

PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

WELCOME

The slumber of winter can hardly resist the excitement of February, as Florence and Tuscany awaken with Carnevale celebrations, the romance of Valentines Day, and the launch of the year's cultural programs including our favourite Black History Month Florence. There are so many good reasons to wear your best coat and take to the streets, the abundance of music, performance, historical parades, and even a Calcio Storico match (normally not seen until June!) won't disappoint. *"To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake, it is necessary to stand out in the cold."* Enjoy the last bite of the winter chill with all its magic. Warmest best wishes from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, LESLIE, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

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PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR FEBRUARY

BEST EVENT: BLACK HISTORY MONTH FLORENCE, Until March 3

Black History Month Florence is a cross institutional network for Black cultural production that celebrates the diversity of Afro-descendent Cultures in the context of Italy. The initiative is engaged in programming, advising and co-promoting over 50 events annually within the month of February, through a network formed and supported by the Comune, foundations, institutions, cultural associations, museums, schools and venues dedicated to art and to music. Black History Month Florence is broken down into BHMf Film, BHMf Art, BHMf Workshop, BHMf Talk, BHMf Food, BHMf Tours, BHMf Kids and BHMf Theatre/Dance forming a community dedicated to challenging flattened narratives about African and African Diasporic cultures and disseminating culturally diverse programming. The [full program can be found here](#) and is in both Italian and English.

BEST P&F RENTAL PICK:



The house is a portion of a 500-year old Tuscan farmhouse refurbished in 2012, located on the hills of Bagno a Ripoli. While it is set between vineyards and olive trees, it is just about 7 km from the historic center of Florence and only 400 meters away from shops and public services that lead directly into the center. And the ISF Junior school is only 1.5km away. More [images and information here](#).

BEST ANNIVERSARY: FLORENCE

HONOURS ANNA MARIA LUISA DE MEDICI, February 18

February 18 celebrates the greatest patroness of the arts in Florence history, Anna Maria Luisa de' Medici. The last of the ruling line of the Medici, she left behind an extraordinary legacy in the form of The Family Pact, which bequeathed the considerable artistic patrimony of the family, accrued over three centuries, to the city of Florence. The Pact was to prevent any of the patrimony from being removed from Florence or the state of Tuscany. Instead, she insisted, everything must remain in Florence, for all time, "for the use of the public and to attract the curiosity of foreigners." In honour of Anna Maria Luisa, Florence opens its Civic Museums with free entry for the public on the day of her death, February 18. Be sure to include a visit to the Medici Chapels to pay your respects. Civic museums: Palazzo Vecchio, Museo del Novecento, Brancacci Chapel, Santa Maria Novella, Museo Stefano Bardini. Read more about [the history of Anna Maria Luisa here](#).

BEST PARTY: IL CARNEVALE CELEBRATIONS IN VIAREGGIO! From February 9

The celebrations for Il Carnevale happen all over Tuscany, but by far the most famous and exciting is the famed Carnevale in Viareggio. There are many chances to see the Masked Parade in February, with 5 days of processions spread over the month as well as the “Great Ending Fireworks”. If there was ever a time to make the trip outside of Florence, this is it. The parades, parties, fireworks, masked balls, theatre, and culinary events are truly over-the-top. Wear clothes you don't care too much about, because it's a given that you'll end up sprayed with foam and sprinkled with confetti! Old, young, and everyone in-between, joins in the silliness.

Read [all about the history of Carnevale here](#). And find [dates and more information here](#).

BEST PARADE: CHANGING OF THE GUARD IN PIAZZA DELLA SIGNORIA, February 3

It begins with a parade through the streets of Florence, and then ends with the traditional ceremony of the Changing of the Guard. Enjoy the spectacle of drums and costumes as the "Gonfalone", the Banner of Florence, or the Historical Parade of the Florentine Republic, arrives in the centre of the Arengario, in front of Palazzo Vecchio. There are two armed soldiers positioned on either side, together with the captain and an officer who complete the Guard. Find the [times and routes here](#).

BEST HISTORICAL EVENT: CALCIO STORICO HONOURS THE BATTLE OF THE SIEGE, February 17

(From visitflorence.com)

It was the threat and siege of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, on the 17th of February 1530 that gave us both the custom of changing the guard but also strengthened the tradition of the famous game of Calcio Storico reenacted every year between the four factions of Florence. Intended as a statement of indifference to the danger that stalked the city outside of the city walls, these events had a strong symbolic impact of solidarity on those within the boundaries. “The Battle of the Siege”, when Florence struggled without allies against the Imperial troops of Charles V, signalled the return of the Medici family after their exile. Even under the stress of the battle, the match served as a challenge to the foreign troops, demonstrating just how little the Florentines felt the weight of threat just beyond its walls – even though they eventually fell in August 1530. This game, a mix of soccer, rugby and American-styled football will be reenacted in traditional Bianco and Verde costume (the Green team against the White team) on the 17th of February in front of the Santa Croce Church at 2 pm.

BEST FESTIVAL: THE BRIGHT FESTIVAL OF DIGITAL ARTS AT STAZIONE LEOPOLDA AND THE STUDENT HOTEL, February 21, 22, 23

Meetings, master classes and workshops with the best professionals in the digital arts sector - featuring a showcase of Digital Art, Lighting Design, and Electronic Music. In the evening DJ sets, live sets and performances with the most important artists of the electronic music scene at Stazione Leopolda and Student Hotel Florence. [More information here](#).

