

# PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES  
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

## WELCOME

It's an unusual winter with unseasonably warm days breaking up the cooler nights. It's beautiful weather for walking in the streets and countrysides, but a worry for this year's vintages as the grapes risk going into growth phase too early! Let's cross our fingers for the winemakers as we enjoy the sunshine. It is the month of Carnevale parades and parties, as well as Black History Month Florence which grows rapidly every year and now offers more than 60 events to immerse ourselves in a multicultural experience of Florence and its past and present. We hope you celebrate love in whatever form it embraces you on Saint Valentine's Day, and have a sweet and celebratory February with best wishes from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, LESLIE, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

## PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR FEBRUARY

### **BEST EVENT FOR FEBRUARY: BLACK HISTORY MONTH FLORENCE**

#### **Throughout February**

This month is filled with events for black history month, ranging from the educational to the sensory, and all of them offering an opportunity immerse and to learn.

“Black History Month Florence was founded in 2016 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.

Choose from more that sixty events including music, meals, lectures, films, exhibitions, hands on workshops and more. The full program can be [downloaded here](#) and is in both Italian and English.

### **BEST ANNIVERSARY FOR FEBRUARY: 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 creator of The Family Pact. She was the last of the ruling line of the Medici family, as she and

her brothers failed to produce any heirs before their deaths. However, she left behind an extraordinary legacy in the form of The Family Pact, which bequeathed the considerable artistic patrimony of the Medici family, accrued over three centuries, to the city of Florence. The condition stipulated within 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 on display in Florence, for all time, “for the use of the public and to attract the curiosity of foreigners.” It is she that we have to thank for the vast majority of treasures that make Florence the artistic mecca that it is today. 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.

## **BEST P&F RENTAL PICK FOR FEBRUARY: STAY CLOSE TO NATURE INSIDE THIS RESTORED OLD GREENHOUSE**

“A super modern, independent house in a very interesting and non-touristy area of Florence.”

Lovely quiet garden location on extensive, private estate, tons of light on ground floor, private garden, parking, brand new modern furnishings and appliances. Via Benedetto Fortini is approximately a 10 minute walk to Piazza Ferrucci and the San Niccolò bridge on the Arno river. The piazza Ferrucci area is full of restaurants, food stores, banks etc. This ex-greenhouse is located on the extensive estate of a Medici Villa, surrounded by its own small garden and patio. Beyond that are lawns and wooded areas



surrounding other buildings on this private, gated estate.

Newly refurbished ex-green house, it measures approx. 200 sq. mt. (approx. 2150 sq. ft.) on 2 levels and consists of:

Ground level: Entrance, Living/dining room (table for 6/8, gas flame fireplace), Kitchen (table for 4), Corridor with storage closets, Bedroom (double bed), Bathroom (shower stall), Patio, Garden (approx.

3000 sq. mt./approx. 32,300 sq. ft., with view of Duomo), Parking (covered, for 2 cars)

Lower level (17 steps): Hallway (stone sink), Corridors with storage closets, 2 bedrooms ( 1 with double bed, 1 with big twin beds, both have glass doors to open stairwell, up 17 steps to ground level), 2 bathrooms (1 en suite, shower stall; 1 tub and shower stall), 1 laundry room (washing machine and dryer), 1 studio (could be 4th bedroom), 1 storage corridor (links hallway to laundry room without passing through bedroom)

The house has just been totally refurbished in an ultra modern style, with white walls, marble floors in the entrance, living/dining room, corridor, stairs to lower level and hallway at bottom of stairs. The kitchen floor is tiled, with white cabinets and a dark grey stone counter. The bedrooms, study and lower level corridor floors are parquet. The bathrooms have stone floors and wall coverings. The living room soft furnishings are cotton. The entrance has a sky light with an electric shade.

Find more [photos and information here](#).

## **BEST PARTY FOR FEBRUARY: IL CARNEVALE CELEBRATIONS IN VIAREGGIO!**

### **Until February 17**

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 four chances to see the Masked Parade in February, 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.

The Viareggio Carnival started in 1873 when a number of local aristocrats decided to organize an extravagant parade on Shrove Tuesday (martedì grasso), before the 40-day austerity of Lent. The five masked parades through the seaside town will each have their own set of papier-mâché floats and puppets, which will parade along the famous viali a mare, down the seaside promenades, offering a wide program of entertainment and fun for children and adults. Bands and other performance groups come from all over the world to participate. At least 800,000 visitors enjoy the Viareggio Carnival each year.<sup>brit</sup>

The floats are the true crowd-pleasers. They take an entire year to construct. The biggest floats, over 20 meters high and weighing 40 tons, will carry about 200 people in costume who will dance and throw confetti and candies. Other people will be inside the floats to maneuver the weights, the counter-weights and levers that will make the puppets move. The paper maché puppets satirize public and political figures, depict social issues, as well as fairy-tale heroes. Noteworthy, is the program of related events including a large number of shows and cultural activities such as musical comedies in vernacular, a series of carnival menus available in the restaurants, festivals in the various neighborhoods, as well as numerous masked balls held in the most fashionable discotheques and ballrooms.

Parades start 3pm. Find [more information here](#).

