evocative streets of the old town centre of Montepulciano to the Cathedral churchyard in the Piazza Grande. In the days leading up to the race Montepulciano celebrates the traditional Candle Procession, with a parade through the beautiful city streets in period costume, illuminated only by torchlight.

THE MACCHINA DI SANTA ROSA PROCESSION

Viterbo - September 3rd 2016

www.facchinidisantarosa.it

Each year the Medieval town of Viterbo in Lazio renews the festivities in honour of its Holy Patron. The Trasporto della Macchina di Santa Rosa, a procession which takes place in the evening of September 3rd to commemorate the relocation of the body of Saint Rosa from the Church of Santa Maria del Poggio to the church of San Damiano (the Sanctuary of Santa Rosa). The Macchina di Santa Rosa is a gigantic structure, nearly 30 metres high, which is carried through the streets by a large team of strong local men. Contests are held to select designs for the *Macchina*, which is replaced every five years.

HISTORICAL REGATTA

Venice – 4 September 2016

www.regatastoricavenezia.it

The Grand Canal every year during the first Sunday of September becomes a theatre for one of the greatest of Venetian events, the Historical Regatta, dating back to 1315 under the rule of doge Giovanni Soranzo. The Historical Regatta starts out with the colourful procession on water, formed by

the Bissone, the Bucintoro and the boats of the Venetian rowing clubs, but also the women's race on Mascarete and that of the youngsters Pupperini.

PALIO DI ASTI in Asti, Piedmont

Asti, 18 September 2016

www.palio.asti.it



One of the oldest Palio's in Italy this colourful event sees 21 contestants relive the ancient tradition of the Palio in the historic centre of this charming Piedmont town, famous for its sparkling wine, the Asti spumante. In the days preceding the race, visitors can enjoy many collateral and preparatory events: the Palio of the Flag-wavers, the colourful flea market, the trials of the jockeys on the field. The Palio itself is a difficult challenge requiring all the participants' strength and skill, passion and courage as only one of them will win

possession of the crimson banner with the coat of arms of the city and the image of its Patron Saint.

NB: INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF PUBLICATION

Stefania Gatta

Italian National Tourist Board

Press and Communications Office