BEST MUSIC: NOTE AL MUSEO AT THE MUSEO DELL'OPERA DEL DUOMO

February 16

In its fourth edition *Notes to the Museum*, the concert series realized by the Opera of Santa Maria del Fiore, is held every year in the spectacular Sala del Paradiso of the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo. A real concert season, first created for the inauguration of the new Museo dell'Opera del Duomo, which has since attracted the attention of music fans for the quality and special features of the concerts. Artists of international fame who are rarely present in the usual concert circuits, and specially designed programs make the concerts of Note at the Museum unique. They are a moment of dialogue between works of art and music, in the name of beauty. Be sure to reserve your seat, and see the [full program here](#).

BEST EXHIBITION: FLORA COMMEDIA, CAI GUO-QIANG AT THE UFFIZI GALLERY, Until February 17

Flora Commedia features in ten interlinked galleries over sixty works of gunpowder paintings that vary in size, in addition to select artist sketches that illustrate the creative process. November 18, on Piazzale Michelangelo, Cai Guo-Qiang ignited the daytime explosion event *City of Flowers in the Sky*, inspired by Botticelli's Renaissance masterpiece *Primavera* and overlooking the city of Florence, to splendidly unveil the exhibition. The artist uses flowers as a vessel to manifest the spirit of the Renaissance: its desires and pleasures, its connection with nature, the awakening of humanity and its new perception of the human body. [More information and tickets here](#).

BEST DINING OUT: AWARD WINNING GLUTEN FREE PIZZAS AT LA LUNA

This isn't a new spot, but it's definitely worth a mention for those visitors who are wondering how well Florence caters to its celiacs and the gluten intolerant. The gluten free pizzas at this local joint have won awards for their delicious bases, and the entire menu of antipasti, primi, secondi, and dolce, are available in gluten free, so there's no need to miss out on a single dish! It's also in the super local area of Beccaria, where you can find great bars and cafes full of locals and Italian life. [See the website here](#).

BEST OF THE REST

DANZA IN FIERA: INTERNATIONAL TRADE&SHOW DANCE EVENT AT FORTEZZA DI BASSO, February 21-24

For thirteen years, Danzainfiera is the largest and most original international exhibition dedicated to dance. Expect a full program of shows and performances, alongside the official trade show for industry professionals. Danzainfiera is a unique platform of its kind, where the exhibition spaces and meeting places alternate with the stages and the classrooms to accommodate a vast program that embraces all dance styles. See [the spectacular events program here](#).

WINE LOVERS DELIGHT: L'ANTEPRIMA AT THE FORTEZZA, February 10

Over a hundred producers will be setting up in this suggestive context to present - for the first time this year - their new vintages. Don't miss the opportunity to spend the afternoon from 4 pm till 9 pm to savor over 500 types of wines. After the great success of last year, when numbers and spaces almost doubled for **Chianti Lovers**, the special preview of the Consorzio Vino Chianti and of the Consorzio Tutela Morellino di Scansano, returns again to the Fortezza da Basso in Florence. 150 companies, 4000 visitors in the latest edition, 400 journalists expected in the Cavaniglia pavilion, which will be entirely occupied by stands and events. Get [more information here](#).

HARD ROCK CAFE: SUPERBOWL GAME TIME, February 4

(From: visitflorence.com)

An American Night, kicking off at 11pm. It's the Big Game Live, the 52nd edition of the Super Bowl, the final game between the winner of the NFL (National Football League). The game starts on Sunday the 5th of February at the NRG Stadium di Houston, Texas. Bring your cheering voices and a hefty appetite!

[Read about Hard Rock Cafe](#)

FIRENZE WINTER PARK AT THE OBIHALL, Until February 24

The winter park is back for the season! Go skiing, ice skating and tobogganing on the banks of the Arno at Obihall. After heading down the 80-metre piste on skis or a snowboard or trying your luck on the ice rink, indulge in some après-ski at the bars, enjoy a hearty meal at the restaurant or join in the many children's activities. The park will remain open over the Christmas period (and on Christmas Day from 2:00pm until 1.00am). See www.firenzewinterpark.it for details.

CURIOUS APPETITE'S UPDATED LIST OF BEST RESTAURANTS IN FLORENCE

We love Curious Appetite, which began with Coral Sisk offering humble Food Tours throughout Florence, and now offers some of the best gourmet experiences on foot, along with no-nonsense guides to eating around town for every budget and craving. Her extensive guide to eating & drinking well in the Renaissance wonderland has been given a polished update, be sure to bookmark this cherry-picked list via [Eater](#). Looking for unique dining experiences in Florence? Check out the Curious Appetite [Progressive Dinner Crawl](#).

TRACES OF WWI IN FLORENCE: GUIDED TOURS OF MONUMENTS TO THE FALLEN, Until March 3

(From: theflorentine.net)

To celebrate 100 years since the end of World War I, Mus.e Firenze and the local UNESCO office, with help from Opera di Santa Croce, are organizing guided visits through some of Florence's key monuments to the fallen. As remembrance events take place across the globe, Mus.e Firenze and UNESCO have launched a series of tours that will take residents and visitors through the traces of the first "Grande Guerra" in the Tuscan capital. Two different types of itineraries are on the program. The first (1 hour and 15 minutes) offers an overview of WWI memory in the historic center, while the second (50 minutes) examines individual monuments in residential areas of the city. Tours are free, but [booking is mandatory](#).

#DOMENICOALMUSEO : STATE MUSEUMS FREE FOR EVERYONE, AND CIVIC MUSEUMS FREE FOR RESIDENTS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

On the first Sunday of every month, Florence opens up all of its state and civic museums free for residents of the city, or people born here. It's a fantastic initiative to reward the people who call Florence home, and make it easier for them to enjoy the city's treasures. Here's a list of the **state museums free to all**: Uffizi, Accademia, Bargello , Medici Chapels, Pitti Palace (all museums), San Marco, Palazzo Davanzati, Medici Villas. And **civic museums free to residents**: Palazzo Vecchio, Arnolfo Tower, Santa Maria Novella, Stefano Bardini Museum, Fondazione Salvatore Romano, Museo del Novecento, Brancacci Chapel in Santa Maria del Carmine.