## **BEST EXHIBITION FOR FEBRUARY: THE MONET EXPERIENCE AT SANTO STEFANO AL PONTE**

### **Until May 1**

(From [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com))

“Become one with these masterpieces. A sensorial immersion inside the masterpieces of a painter who

has thrilled his audience as no-one else before, expressing the beauty of nature in the unique moment of its own revelation. These works by the Great Master Monet and other major Impressionist artists appear in a 360° environment on the huge screens with spectacular colors.”

Santo Stefano al Ponte, Piazza di Santo Stefano, 5, 50122

For more information about the exhibit [Website](#)

## **BEST MUSIC FOR FEBRUARY: NOTE AL MUSEO AT THE MUSEO DELL'OPERA DEL DUOMO**

### **February 16**

February concert: The Duo Gazzana on violin and pianoforte.

In its third 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.

The creator and artistic director is Francesco Ermini Polacci, who designed the new program with the full support of the president of the Opera del Duomo Luca Bagnoli. 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.

The concerts are free admission with compulsory reservation (while seats are available). To meet the increasing number of requests from the public outside of Florence, this year it will be possible to book the concerts in two ways: going in person to the concierge of the Art and Culture Center (piazza San Giovanni 7) or by filling out the appropriate form on the website. In both cases, bookings start from the Thursday of the week preceding the concert date (9.00 - 12.00).

See the [full program here](#).

## **BEST DINING OUT FOR FEBRUARY: FLORET OPENS ON THE UPSTAIRS TERRACE OF LUISA VIA ROMA**

(Text from [Girl in Florence](#))

“New opening in Florence !

[Floret](#) is a contemporary urban garden restaurant located inside [Luisa Via Roma](#) in their upstairs terrace. We stopped by to check out their weekend brunch menu taking breakfast up a notch with items such as burrata-topped waffles and “Shakshouka” (a dish of eggs poached in a sauce of tomatoes, chili peppers, and onions, often spiced with cumin), plus cold-pressed juices, salads, coffee, bagels, porridge bowls and excellent cocktails. I definitely foresee this being a success as a cozy, fashion-forward hang out point just steps from the Duomo. Open 10:30-19:30 daily.”

Via Roma 19/21r, Florence, Italy

## **BEST OF THE REST FOR FEBRUARY**

### **CHIANTI LOVERS 2018: L'ANTEPRIMA AT THE FORTEZZA**

## February 11

(Text from [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com))

“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. Chianti Lovers unite with the Consorzio di Tutela del Morellino di Scansano who have also decided to combine their presentation this year with the Anteprema event of Chianti! And make plans to be in line to enter and meet producers, their newest collections and to be wowed by Chianti flavor. There is an entrance fee of 15 Euro”

Get [more information here](#).

## VILLA BARDINI ANNOUNCES FIREWORKS ON THE 24TH OF EVERY MONTH UNTIL THE SAN GIOVANNI FESTIVAL

### February 24, and every 24th until June

January 24 launched a series of events and conferences at the Observatory of Traditions and Cultural Heritage of Florence, which will prepare the Florentines for the arrival of the celebrations for the Patron Saint. Five evenings in the beautiful location of Villa Bardini, which will coordinate leisure and culture. From 7pm the participants will be offered the opportunity to visit the exhibitions held at Villa Bardini and at 8:15 pm the conferences will begin. In addition, all participants will be given the opportunity to experience a unique experience: a crackling surprise awaits you. A minute of fireworks will erupt every 24th until the patron saint's festival in June.

#### PROGRAM :

- Saturday 24 February: prof. Carlo Sisi " *I Fochi nell'arte* "
- Saturday, March 24: Fabio Baronti of the Compagnia delle Seggiole " *Readings on Fochi* "
- Tuesday, April 24: Mgr Timothy Verdon " *The spiritual symbolism of the Fochi* "
- Thursday 24 May: Dinner " *waiting for the foci* " with the participation of prof. Antonio

Paolucci

The formula is always the same:

19.00 Exhibition Open

20.00 One minute of Fireworks

20.15 Conference

21.15 Buffet

Participation in the guided tour of the exhibitions and the conference are free, with the final buffet a donation of € 10.00. Limited places, reservations required at Olivia Guardi [olivia.guardi@sangiovannifirenze.it](mailto:olivia.guardi@sangiovannifirenze.it) or tel. 055-294174.

## FIRENZE WINTER PARK AT THE OBIHALL

### Until February 25

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](http://www.firenzewinterpark.it) for details.

## **FLORENCE WINTER SALES**

### **Until March 5**

The stores of Florence have begun their annual sales to clear out their Autumn and Winter stock, in order to make room for the new season arrivals. You can expect savings of at least 50%, which often reach 70% through February as stocks dwindle. It's the perfect time to grab a few last minute winter coats to help survive the last of the winter chill!

## **INTERNATIONAL DANCE SHOW: DANZA IN FIERA**

### **February 22-25**

Danza in Fiera is the biggest and most original International Fair Event dedicated to dancing and ballroom dancing. The event has confirmed itself as the sector's reference point in terms of exhibitors, visitors and surface.

This unmissable event dedicated to sector professionals, dancers, schools, dance companies and firms renews itself every year in Florence. Danza in Fiera is a unique platform of its kind, where the exhibition space and meeting places interchange with stages and classrooms to accommodate a vast program that covers all styles of dance.

