

PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES
IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

WELCOME

One year ago, we waited for news at the start of April about when the first lockdown would end. This year we have returned to the red zone, though it's a softer lockdown than it was the first time. The one year anniversary of the pandemic has weighed heavily on our hearts - how we'd hoped that the crisis would be over by now. But we rally our strength and comfort our community. The vaccine program is advancing, even if slower than we expected. Spring is here and the days are warm and bright. There is art in the streets, and hope in every flower that emerges to colour the pathways. Let this Easter be a time of remembering what we have passed through together, and looking forward to new beginnings and new life in the post-pandemic future. With our warmest best wishes from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, LESLIE, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

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PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR APRIL

BEST EVENT: EASTER WEEKEND HOLIDAY, April 3-5

This year, as we [rest again at home in Zona Rossa](#), we remember fondly the famous tradition, which is sure to return next year: The *Scoppio del Carro*. The Explosion of the Cart has been celebrated in Florence for more than 350 years, dating back to the First Crusade. A thirty-foot carved and painted wooden cart (the present version is over 150 years old) is pulled by flower-bedecked white oxen from Porta al Prato to Piazza del Duomo. A very special Easter Sunday mass is held, a ritual that includes one of the best daytime fireworks displays in the world. During the singing of the Gloria of the Easter Mass, the deacon lights a holy fire, kindled from three historic stone chips that were obtained during the crusades of 1099 from the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem. The 'colombina' - a mechanical bird shaped like a dove with an olive branch in its beak, representing the Holy Spirit - 'flies' down a line through the open doors of the cathedral, where the Holy Fire is used to light a fuse attached to the dove. It flies back to the cart where it ignites the explosion, erupting fireworks into the Easter sky with plumes of purple smoke - the unofficial colour of Florence.

BEST P&F RENTAL: CASA ROBERTO, A LOVELY AND COMFORTABLE FAMILY HOUSE IN THE CITY WITH A GREAT, PRIVATE OUTDOOR SPACE

A three bedroom and two bathroom home near Piazza Santa Croce, within a short walk from the Duomo (cathedral) and all of Florence's major museums and historical sites. Via Tripoli is a quiet street away from the tourist crowds near the Arno river. It is undoubtedly a convenient location for The Florence Academy of Art, the Michelangelo Italian language school, food shopping at Sant' Ambrogio open-air market, the antique market in Piazza Ciampi, a super market, post office and several gyms. See more photographs and information [here](#).



BEST ANNIVERSARY: LIBERATION DAY NATIONAL HOLIDAY, April 25

E questo è il fiore del partigiano ... morto per la libertà!

“Bella Ciao”

“On April 25, you’ll hear this refrain throughout every corner of Italy, sung on street corners by small groups, played on the radio or performed by bands in parades and local plazas. Set to the melody of a traditional folk song, “Bella Ciao” was the anthem of the Italian resistance movement during World War II, often sung by the left-wing anti-fascist rebels who fought against the atrocities of the Nazis and the leader of Italy, Benito Mussolini. Even today, the lyrics are symbolic of the sacrifices made for freedom. While Italy has been a democratic republic since 1946, many Italians

remember a time when they did not have such freedom. That history is honored throughout Italy on April 25 with La Festa della Liberazione, or Liberation Day, festivities. Every year, the entire country joins together to celebrate its liberation from the Nazis and pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the fight to free their country.” [Read more about the history of Liberation Day here.](#)

BEST EXHIBITION: SEE CONTEMPORARY ARTIST JR’S NEW INSTALLATION ON THE FACADE OF PALAZZO STROZZI, AND GIUSEPPE PENONE’S TRIBUTE TO DANTE IN PIAZZA DELLA SIGNORIA

Zona rossa art is street art, as we again remain at home and galleries and museums are closed. However we are allowed to walk and ride our bikes for exercise, within our own comune, so for some that means they can walk past two large scale but very different art installation pieces, that are generating vastly diverse responses! JR’s work, “[La Ferita](#)”, uses photography to open a “tear” in the wall of Palazzo Strozzi through which hidden corners and an imagined exhibition of major works are able to be seen. Penone, on the other hand, has installed a [tall sculpture of a tree](#), stark and bare, inspired by the lines “l’albero che vive de la cima / e frutta sempre e mai non perde foglia” from Paradiso in Dante's The Divine Comedy. JR’s piece is receiving overwhelmingly positive responses, as it offers a glimpse of beauty in troubled times. The tree, however, is creating a very different stir! Have a chuckle at some of the ironic responses including "It's missing the vultures and condors on the branches," or "At first glance it seemed like an abandoned antenna.” in this article by [Wanted In Rome](#).