You'll find more information at: www.musefirenze.it

EXHIBITIONS

TESFAYE URGESSA, BEYOND, AT PALAZZO PITTI, Until February 3

The thirty-five pieces on show in the rooms of the Andito degli Angiolini in Pitti Palace reflect the explosive creativity of Tesfaye Urgessa, born in Addis Ababa in 1983 and moved to Stuttgart in 2009, where he lives and works. The selection includes mainly works from the last two years, with just a few important exceptions. Thus, if *Trapped in the Flesh* - painted on the occasion of the Florentine exhibition - has been chosen as the opening focus, the arrangement is in chronological order and starts with *Waiting* from 2010. [Tickets and more information here.](#)

VOICES OF WOMEN: THE FEMALE UNIVERSE IN THE LAURENTIAN COLLATIONS, Until February 15

The return of a brilliant exhibition of 66 manuscripts related to the female world: on show literary works and letters written by women, dedicated, owned, commissioned and copied works by female figures, more or less famous, starting from classical antiquity to the twentieth century. [Tickets and information.](#)

BANKSY. THIS IS NOT A PHOTO OPPORTUNITY, AT PALAZZO MEDICI RICCARDI , Until February 24

Banksy, the British artist from Bristol who nobody has seen, generally defined as belonging to Street Art, represents the greatest case of popularity for a living artist since the days of Andy Warhol. The Florence exhibition comes from a rigorous selection with the best 20 images produced so far, those that have made the planetary success of one of the most complex, ingenious and intuitive artists of our time.

More information [here at the website.](#)

GIACOMO ZAGANELLI PUTS TOURISTS AT THE CENTRE OF A NEW EXHIBIT AT THE UFFIZI GALLERY, Until February 24

The new exhibition by Giacomo Zaganelli at the Uffizi makes tourists reflect on the alteration of their visit brought about by digital technology. *Grand Tourism* is composed of three videos by the same artist: *Illusion*, *Everywhere but nowhere* and *Uffizi Oggi*, where Zaganelli urges a reflection upon the identity of today's tourism, in particular upon the habit of looking at artworks (and not only) through smartphones, video cameras and similar devices. The three videos composing "Grand Turismo" are meant to be a sort of break of the public's visit where each visitor is thus expected to reconsider the experience s/he has just gone through. [More information at the website](#)

IL DISEGNO DEL DISEGNO, THE DRAWING OF THE DRAWING AT MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until February 28

At the center of the exhibition, which investigates the practice and gesture of drawing from the work of eleven artists matured near the end of the twentieth century and in the early years of the twenty-first century (Massimo Bartolini, Emanuele Becheri, Chiara Camoni, Antonio Catelani, Giulia Cenci, Daniela De Lorenzo, Carlo Guaita, Paolo Meoni, Margherita Moscardini, Andrea Santarasci and Massimiliano Turco) is not so much what is expressed through drawing as what emerges and imposes itself as a design, amplifying the boundaries of the category. [Tickets and more information here](#)

DUEL: GIANNI CARAVAGGIO. INIZIARE UN TEMPO II AT MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until February 28

On this occasion, making an exception, the invited artist chose a work exhibited in the project currently underway in the Florentine Solo museum: Piero Manzoni. Caravaggio "picks up" and "reactivates" the Manzoni Magic Base (1961) thanks to which any person or object can be transformed into a work of art. [Tickets and more information here](#)

CAMPO APERTO, OPEN FIELD: FRANCESCO CARONE. CYCLOPS AT MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until February 28

The two rooms on the first floor house the site-specific work that gives the exhibition its title and which, although separated by a wall, is a single work. [Tickets and more information here](#)

ITALY IN HOLLYWOOD AT THE MUSEO SALVATORE FERRAGAMO, Until March 10

Based on Salvatore Ferragamo's autobiography, the exhibition explores Italian migration to California and the influence that the bel paese's myths and culture had on the state. An extensive section is devoted to Californian film productions in which this Italian influence is evident. The exhibition centres around the world of art, artisans and entertainment, the fields in which Ferragamo focused his creativity, and presents them as if they were the plot of a film. Salvatore Ferragamo returned to Italy in 1927 after twelve years in the United States. With photographs, film clips, objects, clothing and artistic depictions, the exhibition will illustrate the relationships and the role played by Italians and Italian art in the birth of silent film, while also exploring this theme in a contemporary light. [Tickets and more information](#).

THE PRINCE'S FRAGILE TREASURES: THE PATH OF PORCELAIN BETWEEN VIENNA AND FLORENCE AT PALAZZO PITTI, Until March 10

On display a selection of porcelains, paintings and sculptures testifying the eighteenth-century international taste of the Ginori and Vienna manufacturers, to celebrate the magnificence of porcelain during the Lorraine Grand Duchy. The works on display – porcelain of course, but also paintings, sculptures, semi-precious stone inlay work, ivory, crystal, tapestries and engravings – serve to point up the fertile dialogue among the arts, celebrating the magnificence of porcelain in the Grand Duchy of Tuscany during the rule of the House of Lorraine. The exhibitions are included in the Pitti Palace ticket price: [Tickets and more information here.](#)