Fortezza da Basso

Find the [full program and book tickets here](#).

## **THE SUPERBOWL AT HARD ROCK CAFE**

### **February 4**

Join the Hard Rock Cafe for the biggest annual event on the sporting calendar live from Minneapolis, Minnesota. Broadcast live from 23.00, tickets include a special menu, seat guaranteed, and a special 2 for 1 offer on Nastro Azzurro bottled here.

[Buy your tickets here](#).

## **STADIO FRANCHI: ACF FIORENTINA SOCCER**

### **February 9 and 25**

(text from: [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com))

“You can't find another team with more heart than the Fiorentina! For those passionate about soccer, join those passionate about the Florence team: ACF Fiorentina. Two home games this month and one is against their arch rival; Juventus.”

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

### **First Sunday of the 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 the **civic museums also 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.

Make a note that you still have to visit the ticket offices to collect a free ticket, and they close an hour before the museums close. Some offer special guided visits or tours, but you'll need to reserve those in advance. You'll find more information at: [www.musefirenze.it](http://www.musefirenze.it)

## EXHIBITIONS IN FEBRUARY

### 500 YEARS OF MARTIN LUTHER AT THE UFFIZI GALLERY

**Extended to February 4**

From: [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com)

"500 years later. The Uffizi presents an the exhibition in "Sala Detti", of a precious core of Lutheran paintings belonging to the Medici collections. The icons of the new reformed Church will be displayed highlighting the work of Lucas Cranach il Vecchio (Kronach 1472 – 1553 Weimar), who also worked on image engravings, accompanied by reformed sacred texts, which he published himself partly as a publisher. For the first time, three series of high quality engravings that illustrate sacred topics such as the Passion of Christ, the Apostles, Martyrs of the Apostles, and other single prints are exhibited for the first time."

Le Gallerie degli Uffizi, Piazzale degli Uffizi 6

### MADE IN NEW YORK: KEITH HARING AT PALAZZO RICCARDI MEDICI

**Until February 6**

From: [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com)

The Origins of Street Art

"Palazzo Medici Riccardi has put on display the street artist Keith Haring from the private collection of Paolo Buggiani who would describe Haring as a "Genius and talent". He saved approximately 50 drawings, the first black-and-white chess pieces covering the expired advertisements."

Via Camillo Cavour, 3, 50129, Florence

### LIGHTS BY ADRIAN PACI

**Until February 11**

(Text from: [theflorentine.net](http://theflorentine.net))

"Albanian artist Adrian Paci makes his Tuscan debut with *Lights to Serve the Night (Di queste luci si*

*servirà la notte*), a solo exhibition exploring the concepts of migration, identity and ebbs and flows of populations. For Paci, mobility is an ontological condition of the human race. The Museo Novecento is the main hub of *Lights to Serve the Night*, exhibiting 15 works—three of which have never before been displayed—while clustered work at Le Murate and satellite sites in Pelago and Montelupo Fiorentino will expand the show's reach. Paci's central themes are highlighted through rather esoteric means: a highlight of this show will be the "skeleton" of a tentacled boat that was recently sent down the Arno, digging a groove in the river floor to reveal its depths. A video of the installation's findings and artistic statement will be on display in the Museo Novecento's Sala Grande. For more information, see the [Museo Novecento website](#)."

Museo Novecento and Le Murate, Florence

## **LEONARDI BRUNI AT THE BIBLIOTECA MEDICEA LAURENZIANA**

**Extended to February 23**

From: [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com)

"The exhibition with the library at the San Lorenzo church pays homage to Leonardo Bruni, born in Arezzo and Chancellor of the Republic of Florence, was a leading humanist of his time. Over sixty Laurentian manuscripts with works by Bruni are divided into eight sections: humanist writings, controversial writings, biographical writings, political writings, historical writings, translations, erasable writings and biographies."

Piazza San Lorenzo 9, Florence

## **WOOL, SILK, AND ART IN THE 1300s ON DISPLAY AT THE GALLERIA DELL'ACCADEMMIA**

**Until March 18**

(From [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com))

"Luxurious Florentine fabrics were requested throughout the old continent reaching even the most distant destinations, from the Middle East to Asia and even further. The quality of the wool, and later the silk, of the Florentine products reached, despite the very high costs of raw materials and dyes, a unequalled level of excellence. In spite of wars, frequent epidemics, as well as financial crises and social conflicts this was the new art of Florence. The exhibition highlights examples of material and textile in paintings."

Galleria dell'Accademmmia, Via Ricasoli, 58/60, 50122

For more information about the exhibit [Website](#)

## **MATERNITA DIVINE: DIVINE MOTHERHOOD AT THE OPERA DI SANTA CROCE**

**Until March 24**

(From [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com))

"A fine collection of wooden sculptures from the Middle Ages to the eighteenth century as examples of motherhood. Showing for the first time to the general public 16 valuable and large wooden sculptures related to the theme of the Madonna and the Nativity. All the works, some of which unpublished, come from different dioceses of Basilicata, Italy, where the Marian cult is still very much felt today."