BEST DINING OUT: THE FLORENTINE’S LIST OF BEST EASTER DINNER DELIVERIES

“As we plunge into *zona rossa* for the days running up to *Pasqua* (Easter) and *Pasquetta* (Easter Monday), there’s one thing to keep those living in Florence sane and happy: a delicious array of Easter goodies. Thankfully, as with any religious festival, Florence does not disappoint when it comes to food and drink. There are gaudily wrapped chocolate eggs, ready-to-roast stuffed lamb, asparagus tarts and freshly baked *colomba* cakes, the Easter equivalent to *panettone*. Finally, for anyone pining after a hot cross bun, we’re pleased to announce they really do exist in this city.” Dive into their list of mouth watering treats [here](#).

PITCHER & FLACCOMIO FAQ ON TRAVEL, BUYING, RENTING AND COVID-19

In these uncertain times during the Covid-19 pandemic, we would like to offer you a brief FAQ file regarding travel and renting in Tuscany, and what we can do to help you have a better and safer stay in your rental property.

Tuscany in general, and Florence in particular, have been relatively spared by the Covid-19 outbreak. But the lower numbers of contagions in this region have not prevented the lock downs and the travel restrictions that have been imposed. As we adjust to the new rules such as social distancing, face masks, hand sanitizers, and contact tracing, etc., that are necessary to keep us safe, we are thinking of

ways to improve the interest in our Region and make the rentability of properties easier for the future.

We think one of the biggest expectations of our clients will be safety. You will expect to enter a property, whether it be for a night or a month or a year, that is not only clean but possibly also sanitized prior to being occupied. This major concern is something we are planning for so that we may offer with confidence any apartment, house or villa that Pitcher & Flaccomio represents.

You can find out more in our FAQ page.

https://www.pitcherflaccomio.com/pdf/FAQCOVID-19_en.pdf

Please consider the items under what we can do to help you as "suggestions", since we are a Real Estate company and not an official health institution nor doctors.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ANTI-COVID VACCINATION PROGRAM IN ITALY

The vaccination program is going slower than Italy had hoped, but the government has plans to increase the number of daily vaccinations rapidly in the coming months. Currently the focus is on the most vulnerable groups - those with preexisting illnesses and the elderly - as well as those who work in the education, health, and policing sectors. You can find the online portal for making a vaccination appointment [here](#), where they also show which categories of people are able to reserve.

[Read more about Italy's vaccination plan here.](#)

WHERE SHOULD I BE CHECKING FOR ACCURATE NEWS AND INFORMATION?

It's especially important to be relying on the correct information and news sources during this time. Here are some official and accurate sources:

Italian Government Website: www.governo.it

Italian Ministry of Health: www.salute.gov.it

Coronavirus Page at the Ministry of Health: <http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/>

Ministry of Health Information In English: <http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/homeNuovoCoronavirus.jsp?lingua=english>

Coronavirus Counts Worldwide: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

News Site with daily official conference at 6pm: <http://ansa.it/>

Tuscany Specific:

- Official [coronavirus updates](#) for Tuscany
- Daily [case numbers](#)
- Latest [regional ordinances](#)

- Tuscany region on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- Regional coronavirus helpline: 055 438 5850

WHERE CAN I READ ABOUT THE DIFFERENT YELLOW, ORANGE, AND RED ZONES ACROSS ITALY?

[Here at the Governo website](#), you can click on the interactive map that shows the different colour coding of each Municipality, and drop down information menus that explain the specific restrictions and permissions for each colour code.

BEST OF THE REST

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE WEDNESDAY LECTURES

A favourite of ours in the cultural life of Florence, fascinating Wednesday evening lectures by The British Institute's invited guests, as well as their own brilliant Jeremy Boudreau. They are now streamed online for everyone to enjoy from home. There is no charge to attend the events on Zoom, but they ask you to consider making a donation to support the Institute and its beautiful library if you wish to attend an event.

- 1 April 2021 - 17:00: Activities for children - Mother Earth and Her Children by Sibylle Von Olfers
- 7 April 2021 - 18:00: Patterns of Patronage in Santo Spirito, Virtual Wednesday Lecture, on Zoom by Ellie Walker
- 8 April 2021 - 17:00: Activities for children - Tree by Britta Teckentrup
- 14 April 2021 - 18:00: The Acton-Mitchell Family at Villa La Pietra: Writing, Collecting, and Gardening, Virtual Wednesday Lecture, on Zoom by Larry Wolff and colleagues
- 15 April 2021 - 17:00: Activities for children - Underground by Madeline Tyler
- 21 April 2021 - 18:00: Poggio Bracciolini: Travel and Treasure Hunting in the Age of Humanism, Virtual Wednesday Lecture, on Zoom by Jeremy Boudreau
- 22 April 2021 - 17:00: Activities for children - The Lorax by Dr Seuss
- 28 April 2021 - 18:00: Fighting spirits, Virtual Wednesday Lecture, on Zoom by Linda Falcone
- 29 April 2021 - 17:00: Activities for children - The Snail and the Whale by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