THE RAPE OF POLYXENA BY PIO PEDI, AT THE UFFIZI GALLERY, Until March 10

"Have you seen Fedi's group?". As recalled by American novelist and actress Anna Cora Ritchie, this was the question asked by Florentine art lovers to foreign visitors arriving in Florence between spring and summer of 1865. Florence was turning from the capital of Grand Duchy of Tuscany to the capital of the new Kingdom of Italy: to celebrate its rise, spectacular celebrations dedicated to Dante Alighieri were taking place all over the city. In May, in his studio in Via de'Serragli sculptor Pio Fedi unveiled the monumental marble group of the Rape of Polyxena, which today stands alongside Cellini's and Giambologna's statues in the splendid "Loggia dei Lanzi" in Piazza della Signoria. The exhibition aims at evoking the captivating setting arranged by the artist in his studio. [Tickets and more information here.](#)

PARADIGM: IL TAVOLO DELL'ARCHITETTO LEONARDO RICCI AT MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until March 28

Leonardo Ricci, a pupil of Giovanni Michelucci and protagonist of the post-war Florence reconstruction, arrives at the Museo Novecento in the year in which the centenary of his birth is celebrated. [Tickets and more information here](#)

THE WALL: 1968. DEADLINE AT MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until March 28

The third event of The Wall (exhibition format that proposes the synthesis and the visual elaboration typical of the graphically developed graphic along a 12-meter wall), sees a real site-specific project signed by Matteo Coluccia, a young artist in residence at the Manifattura Tabacchi of Florence in which Sergio Risaliti and Luca Scarlini collaborated and entitled "1968. Deadline "(20 JANUARY 2018 - 28 March 2019). [Tickets and more information here](#)

ROOM: MARIA LAI. L'ANNO ZERO, THE YEAR ZERO AT MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until March 28

Almost a hundred years after its birth, the museum pays homage to this silent protagonist of contemporary art, with the exhibition "The Year Zero" (until March 28, 2019) dedicated to the cribs in terracotta, stones, fabric and wood, one of the themes more expensive to the artist, already present in Florence in the monographic Maria Lai. Il Filo and l'infinito, an exhibition dedicated this spring to

Palazzo Pitti. [Tickets and more information here](#)

SOLO: MEDARO ROSSO AT MUSEO NOVECENTO, Until March 29

Medardo Rosso , curated by Marco Fagioli and Sergio Risaliti - opens to the public on JANUARY 20 (until March 28) to celebrate the works of an extraordinary sculptor, experimenter and undisputed anticipator of the contemporary. The same that in 1910 on the occasion of the "First Italian exhibition of Impressionism and Medardo Rosso" and on the initiative of Ardengo Soffici, of Giuseppe Prezzolini and of the magazine "La Voce", was recognized as "Master of European Sculpture in Modernity". [Tickets and more information here](#)

MUSEUM OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART BY COLLECTOR ROBERTO CASAMONTI AT THE PALAZZO BARTOLINI SALIMBENI , Until March 2019

(From: [artnet.com](#))

The Italian art dealer and collector Roberto Casamonti is giving his home city of Florence what it has been missing for a few centuries—a museum of Modern and contemporary art. The 78-year-old founder of Tornabuoni Art unveils parts of his personal collection in a Renaissance-era palace, which he says will be the first institution in the city to be dedicated solely to modern and contemporary art. Casamonti has selected 250 works from his personal collection of more than 5,000 works by Italian and international artists, which include pieces by Warhol and Picasso, and Basquiat. They will hang in the ornate rooms of the 16th century Palazzo Bartolini Salimbeni, under 20-foot-high ceilings decorated in gold leaf. [More information here.](#)

ANIMALIA FASHION AT THE PITTI PALACE, Until May 5

Clothes like sculptures, fabric and embroidery like paintings: everything in the rooms of the **Museum of Costume and Fashion** in Pitti Palace helps to recreate a kind of zoological stroll amid the creations of contemporary designers conjuring up the most unexpected of animal worlds. From France and Italy to China and Russia, the clothing on display provides visitors with an astonishing overview of what **Nature** has to offer **Haute Couture** in terms of inspiration and atmospherics, and **Art** as a product of imagination and creativity. The exhibition explores the relationship that fashion establishes with animals in an entertaining and poetic manner, yet at the same time it sounds an alarm bell at a time when climate change and the superpowers' dwindling interest in environmental issues are endangering countless species. [Tickets and more information here.](#)

DANCE AND THEATRE

PERFORMANCES AT TEATRO VERDI

The 'Teatro Pagliano' assumed its current name, 'Teatro Verdi,' in 1901. It was built during the Grand

Ducal period in Florence on the former site of the fourteenth century Stinche Prison. This month, see:

February 1: Prose - [La grande Storia dell'Impressionismo](#)

Jan 30 - Feb 3: Musical - [Mamma Mia!](#)

February 6: [Boxe Night Florence 2019](#)

February 7: Classical - [Giordano Bellincampi](#)

February 7-10: Variety - [Monsieur Ibrahim e Il Paese dei Campanelli](#)

February 10: Variety - [Il Paese dei Campanelli](#)

February 10: Classical - [I Concerti Aperitivo, I Fiati all'Opera](#)

February 14: Classical - [Eduardo Strausser](#)

February 14: Musical - [Musicanti](#)

February 15-17: Prose - [Dieci Piccoli Indiani... E Non Rimase Nessuno!](#)

February 17: Classical - [I Concerti Aperitivo, A Tutta Danza](#)

February 20: Variety - [Caveman](#)

February 21: Dance - [The Magic of Light](#)

February 22: Dance - [Noches de Buenos Aires](#)

February 23: Dance - [Tutu](#)

February 24: Variety - [Massimo Lopez e Tullio Solenghi Show](#)

February 24: Classical - I Concerti Aperitivo, [Tri od' Archi dell'ORT](#)

February 26: Classical - [Federico Maria Sardelli](#)

Feb 28 - Mar 3: Prose - [Aggiungi un Posto a Tavola](#)

For more information and to book tickets: <http://www.teatroverdifirenze.it/en/>

THEATRE AND MUSIC AT TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA AND TEATRO NICCOLINI

The Teatro della Pergola is a historic opera house in Florence, Italy, built in 1656 under the patronage of Cardinal Gian Carlo de' Medici. The Teatro Niccolini is the oldest of the modern theatres in Florence, which shares its history with Teatro della Pergola.