Largo Piero Bargellini, Florence, 50122



For more information about the exhibit [Website](#)

## **FROM BROOKLYN TO THE BARGELLO: GIOVANNI DELLA ROBBIA**

**Until April 8**

(From [visitflorence.com](http://visitflorence.com))

“This exhibition features a masterpiece from the Italian Renaissance, today of property of the Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York. For the first time in 120 years this beautiful ceramic piece of artwork will be presented to the public, in all its splendor, at the Museo Nazionale del Bargello in Florence. At the beginning of the 16th century, the Antinori family, a name commonly associated with Tuscan wine, commissioned by Giovanni della Robbia (Florence, 1469-1529 / 30) the lunette with the "Resurrection of Christ" to decorate Villa Le Rose, the country residence just outside Florence.”

Bargello Museum, Via del Proconsolo, 4, 50122

For more information about the exhibit [Website](#)

## **LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS IN FEBRUARY**

### **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. The Cultural Programme is open to members of the British Institute of Florence. Membership options range from 24 hours (€5) to Life (€500). The Institute also hosts special events throughout the month, and this month includes:

#### **Make art, not walls: a Black History Month Florence event**

##### **7 February 2018 - 18:00, Lecture in English by Virginia Ryan**

Virginia Ryan is an Italian-Australian artist working in Italy and in West Africa. Having studied in Canberra and Edinburgh, she has worked internationally within the disciplines of painting, photography and sculpture, alone or in collaboration with artists, musicians and anthropologists, since 1981. Her lecture will include the projection of a short film *The Art of Migration* by Matteo Fiorucci and Bernardo Angeletti.

#### **Concert Alice Michahelles (pianoforte) and Francesca Taviani (violoncello)**

##### **14 February 2018 - 18:00, Music by Chopin, Vaughan Williams and Chaplin**

Alice Michahelles graduated from the Conservatorio L. Cherubini in Florence. Her repertoire ranges from Bach to contemporary music, with a particular interest for the Romantic period. Francesca Taviani graduated from the Conservatorio Santa Cecilia in Rome. She has been a member of the Quartetto di Roma, and is currently professor of Chamber Music at Conservatorio Martucci in Salerno.

#### **Il lato nascosto dell'ovvio (eccezionale, naturalmente).**

##### **21 February 2018 - 18:00, Lecture in Italian by Maria Luisa Ciminelli**

Attraverso esempi tratti dal mondo dell'arte, della psichiatria e del diritto Maria Luisa Ciminelli, antropologa, spiega come l'ovvietà di alcune espressioni linguistiche possa invece essere sorprendente. Un preciso dispositivo linguistico - concettuale regola infatti il rapporto tra norma ed eccezione, tra

inclusione ed esclusione.

## **The concept of modern art in the late Middle Ages and Renaissance**

**28 February 2018 - 18:00, Lecture in English by Robert Brennan**

In retrospect, scholars have often studied the Italian Renaissance as the cradle of modern art. But what did it mean to describe art as 'modern' during the period itself? Following period usage of this word (in Latin, *modernus*), Dr Brennan has found that a concept of modern art (*ars moderna*) was in fact widespread throughout late medieval Europe, and played an indispensable role in Florentine art writing from the 1390s forward, especially with regard to Giotto's legacy.

*The Cultural Programme is open to members of the British Institute of Florence. Membership options range from 24 hours to Life. For membership see [here](#).*

## **OPEN MIC NIGHT AT TASSO HOSTEL FLORENCE**

### **FEBRUARY 7**

February's Open Mic will be hosted by the original co-founders of the event, Marisa Garreffa and Lee Foust. They make quite the comic duo, so it will be worth making it over for a laugh.

If you're a poet, novelist, performer, playwright, storyteller- come and show us what you've got! The only limit is time: seven glorious minutes in the spotlight. You can also come simply to enjoy the atmosphere and be surprised and inspired by the performers. Enjoy the Hostel's full bar! Bring a plate of food to share if you like. The mic will be open from 9pm until 11pm--be sure to sign up with the host before 9 or during the intermission to get your spot in the limelight. Please remember to keep your contribution within our seven minute limit so everyone gets a chance to shine.

NOTE: This event was conceived in English, but all languages are welcome!

The first Wednesday of every month. Tasso Hostel Florence, Via Villani 15, Piazza Tasso

More information: <https://www.facebook.com/openmicflorence/>

## **FILM EVENTS IN FEBRUARY**

### **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, and this is one of the most beautiful cinemas you will ever find in the world. The Odeon hosts a long-running program of Original Language films throughout the year.

This month's English language films include: Call me By Your Name, Darkest Hour, The Post, The Shape of Water, Disaster Artist.

This month's Special Events/Screenings include: Alejandro Jodorowski: Poesia Sin Fin, Food Coop, Caravaggio: L'Anima e il Sangue, Corpo-Mente/Yoga, Inner World Outer World, Alain Danielou: Il Labirinto di Una Vita.

[Find the whole schedule here](#)

## **DANCE AND THEATRE FOR FEBRUARY**

## **THEATRE FOR ALL AGES AT TEATRO PUCCINI**

**February 4, 18, 15**

The Puccini theatre is in the heart of Florence, and presents a program of shows that are great for all ages. The perfect outing during the cold winter months.