[More information and the links to join here at the website.](#)

SIGN UP FOR JOURNALIST JAMIE MACKAYS "THE WEEK IN ITALY" REVIEW

Jamie Mackay ([@JacMackay](#)) is a writer, editor and translator based in Florence who has been writing about Italy for a decade for international media including *The Guardian*, *The Economist*, *Frieze*, and *Art Review*. He has launched '[The Week in Italy](#)' to share a more direct and regular overview of the debates and dilemmas, innovations and crises that sometimes pass under the

radar of our overcrowded news feeds. This is one of our favourite weekly wrap-ups, full of insightful analysis, poetic reflection, and a delicious recipe for Italy-addicts everywhere to enjoy. [Sign up here](#).

PITTI IMMAGINE UOMO IN AN EXCLUSIVE ONLINE FORMAT FOR 2021

Having taken note of the DPCM to reduce COVID-19 transmission, the winter, in-person edition of Pitti Immagine Filati 88 will be held in an exclusively digital format on the Pitti Connect platform. The platform shall remain online with current fair season content until the beginning of April, guaranteeing an in-depth exchange between national and international exhibitors, members of the trade, and communications operators. Indulge in some of Florence's favourite fashion [here at the website](#), and enjoy a comic, tongue-in-cheek video about the famed Pitti Peacocks [here](#) until we can see them again in the streets next year!

EXHIBITIONS

In compliance with the measures included in the new Decree Law, all the event venues, theatres and cinemas must remain closed. Events in programme are suspended.

MICHELANGELO LIVES AGAIN THANKS TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

(from [feelflorence.it](#)) More than 500 years after his birth (6 march 1475) Michelangelo 'lives again', and is ready to answer your questions! This is not fake news, but a joint project of the Opera di Santa Maria del Fiore (florence Cathedral Foundation) and Querlo, Customized Artificial Intelligence Solutions based in New York, who for the first time ever have realized a virtual Michelangelo, using Artificial Intelligence technology. The idea of Michelangelo AI was born in the Covid-19 period. The global travel restrictions have had a devastating impact making it impossible for people to visit special cities like Michelangelo's Florence. Michelangelo AI is an educational tool available to all who want to know something about the art, life and thought of the greatest Renaissance artist. In turn, Michelangelo AI will learn from these conversations, continually increasing his range of knowledge. Anyone can ask him questions (the language used is English) going to the Opera Duomo Firenze [website](#) and clicking on the Michelangelo AI button on the Querlo [website](#).

“DANTE 700” CELEBRATING 700 YEARS SINCE DANTE’S DEATH, Until March 31

On the occasion of the seventh centenary of the death of Dante Alighieri, the Associazione Mus.and the City of Florence, present the exhibition "Dante 700", with 23 photographs by the reporter Massimo Sestini. From Florence, Dante's hometown, to Ravenna, where his remains are preserved, passing through Venice, Rome, Verona and Poppi, Massimo Sestini recreates a photographic reportage of Dante's presence in our contemporaneity and in our imagination. The places where Dante lived or those of his Commedia, the places where he is remembered or is supposed to have passed are narrated and reconstructed through experimental and unconventional photographic techniques, giving us an unprecedented look at the poet and his legacy. The exhibition is available [on line](#), please see here at the [website](#).

A RIVEDER LE STELLE, ONLINE EXHIBITION HOSTED BY THE UFFIZI

On the occasion of the 700th anniversary of the death of the Great Poet, the Uffizi is offering a virtual exhibition dedicated to the 88 drawings cycle known as Dante Istoriato by Federico Zuccari. Completed between 1586 and 1588 in Spain by the author of the frescoes in the dome of Santa Maria del Fiore, the cycle fully illustrates Dante's Comedy, equal only to Sandro Botticelli's and Gustave Doré's 19th-century cycle. In addition to the drawings, texts and comments wrote by the painter on the verso of the sheets are also available. See the exhibition [here at the website](#).

DANTE'S COLOURS - AN ONLINE EXHIBITION BY THE MUNICIPAL LIBRARY OF IMPRUNETA

(from: feelflorence.it) On the occasion of the 700th anniversary of Dante's death, the graphic designer Nicola Russo proposes a series of reinterpretations with the aim of giving a positive chromatic image of the great poet, far from the stereotypes with which he has always been represented, most of the times sad and with a frown. Starting from the fact that no faithful image made when the poet was still alive has come down to us, the artist tried to create a renewed image in his studio, putting Dante Alighieri in a new light, with a serious graphic interpretation but also positive, despite his painful exile for more than twenty years. The Dante's colours exhibition will be available online on the [facebook](#) page of the municipal library of Impruneta. Starting from March 25, for two consecutive weeks, every day, a post will be published with a new graphic elaboration on the poet. Find the facebook page for the Impruneta municipall library [here](#).