THIS MONTH AT TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA:

Jan 29 - Feb 3: [I Fratelli Karamazov](#)

The Brothers Karamazov is the last novel written by Fëdor Dostoevskij. A masterpiece that gives us the courage to be eloquent and deeply human again.

Feb 5-10: [Il Padre](#)

Andrea (Alessandro Haber) is a very active man, despite his age, but shows the first signs of a disease that could be Alzheimer's.

Feb 7 - Apr 6: [I Gialli di Poe](#)

In the most hidden and nocturnal part of the Pergola, the obsessions, torments and nightmares of the human soul are revived.

Feb 9 - Apr 27: [Sulla Scia dei Giorni](#)

Within the cycle of meetings, this year we propose the theme of dignity that may seem obsolete in our society but which should be enhanced.

Feb 10 - Apr 14: [In Sua Movenza é Fermo](#)

In its movement it is still unveils the history, characters and secrets of the oldest Italian theater.

Feb 12-17: [La Notte Poco Prima delle Foreste](#)

The themes of this author emerge in a poem for a single voice that suffers from the problems of identity, morality, isolation, and difficult love.

THIS MONTH AT TEATRO NICCOLINI:

Feb 7 - Mar 7: [I Promessi Sposi](#)

The most famous Italian historical-popular novel, as an overturned mirror of Italian behavior. Spread over four appointments.

Feb 16-17: [Destinario Sconosciuto](#)

A disturbing slash on the racial persecution of the Nazi regime, a path through the German history that tells better than a thousand words what remains "unspeakable".

Feb 22 - May 10: [Io Nel Pensier Mi Fingo](#)

The verses of the greatest poets of the '900: Pascoli, Gozzano, Palazzeschi, Betocchi, Campana, accompanied by the music of Andrea Portera

Feb 23 - May 4: [Viaggio nel Cocomero](#)

The Teatro Niccolini of Florence, in the palace of the historic Via del Cocomero, has presented shows since the seventeenth century the Academy of the Infuocati.

For more information and to book tickets: <http://www.teatrodellapergola.com/>

THEATRE AT TEATRO RIFREDI, NOW EASY TO ARRIVE ON THE TRAM LINE

The theater hall was first built as a working and social structure in 1913 but during the fascist period it was burned down, and then transformed into the Casa del Fascio. At the end of the 60s, a group of young people decided to try creating theatrical experiences. The tradition continues, and now the theatre brings in fantastic international acts to present alongside contemporary Italian performances. This month see:

Jan 31 - Feb 2: [Maratona di New York](#)

They train in view of the coveted New York Marathon. Not just a workout but a painful physical and emotional race in the maze of their lives.

Feb 3: [Che Noia La Musica Classica!](#)

You will have at your disposal a small orchestra: use it, choose the components, activate them, deactivate them, raise and lower the volume and roll the dice!

Feb 8-10: [Ceneri](#)

The New York Times wrote: "A hypnotic story of fire and disturbances!"

For more information and to book tickets: <http://www.teatrodirifredi.it/>

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

HOUSE OF SECRETS: BOOK PRESENTATION AT TODO MODO, FEBRUARY 5

Art historian Allison Levy presents her new book on Palazzo Rucellai, House of Secrets: The Many Lives of a Florentine Palazzo. The book is a character-driven history of the palazzo over 600 years as well as a personal account of her sabbatical residency in the storied house a decade ago.

More details at: [The Florentine](#)

OPEN MIC NIGHT AT TASSO HOSTEL FLORENCE, FEBRUARY 13

The best combined literary and musical open mic in town, coming up to its fourth year of monthly community and magic. Come one, come all, to either perform or just listen—it's always free. Full bar—bring your own food or snacks. Sign up begins at 8:30, and sets limited to 8 minutes per person. See you there! The first Wednesday of every month (with an exception this month while Tasso is closed for renovations). More information: <https://www.facebook.com/openmicflorence/>

STORYTELLERS FLORENCE AT TODO MODO BOOKSHOP, FEBRUARY 2

Storytellers Florence is the Florence extension of Storytellers Rome which is a monthly English language oral storytelling event. Each month a theme is voted on by members of the group and people are invited to share a personal story based on that theme. The event is free and participation is not required to attend. Come and join us! Todo Modo Bookshop and Cafe. For more information, and to vote on the monthly theme, see the [facebook group](#).

BRITISH INSTITUTE LECTURE & CONCERT SERIES

Every Wednesday at 18.00, the British Institute presents a lecture, concert or other event in the Sala Ferragamo in the Harold Acton Library, which is followed by an informal drinks reception.

February 6: [Leonardo da Vinci: Beauty and Utility](#). A lecture in English by Sara Tagliagamba

February 13: [Two Kings, two statues, two hospitals](#): How Santa Maria Nuova inspired the creation of the Savoy Hospital in London. A lecture in English by Manila Soffici

February 20: A lecture for [Black History Month Florence](#). A lecture in English by Angelica Pesarini

February 27: [The Eyes that Look](#): The Secret Story of Bassano's 'Hunting Dogs'. A lecture in English by

Julia Grigg and Giuliana Ericani

For more information about events or membership, [see the website](#).