February 4: The puppet show Gli Animali Riconoscenti

February 18: An award winning show of puppets and projections, Il Drago dalle Sette Teste

February 25: The fairy tale live on stage: Ali Baba e I Quaranta Ladroni

More [information and tickets here](#).

## **SHOWS AT TEATRO VERDI**

The 'Teatro Pagliano', which assumed its current name, 'Teatro Verdi,' in 1901, was built during the Grand Ducal period in Florence on the former site of the fourteenth century Stinche Prison. During the nineteenth century, Florence – which was also the capital of Italy - witnessed the construction of many theatres. The Teatro Verdi is the only one still in operation, having lived through a century and a half of history and tremendous change. For Florence and the whole Tuscan region, this theatre represents the focal point for special events and occasions, musical events, and popular performances. The Teatro Verdi was the dream project of Girolamo Pagliano. Pagliano was a former baritone and successful pharmacist who invented an elixir for long life. One of the seven largest theatres in Italy, its importance was clear from its inauguration on September 10th 1854. Viscardello, the original title of Verdi's Rigoletto, was the theatre's inaugural performance. The tradition continues today, with wonderful events and concerts at the stunning venue.

This month, see:

February 2: Florence International Music and Arts Festival

February 3: Flamenco Live

February 4: Al Cavallino Bianco

February 6: The Woman Who Left

February 10: Magic Florence

February 8-11: Dirty Dancing

February 13: Carnival Concert

February 16-18: Jersey Boys

February 20: Egon Schiele

February 22-25: Una Festa Esagerata

February 25: L'Opera di Mozart in Centrifuga

February 26: Levante

February 28: Orchestra da Camera di Mantova

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

## **THEATRE AT TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA**

The Teatro della Pergola is a historic opera house in Florence, Italy. It is located in the centre of the city on Via della Pergola, from which the theatre takes its name. It was built in 1656 under the patronage of Cardinal Gian Carlo de' Medici to designs by the architect Ferdinando Tacca, son of the sculptor Pietro Tacca. The inaugural production was the opera buffa, *Il potestà di Colognole* by Jacopo Melani. The opera house, the first to be built with superposed tiers of boxes rather than raked semi-circular seating in the Roman fashion, is considered to be the oldest in Italy, having occupied the same site for more than 350 years. It has two auditoria, the Sala Grande, with 1,500 seats, and the Saloncino, a former ballroom located upstairs which has been used as a recital hall since 1804 and which seats 400.

Until February 4: *Uno Zio Vanja*

February 6-11: *Vincent Van Gogh*

February 4-March 18: *Lezioni di Storia*

February 10-18: *Prigionia di Alekos*

February 11-May 6: *In Sua Movenza é Fermo*

Until April 21: *I Racconti del Terrore*

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

## **MUSIC FOR FEBRUARY**

### **VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER AND CONCERT AT SANTO STEFANO AL PONTE**

#### **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 a classical dancer from Florence Opera and Ballet Academy. The melodies of a Chamber Ensemble, consisting of oboe, strings and piano, will delight the public with the magic of Opera and Ballet in the most romantic day of the year.

The unique Tuscan Gourmet Menu creates a very special Valentines Day experience.

Before the performance, dinner awaits you at the 'Guelfi e Ghibellini' restaurant in Relais Santa Croce at Via Ghibellina, 87

Schedule:

6:00 pm Dinner at 'Guelfi e Ghibellini' restaurant in Relais Santa Croce

8:30 pm Beginning of concert

Find the [menu and more information here](#).

### **AMICI DELLA MUSICA AT THE PERGOLA THEATRE**

If you ever wanted to listen to classical music in a theatre where you could imagine Verdi or Mozart to

walk in any second go to the jewel box Pergola Theatre. The Amici della Musica of Florence presents various concerts at the 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 FEBRUARY:

February 3: RAFAŁ BLECHACZ, pianoforte

February 4: ILYA GRINGOLTS, violino

February 5: L'ESTRAVAGANTE - STEFANO MONTANARI, direttore e violino

February 10: DENIS MATSUEV, pianoforte

February 11: LE CONCERT DES NATIONS - JORDI SAVALL, viola da gamba e direttore

February 12: MARCO RIZZI, violino - ENRICO DINDO, violoncello - ALESSANDRO CARBONARE, clarinetto - PIETRO DE MARIA, pianoforte

February 17: ANDREA LUCCHESINI, pianoforte

February 18: JERUSALEM QUARTET

February 19: HAGEN QUARTETT

February 25: CAMERATA DUCALE - GUIDO RIMONDA, direttore e violino

See the full program at: <http://www.amicimusica.fi.it/stagione/>

#### **OPERA DI FIRENZE: MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO**

One of the most successful annual opera festivals in Florence that was founded in 1933 by conductor Vittorio Gui. Now the "Maggio Musicale Fiorentino" continues to this day, and is spread across multiple venues including: Teatro dell'Opera di Firenze, Teatro Niccolini, and Teatro della Pergola.

The Operas and Concerts for FEBRUARY:

February 4: Alpesh Chauhan

February 11: Fabio Luisi

Tickets and more information: <http://www.operadifirenze.it/en/>

#### **JAZZ AT FLORENCE FAVOURITE: PINOCCHIO JAZZ BAR**

Pass an energetic evening at one of the coolest and long running jazz haunts in town.