FILM EVENTS

ORIGINAL LANGUAGE FILMS: ODEON CINEMA

The stunning Odeon Cinema was opened in 1922, built into the interior of Renaissance treasure, Palazzo Strozzi. The original palazzo design was by Filippo Brunelleschi. This month's English language films include: **The Favourite, Bohemian Rhapsody, Green Book, Vice, Roma**. This month's Special Events/ Screenings include: **Ladri di Biciclette, In The Same Boat (National Preview with the director Rudy Gnutti present)**. [Find the whole schedule here](#)

MUSIC

OPERA DI FIRENZE: MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO

From May until June is one of the most successful annual opera festivals in Florence that was founded in 1933 by conductor Vittorio Gui. Now the Fondazione Maggio Musicale Fiorentino supports both the festival, and a year round program of musical, dance, and operatic events spread across multiple venues including the spectacular, custom built Teatro dell'Opera di Firenze.

Feb 1-3: Roberto [Zarpellon](#)

Feb 2: [Alvise Casellati](#)

February 12: [Cavalleria Risticiana/Un Mari á la Porte](#)

Feb 16: [Alpesh Chauhan](#)

Feb 22: [Madama Butterfly](#)

Feb 23: [Zubin Mehta](#)

[Tickets and more information here.](#)

AMICI DELLA MUSICA

The Amici della Musica of Florence presents various concerts at one of the jewels of Florence, Teatro della Pergola. Works by Rossini, Schumann, Schubert, Brahms, Bach, Beethoven and Mozart are only a small sample of what will be performed. The concerts for this month:

February 2-4: [Mark Padmore - tenore, Roger Vignoles - pianoforte](#)
February 9: [Emmanuel Tjeknavorian - violino, Maximilian Kromer - pianoforte](#)
February 10: [Leonidas Kavakos - violino, Enrico Pace - pianoforte](#)
February 11: [Giovanni Sollima - violincello](#)
February 16: [Alessandro Taverna - pianoforte](#)
February 17: [Quatuor Diotima](#)
February 23: [Jan Lisiecki - pianoforte](#)
February 24: [Ilya Gringolts - violino](#)
February 25: [Marianna Pizzolato - mezzosoprano, Giulio Zappa - pianoforte](#)
[Tickets and more information.](#)

JAZZ PROGRAM AT CAFFÉ DEL VERONE

The Verone Jazz program includes a short interview with each performing artist to introduce the public to their music. The goal is to promote the culture of music and all forms of engagement. Concerts are free and open to the public while seats last. Every concert will have a pre-show aperitivo starting at 7pm.

February 1: [Sonic Stations](#)
February 8: [Two L's](#)
February 15: [Irene Giuliani and Daniele d'Alessandro](#)
February 22: [Galardini Loconsolo Duet](#)

THE SHOWCASE OPEN MIC AT THE VIRGIN ROCK PUB , First Friday of every month

Florence is filled with creative and talented performers and The Showcase at The Virgin Rock Pub is designed to give them a unique and special stage, hosted by Florence singer-songwriter Patti DeRosa. All creative spirits are invited to come and share their material, or just listen. The open mike begins at 9:00pm and performers can sign up (usually 3 songs). Tutti sono benvenuti! [More information here.](#)

NIGHTS OF MUSIC AT THE AUDITORIUM DI SANTO STEFANO AL PONTE VECCHIO

Enjoy a wonderful concert at Auditorium Santo Stefano al Ponte Vecchio, located in the Piazza Santo Stefano just a few steps from Ponte Vecchio and Piazza della Signoria. *Before selected concerts*, indulge in Tuscan cuisine between the 18th-century walls of Guelfi and Ghibellini Restaurant at Relais Santa Croce in the heart of Florence. This month see:

The Three Tenors with dinner, multiple dates throughout February

Add a taste of Italian lyricism to your stay in Florence: Three tenors perform opera arias and famous traditional Neapolitan songs in the heart of Tuscany's beautiful capital. The soloists are accompanied by a chamber ensemble of mandolin, cello, and piano. Famous arias from 'La Traviata', 'Rigoletto', and 'Tosca' share the program with Neapolitan favorites like 'O sole mio', 'Funiculì Funiculà', and 'Torna a Surriento'.

[Tickets and more information](#)

The Three Tenors with Ballet, multiple dates throughout February

Add a taste of Italian lyricism to your stay in Florence: The Three Tenors offer a performance featuring opera arias and famous traditional Neapolitan songs in the heart of Tuscany's beautiful capital. The event will be embellished by four fantastic dancers. [Tickets and more information.](#)

Valentine's Concert! February 14

The Valentine's Day Concert 'Opera and Ballet' offers couples the opportunity to celebrate their love with a romantic concert of opera and dance in the marvelous Auditorium Santo Stefano al Ponte Vecchio in Florence. The most suggestive Opera arias by Verdi, Puccini, Tchaikovsky and other renowned romantic composers, performed by masterful soprano and tenor voices, are enriched by charming choreographies featuring classical dancers. [Tickets and more information.](#)

La Traviata Pocket Opera and Ballet, with or without dinner, February 21 and 18

Enjoy an enchanting Pocket Opera Version of Verdi's 'La Traviata' accompanied by Ballet dancers at Auditorium di Santo Stefano al Ponte Vecchio in the heart of Tuscany's beautiful capital. In Verdi's masterwork, the beautiful but frail courtesan, Violetta, falls in love the well-born Alfredo Germont, and decides to abandon her feverish life of pleasure. But Alfredo's family intervenes, and the idyllic romance ends in tragedy. [Tickets and more information.](#)

ORCHESTRA DELLA TOSCANA AT TEATRO VERDI, February 7

Crown your stay in *Florence* with a moving concert in the magnificent *Teatro Verdi*.

The *Orchestra della Toscana* and soloists perform classical masterpieces in the breathtaking setting of the famous Teatro Verdi.

[Tickets and more information](#)

CLASSICAL CONCERTS AND OPERA AT ST MARK'S CHURCH

In the beautiful and intimate setting of St Mark's Church, the performances are complete operas, apart from one or two slight adaptations to suit the intimate setting.

This month's program includes: Love Duets, La Traviata, La Bohème

Time: 8:30pm, Price: 30 €, seniors 25 €, students 15 €. [The complete schedule here](#)

OPERA AND CLASSICAL MUSIC WITH DINNERS AT THE ICONIC CHIESA DI SANTA MONICA, FIRENZE, Various dates through January

Situated in the heart of Florence, between the San Frediano and San Spirito districts, the 15th-century Church of Santa Monaca offers an intimate and attractive location for classical music and opera performances. Enjoy a wonderful program of Opera, Classical Music, and Concert events, often pairing the evenings with Tuscan styled dinner at a nearby restaurant. The program for this month includes: Italian, Romantic, and Classic Italian Opera Selections

[More information, including dinner menus and ticket bookings](#)

EXHIBITIONS OUTSIDE OF FLORENCE

THE TAROT GARDEN OF CAPALBIO, Until March, First Saturday of the month

Until March, you can enjoy a free visit to Niki de Saint Phalle's esoteric sculpture garden based on the Tarot cards, located in Tuscany, Italy. This project started in the late seventies and ended when Niki passed away in 2002. It was her wish that visitors could experience the park for free on one morning per month over the cooler months. Take a tour of the Tarot, you never know, you might discover your future.

[Official link](#)

THE BEST OF CONTEMPORARY ART AT GALLERIA CONTINUA IN SAN GIMIGNANO

A contemporary and international art gallery in the heart of Tuscany. Galleria Continua opened in San Gimignano (Italy) in 1990. Occupying a former cinema, Galleria Continua established itself and thrived in an entirely unexpected location, away from the big cities and the ultramodern urban centres, in a town - San Gimignano - steeped in history, timeless, magnificent. Current Exhibitions:

NIKHIL CHOPRA, DRAWING A LINE THROUGH LANDSCAPE, Until April 7

Chopra's artistic practice ranges between live art, photography, installations, drawing and sculpture. In large part improvised, his performances dwell on issues such as identity, the pose and self-portraiture, the role of autobiography, reflects on the process of transformation and the part played by the duration of performance.

ILYA & EMILIA KABAKOV, THE EMINENT DIRECTION OF THOUGHTS, Until April 7

The Kabakovs' work is infused with a poetic dimension which is both melancholic and fantastical, capable of communicating shared and universal meaning.

GIOVANNI OZZOLA, OCTILLION, Until April 7

The artist frequently engages with fundamental philosophical issues, such as the meaning of life and the existence of man, the journey as metaphor, exploration as a means of confronting ancestral fears, the dialectics of light and dark, awareness of the passing of time.

NARI WARD, DOWN DOORS, Until April 7

The sculptures put on show convey an almost animistic conception of used and discarded and objects born of the assembly of various narrative elements. Artist work forms part of the long tradition of Afro-American culture for which he is one of the most important mouthpieces. [More information here](#)

LUIGI PECCI CONTEMPORARY ART CENTRE, PRATO

Since opening in 1988, the Luigi Pecci Contemporary Art Centre has built a collection of over 1000 works which map artistic trends from the 'sixties up to the present day: painting, sculpture, cinema and

video, installations, works on paper, artist books, photographs, graphic art, applied arts and commissioned projects. Current Exhibitions:

SOGGETTO NOMADE, NOMADIC SUBJECT, Until March 8

Female identity through the images of five Italian photographers, 1965-1985

Paola Agosti, Letizia Battaglia, Lisetta Carmi, Elisabetta Catalano, Marialba Russo

Nomadic Subject brings together in an exhibition, for the first time, the images of five Italian women photographers, from the mid-1960s to the 1980s, to convey different perspectives on the experience, representation and interpretation of feminine subjectivity in a period of sweeping social change for Italy.

ALEKSANDRA MIR, TRIUMPH, Until March 31

curated by Marta Papini

For its 30th anniversary, the Luigi Pecci Center for Contemporary Art presents a new entry in its collection: the monumental installation Triumph by Aleksandra Mir, shown for the first time in Italy.

Triumph, completed in 2009 and exhibited that same year at the Schirn Kunsthalle in Frankfurt, and in 2012 at the South London Gallery in London, is a spectacular installation by Aleksandra Mir composed of 2529 trophies collected by the artist across the span of a year in Sicily, in the city of Palermo and its vicinity.

THE MUSEUM IMAGINED, STORIES FROM 30 YEARS OF CENTRO PECCI, Until June 25

Curated by Cristiana Perrella .

In collaboration with Irene Innocente, Elena Magini, Marta Papini, Maria Teresa Soldani.

The 30th birthday has been taken as a chance to reinterpret and reactivate the spaces and functions of Centro Pecci after the expansion completed in 2016. The exhibition will be accompanied by a insightful program of activities connected with literature, music, performance and theatre.

[More information here.](#)

VOLAREARTE AT PISA AIRPORT: NOW IN ITS THIRD YEAR

Until 2019

(From discovertuscanyc.com)

“Well into the third edition of this initiative by the Henraux Foundation together with the Tuscany Airports, you will find a collection of 9 sculptures from Park Eun Sun gracing the Pisa airport.

This renowned Korean artist, a long time resident of Versilia, arrived in Italy to satisfy his desire to work with Apuane marbles. His artwork, known on an international level, is remarkable for the pure geometric forms composed of bi-color slabs of marble.”