February 3: Di Vi KAPPA 3

February 10: TONY CATTANO 4tet "NACA"

February 17: GAIA MATTIUZZI & PASQUALE MIRRA "EX AEQUO"

February 24: TIM BERNE BIG SATAN *feat.* MARC DUCRET, TOM RAINEY

Bookings and information: [www.pinocchiojazz.it](http://www.pinocchiojazz.it)

#### **MONTHLY SONG AND WRITER SHOWCASE IN A NEW LOCATION AT SUPERFOX BAR**

**First and Third Tuesday of the month**

The Song/Writer Showcase is held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month. Come along to enjoy all original material by songwriters, authors, and poets. Florence is filled with creative and talented performers and The Song/Writer Showcase is a bi-weekly event designed to give them a unique and special stage. The Showcase is hosted by Florence singer-songwriter Patti DeRosa and presents the original works of musicians and writers (as well as original interpretations) and all singer-songwriters, poets, and authors are invited to come and share their material in the intimate setting of Superfox bar, well known for its live music and great drinks.

To perform or be the Featured Artist, contact host, singer-songwriter Patti DeRosa at [pattiguitar@gmail.com](mailto:pattiguitar@gmail.com)

Superfox, Via della Vigna Vecchia 27

More information: <https://www.facebook.com/showcaseflorenceitaly/>

## **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 € Info: 340 8119192

[The complete schedule](#)

## **OPERA AND CLASSICAL MUSIC WITH DINNERS AT THE ICONIC CHIESA DI SANTA MONICA, FIRENZE**

**Throughout FEBRUARY**

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. The interior includes sculptures and paintings by Baccio da Montelupo, Giovanni Maria Butteri, and Cosimo Ulivelli. The church plays host to 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: Romantic and Classic Italian Opera Selections

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

## **VIVALDI'S THE FOUR SEASONS AT THE AUDITORIUM DI SANTO STEFANO AL PONTE VECCHIO**

**FEBRUARY 17 and 24**

The Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina will perform Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" in the wonderful atmosphere of the Auditorium di Santo Stefano al Ponte Vecchio. The program opens with an "Air" by Bach and Mozart's famous "A Little Night Music".

Conductor: Giuseppe Lanzetta

Artistic director: Marco Lorenzini

Auditorium di Santo Stefano al Ponte Vecchio

[Tickets and more information](#)

## EXHIBITIONS OUTSIDE OF FLORENCE FOR FEBRUARY

### DUTCH MASTER ESCHER ON DISPLAY AT PISA

**Extended to February 11**

(From [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

“The exhibition will present a full review of all the hypnotic, astonishing and overwhelming masterpieces of the great Dutch, with the help of some curious exhibition solutions designed by the architect Cesare Mari and thanks to the use of technologies and multimedia, one of the characteristics of organized exhibitions at Palazzo Blu.

While remaining a long-standing landscape interpreter, Escher explores more and more the horizons of visual illusion, through geometric compositions, or creating "impossible" architectures.”

Palazzo Blu (Palazzo d'Arte e Cultura), Pisa

For Hours see [Website](#)

### LEGATI DA UNA CINTOLA: THE IDENTITY OF A CITY AT PRATO

**Until February 25**

(From [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

“The Virgin's belt, housed in a Chapel of the Duomo of Prato, will be at the center of the new exhibition in the Palazzo Pretorio Museum. The Sacred Belt, about 80 centimeters of finely green wool and gold-plated brocade, has, since the 13th century, been a precious symbol of the city's identity value and the engine of Prato's artistic events.”

Museo di Palazzo Pretorio, Piazza del Comune, Prato

### CAPALBIO TAROT GARDEN

**November until March**

(From [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

“Look with a medieval eye

This is Niki de Saint Phalle's esoteric sculpture garden based on the Tarot cards, located in Tuscany created with a medieval look. November, FEBRUARY, FEBRUARY, February & March, specifically the first Saturday in the month, from 9am to 1pm, the park's founder Niki de Saint Phalle has decided to grant all visitors free entry. If this Saturday falls on a public holiday, the Giardino will open the following Saturday.”

[Official link](#)

### VOLAREARTE AT PISA AIRPORT: NOW IN ITS THIRD YEAR

**Until 2019**

(From [discovertuscanycity.com](http://discovertuscanycity.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

## **VASARI, JACONE, E LA MANIERA BIZZARRA: 500 SELECTED WORKS AT THE MUSEUM IVAN BRUSCHI OF AREZZO**

**Until February 18**

Text from: [discovertuscanycity.com](http://discovertuscanycity.com)

The theme of the exposition: the aversion of Giorgio Vasari (from Arezzo) for certain artists. He even went as far as to describe these artists as having a: "bizarre" approach to the manner (style of art), shamelessly insensitive to him, and to the aesthetic ideal of "grace" that characterizes the excellence of pictorial production of the period.

This is a special “outreach” exhibition connected to the ongoing show at [Palazzo Strozzi 'Il Cinquecento exhibition in Florence. Between Michelangelo, Pontorno and Giambologna'](#). This showing in Arezzo feature work by artist from the same time period: Jacone, Tommaso Bernabei, called Il Papacello, Maso da San Friano and an unpublished 'Madonna with Child' made by Bacchiacca.

## **GIORGIO DE CHIRICO ON DISPLAY AT AREZZO**

**Until March 4**

(From [discovertuscanycity.com](http://discovertuscanycity.com))

130 years after his birth and 40 years after the death of Giorgio de Chirico, Arezzo remembers him with an exhibition of his less known work: sculpture.

Palazzo della Provincia, Piazza della Libertà, 3, Arezzo

[Facebook](#)

## **IL CAPRICCIO E LA RAGIONE: FASHION EXHIBITION AT THE TEXTILE MUSEUM OF PRATO**

**Until April 29**

(From [discovertuscanycity.com](http://discovertuscanycity.com))

“The Fashion Elegance of Europe in the 1700’s.

Whimsy and Reason. Staged in the museum’s historical textiles room, the exhibition is a journey into the style and trends of eighteenth-century artistic culture, through fashion, textiles and the decorative arts. A unique and unprecedented exhibition stretching over a hundred years, one which is so rich and complex like that of the eighteenth century. More than 100 objects will be exhibited including fabrics, women's and men's clothing, porcelains, shoes, buttons, gloves, headgear, paintings and engravings that will tell the continuous and significant style passages that follow this historic period, from exotic "whims" of the



first half of the century up to the classical austere forms of the neoclassical.”

Museo del Tessuto, Via Puccetti 3

For hours check out the [Website](#)

## **FUN, FESTIVALS AND FOOD OUTSIDE OF FLORENCE FOR FEBRUARY**

### **CARNEVALE FESTIVALS ALL ACROSS TUSCANY**

#### **Throughout February**

(From [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

“In Italy, as in all Catholic countries, Carnival is celebrated between January and March, in the period between Epiphany (January 6) and Easter. The word "carnival" comes from the Latin "carnem levare", a term that refers to the condition of abstinence from meat and fasting of the faithful during Lent (40 days before Easter). The weeks of Carnival were a period of celebration with elements common to ancient traditions such as the Roman Saturnalia and the Greek Dionysian celebrations.

The Carnival is celebrated today throughout Italy with colorful parades, floats and fun events for children and adults. The Carnival of Venice is certainly one of the most famous in Italy, but in Tuscany there are also several very popular events including the Carnival of Viareggio and the Carnival of Foiano della Chiana.

The Carnival ends (or at least it should end) with Mardi Gras (Martedì Grasso or Fat Tuesday) and although in Italy it is not a day of festivity, on the occasion there are events and parties everywhere, even in smaller cities. Even if then Lent starts, several Carnival parades continue on the Sunday after Mardi Gras.”

Find the full list of [Carnival Celebrations here at Discover Tuscany!](#)

### **HIKING, EXPERIENCING, AND SAVOURING THE FLAVOURS OF CASENTINO**

#### **All throughout February**

Spend days dedicated to getting hiking through the park - in the snow. Join the fun and get up close to the winter wonderland in the peaks of one of Tuscany's most beautiful national parks. Reservation requested.

[Official Website](#)

### **SCARPERIA: COLLEZIONISTI IN PIAZZA**

#### **1st Sunday of the month**

Text from [VisitFlorence.com](http://VisitFlorence.com)

Antiques in the Square

The first Sunday of the month heralds this event in Scarperia. Just imagine a stroll through this picturesque town center to find a wide range of goodies including vintage, antiques, clothing, and more, Stands are set up from 8:30 am to 7:30 pm.

## **SIENA: VIA FRANCIGENA PER BAMBINI**

**February 3, 10, 17 and 24**

(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

the story of the pilgrims who travelled the road to Rome

A special guided tour with “Balia Gioconda” will introduce youngsters to what it meant to travel the via Francigena in an environment filled with special stories, games and theater. This event starts at Santa Maria della Scala. Call for reservations..

[Official Site](#)

## **PORTO SANTO STEFANO: REGATE VELICHE**

**February 4 & 18**

(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

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](#)

## **LIVORNO: CONCERTO DI CARNEVALE**

**February 12**

(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

Immerse yourself in the sounds of February

Instead of fun and games, this event offers the classical sounds of the violin by Nemanja Radulovic and the enchanting sounds of Mozart, Prokof'ev and Dvorak as presented by ORT, the Regional Orchestra of Tuscany. Just one in a series of four winter concerts in Livorno.

[Official Site](#)

## **SAN GIMIGNANO: ANTEPRIMA VERNACCIA**

**February 11 & 14**

(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

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 11 and Wednesday 14 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 2017 and the riserva of 2016.

[Official Site](#)

## **PISA: FOOD ART ITALY**

**February 10 - 11**

(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

Looks good? Then it has to taste good!

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](#)

## **AULLA: SAGRA CHIODO DI MAIALE**

**Last weekend in February**

(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

a typical dish served in the Lunigiana

A must to taste: fresh mixture used for the realization of the sausages. This tasty mixture is used in traditional flat breads and is delicacy which, for years, the protagonist it this festival. In conjunction with the Festival each year is also held the Fair Farmer's Market, the first fair of the year in the town of Aulla.