Galileo Galilei Airport, Pisa

FUN, FESTIVALS AND FOOD OUTSIDE OF FLORENCE

Here we put **just a taste** of the many, many events that are happening all throughout the beautiful villages of Tuscany - brought to you from our wonderful friends at [Discover Tuscany](#). We encourage you to check out the Discover Tuscany website and immerse in the full list of markets, medieval fairs, music festivals, wine celebrations, and traditional fairs and parades. See the [special events for February here](#), or some [special suggestions for Valentines Day](#).

CARNEVALE ERUPTS ACROSS TUSCANY, Through February

And it begins!

Several cities will start their colorful celebrations for the season before lent with parades and street parties. In Italy, as in all Catholic countries, Carnival is celebrated between January and March, in the period between Epiphany (January 6) and Easter (April 1). The Carnival is celebrated today throughout Italy with colorful parades, floats and fun events for children and adults.

[Read here for dates and towns](#)

CAPODANNO CINESE 2019 IN PRATO, February 3, 4, 9-10 & 14 -17

It's the year of the Pig! Dragon parades and magic, Chinese literature and buffets in Prato to celebrate the new year, the Earth sign and the 12th sign in the Chinese zodiac on February 5: the pig. In Chinese culture, pigs are the symbol of wealth, and traditionally their chubby faces and big ears are signs of fortune as well. . With one of the largest populations of Chinese immigrants in Tuscany - Prato puts on a colorful show you won't want to miss. [Program](#)

PORTO SANTO STEFANO: REGATE VELICHE, February 3 & 17

Monte Argentario Winter Series and Argentario Coastal Race! The Yacht Club Santo Stefano, founded in 1960, built its first clubhouse from an old brig, called Spluga, moored in the harbor of Porto Santo Stefano, in Italy. Now it boasts of colors, fun and the wind in your face during these exciting events.

[Official Site](#)

SAN GIMIGNANO: ANTEPRIMA VERNACCIA, February 10 & 13

Looks good? Then it has to taste good! More than forty producers present, about one hundred the labels of Vernaccia di San Gimignano will present on Sunday 10 and Wednesday 13 February this years Vernaccia di San Gimignano in the halls of the De Grada: Modern and Contemporary Art Museum. A one of a kind opportunity to discover the products of the harvest 2018 and the riserva of 2017. [Official Site](#)

PISA: FOOD ART ITALY, February 14 - 17

Just in time for St Valentine's Day! For those who love good food, understand the importance of the art of "presentation". This fair in Pisa will highlight 4 sections - each connected to the beauty of the

presentation: Food, Wine & Beer, Restaurants, Professional Equipment, Cake Design. [Official Site](#)

GIOVEDI GRASSO, FAT THURSDAY, February 28

The last Thursday before Lent!

Be prepared for an explosion of color, parties and celebrations for Fat Thursday and be on the lookout for crispy fried pastries that are abundant during the Carnival holidays.

INVITATION TO NEWSLETTER READERS

The Pitcher & Flaccomio Newsletter would like to invite readers and friends of readers to submit announcements of upcoming events that may be of interest to visitors and residents of Florence and Tuscany, provide shopping tips, and/or comments on what's "right" or "wrong" in Florence (or the Newsletter). We can't promise to put every announcement in the newsletter, but we appreciate your support, interest and messages.

Please send an email to info@pitcherflaccomio.com or newsletter@pitcherflaccomio.com

FEBRUARY WISHES

As we savour the last slumber of winter, we wish you love and celebrations for all the year will bring.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.

Pitcher & Flaccomio Newsletter: Direttore responsabile Raffaella Galamini - Pubblicazione con iscrizione n. 5697 del 23\01\09 presso il Tribunale di Firenze.



SALE – Fiesole Apt with Florence views – 3 km from Florence
Ground floor apt. to be refurbished, approx. 110 Sq. Mt. (1100 Sq. Ft.), plus approx 10 Sq. Mt. (100 Sq. Ft.) of out door space. 2 bed, 2 bath; quiet, natural light, superb views over all Florence.

Asking Price 620,000 Euro



SALE – Ponte Vecchio Apt – Historic Center

First and top floor, listed with the Fine Arts, refurbished, approx. 120 Sq. Mt. (1200 Sq. Ft.). 2 bed, 3 bath plus study on loft; quiet, high decorated ceilings and centrally located

Asking Price 980,000 Euro



SALE – Tornabuoni Attic – Historic Center

Second and top floor in old tower of 1200 in good conditions, approx. 200 Sq. Mt. (2000 Sq. Ft.). Superb living dining space with original roof and wooden beams, 3 bed, 2 bath; quiet, private and sunny.

Asking Price 840,000 Euro



SALE – San Casciano Farm House – 20 Km South of Florence

Free standing, refurbished farm house, approx. 220 Sq. Mt (approx. 2200 sq. ft.), plus 3000 Sq. Mt. (30.000 Sq. Ft.) of garden and land. 4 bed and 3 bathroom. Autonomous heating, independent barn.

Asking price 750,000 Euro



SALE – Tornabuoni Attic – Historic Center

Third floor, refurbished, approx. 140 Sq. Mt. (1400 Sq. Ft.) plus 50 Sq. Mt. (500 Sq. Ft.) of private terrace. 3 bed, 2 bath; nice small building, natural light out door space

Asking Price 900,000 Euro



SALE – Serviced Apt's in Villa – Lucca

Refurbished Villa and Farm complex, apartments ranging from aprox. 70 sq. mt. (aprox. 700 sq. ft.) to 180 Sq. Mt. (1800 Sq. Ft.); out door and indoor pool, SPA, park and garden, reception and office; views, easy access to and from the villa.

Asking price 330,000 Euro



SALE – Duomo Apartment – Historic Center

Third floor, aprox. 160 sq. mt. (aprox. 1600 sq. ft.), with independent small studio and bathroom. 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom, views, autonomous heating, good natural light.

Asking price 695,000 Euro