[Official Site](#)

## **SIENA: ULTRA MARATHON**

**February 25**

(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

4<sup>th</sup> Edition sponsored by the Terra di Siena

A winning formula, doesn't need to be changed: for the third time in a row you can follow the paths that wind up and down along the Tuscan hills, a universal symbol for this region. The trails run through the countryside of the Val d'Elsa and Siena along the white dirt roads and the Francigena that links the UNESCO sites of San Gimignano and Siena for three distances (50km - 18km 32km) each route touching the medieval villages of the Val d'Elsa and of the Sienese countryside.

[Official Site](#)

## **FIERA ANTIQUARIA: THE OLDEST AND BIGGEST ANTIQUE FAIR IN AREZZO**

**First Saturday and Sunday of the month**

(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))

“Many years ago, Ivan Bruschi gave life to one of the oldest and biggest antique fairs in Tuscany...maybe even all of Italy. He transformed his love for the old, unique and precious into an event that fills the streets of Arezzo every first Sunday of the month and the Saturday that precedes it that month.”

Website: <http://www.fieraantiquaria.org/>

## **ORGANIC AND ARTISAN MARKET AT GREVE IN CHIANTI**

## **Last Sunday of the month**

*Text from [VisitFlorence.com](http://VisitFlorence.com)*

Piazza Matteotti is filled with locals who feature goods from their gardens, their kitchens and their workshops. Often you will find not only great bargains, but music and opportunities to do some taste testing.

Greve in Chianti | IL PAGLIAIO | Every 4th Sunday of the month | Organic and Artisan Market

## **VINTAGE AND HANDCRAFTS MARKET AT PANZANO IN CHIANTI**

### **First Sunday of the month**

*Text from [VisitFlorence.com](http://VisitFlorence.com)*

We know they call the fair "April"ante, but it really goes all year round! This monthly market in the streets of this charming town in Chianti is where you will find hand crafts, vintage and delicious typical foods and all of it this is just outside in the countryside surrounding Florence.

Panzano in Chianti | APRILANTE | 1st Sunday of the Month: Handcrafts & Vintage

## **BARGA: MERCATINO ANTIQUARIATO**

### **2nd weekend of the month**

*(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))*

Head into the Garfagnana

It's not all about the food, in fact just north of Lucca in the area known as the Garfagnana you will find fall colors, flavors and an antique fair that merits a visit.

## **PONTE A EGOLA: EGOLANTIQUARIA**

### **Every 3rd Sunday of the Month**

*(From: [discovertuscan.com](http://discovertuscan.com))*

Antiques, modern objects, collection pieces and hand crafts

This recurring event brings together a wide range of objects ranging from vintage to modern, machine made trinkets to hand crafted pieces all in the shade of the picturesque town of San Miniato between Pisa and Florence.

## **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](mailto:info@pitcherflaccomio.com) or [newsletter@pitcherflaccomio.com](mailto:newsletter@pitcherflaccomio.com)

## FEBRUARY WISHES

Enjoy the Carnevale parties and take the time to visit the museums in honour of Anna Maria Luisa de' Medici. By the end of the month, we'll see the signs of Spring on its way.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flacomio

*Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.*

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P&F

# CLASSIFIEDS



## **SALE – Santo Spirito Apt – Historic Center**

First floor, refurbished, 60 sq. mt. (aprox 600 sq. ft.). 2 Bed, 2 Bath. Autonomous heating, air conditioning, very quiet area.

Asking price 360,000 Euro



## **SALE – Piazza Carmine – Historic Center**

First floor (17 steps), good conditions, 110 sq. mt. (aprox. 1100 sq. ft.). 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom, spacious living area, autonomous heating, good natural light.

Asking price 440,000 Euro



## **SALE – Farm House Complex – 2 Km South of Florence**

Free standing farm house, in great conditions, aprox. 450 Sq. Mt (4.500 Sq. Ft.) with aprox 3 hectares (9 Acres) of garden and land; 7 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms; Quiet, private and close to Florence

Asking Price 2,000,000 Euro



## **SALE – S.tssa Annunziata– Historic Center**

Ground floor, refurbished, 240 Sq. Mt. (aprox 2400 Sq. Ft.), plus 360 Sq. Mt. (3600 Sq. Ft.) of private garden. 4 Bed, 2 Bath. Autonomous heating, air conditioning, quiet and natural light.

Asking price 1,480,000 Euro



## **SALE – Bagno a Ripoli Villa – 3 Km from Florence**

Free standing modern villa, 440 sq. mt. (aprox. 4.400 sq. ft.) surrounded by 4.000 Sq. Mt (40.000 Sq. Ft.) of garden. 5 bedroom 5 bathrooms, autonomous heating, air conditioning, car parking; views over Florence.

Asking price 2,700,000 Euro



## **SALE – Duomo Studio – Historic Center**

To be refurbished attic studio with elevator in a nice elegant building, aprox. 25 sq. mts (approx. 250 sq. ft.). Out door space, stunning views, air conditioning and autonomous heating.

Asking price 300,000 Euro



## **SALE – Poggio Imperiale House – 5 Km South of Florence**

Free standing on three sides, in good conditions of aprox. 320 Sq. Mts (approx. 3200 sq. ft.), plus 500 sq. mt (5000 sq. ft.) of garden and 1 hectare (3 acres) of land. 5 Bed, 4 bath. Autonomous heating, garage.

Asking price 1,400,000 Euro