DANCE, THEATRE AND MUSIC

In compliance with the measures included in the new Decree Law, all the event venues, theatres and cinemas must remain closed. Events in programme are suspended.

THE CHOIR OF ST MARK'S CHURCH SINGS VITTORIA'S TENEBRAE RESPONSORIES, STREAMING ON YOUTUBE

Streaming live from their YouTube channel, you can watch the performance on Good Friday at 7.30pm, and also on Holy Saturday at 6.30pm. The link to view the St Marks Church YouTube channel is: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSZoaL-O1omKUdygCRzX7Zg>

THE ORCHESTRA DELLA TOSCANA LIVE IN STREAMING FOR EASTER AND THROUGH APRIL

A pleasure for music lovers in Florence and everywhere, ORT, the Orchestra of Toscana, are continuing their concert series live on streaming every Thursday night. If we cannot enjoy them in the stunning Teatro Verdi, we will enjoy them instead in our very own homes.

Thursday 1st April: [Concerto di Pasqua](#), Cenacolo di Santa Croce

Thursday 8th April: [Jader Bignamini, Marco Ortolani](#)

Thursday 22nd April: [Dalia Stasevska, Francesca Deگو](#)

Thursday 29th April: [Andrea Battistoni, Paolo Carlini](#)

You can find the concerts and more information on the ORT [YouTube](#) channel and ORT [Facebook](#) Fanpage.

CURATED PERFORMANCES AND CONCERTS STREAMING THROUGH THE FIRENZE TV CHANNEL ON YOUTUBE

This is THE channel for theater, music, art, culture of Florence and for Florence! This project is the response to the call by Councilor for Culture and President of the Teatro della Toscana Tommaso Sacchi Foundation to bring the centers of art and culture to life despite the moment of silence and necessary closure to safeguard public health. An open and shared forum to which all Florentine theaters and local artists can contribute. Find an incredible selection of Florence's best live art, music, performance, dance, and more live on the web, bringing culture directly to the spectators' home. Sign up for the channel here: <https://tinyurl.com/firenzetv>

FILMS, LECTURES, AND PRESENTATIONS

In compliance with the measures included in the new Decree Law, all the event venues, theatres and cinemas must remain closed. Events in programme are suspended. Films will be rescheduled in streaming.

FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS: LO SCHERMO DELL'ARTE PRESENTS CINEMA CLASSROOM, STREAMED FILMS AND LECTURES THROUGH THE PIÙ COMPAGNIA VIRTUAL THEATRE

Cinema Classroom is a free programme of films available for streaming dedicated to teachers and students of upper secondary schools of the outlying districts of Florence and of the neighbouring municipalities of the Metropolitan Area.

It includes 9 artists' films and documentaries on contemporary art selected from Lo schermo dell'arte's archive which are offered as insights on current issues such as environment, public space and community, human rights and legality. Because of the topics covered, the project is suitable for all subjects of study and lends itself as teaching support for civic education as well as for artistic and historical-artistic disciplines.

The films will be available for streaming on demand for 6 days, from April 12 until April 17, on [Più Compagnia](#), the virtual theatre of Cinema La Compagnia in Firenze. The programme is enriched by 3 lectures on topics concerning the content of the films given by experts, which will be streamed live on April 17, 19, and 21. During these moments, the students will be able to interact, asking questions and sharing thoughts. See the program of films and lectures [here](#).

THE ICONIC ODEON CINEMA STREAMS INTO YOUR LIVING ROOM

ODEON: ANTEPRIMA FILM ORSO D'ORO A BERLINO

The winner of the Golden Bear at the Berlin Film Festival **BAD LUCK BANGING OR LOONY PORN** by Radu Jude will be available exclusively from April 16, preceded by a two-day preview to be held on April 8 and 9. Provocative, ironic, pungent, vibrant. A powerful and very topical film that certainly does not leave you indifferent. On the occasion of its release and in collaboration with the Trieste Film Festival, MioCinema will offer its users an in-depth review dedicated to Radu Jude. Link to view and more information [here](#).

ODEON: APPLES

APPLES, the directorial debut of director Christos Nikou, former assistant of Yorgos Lanthimos, premiered at the 77th Venice International Film Festival. Through unsettling, unusual and surreal images, the Greek writer-director Christos Nikou stages a fascinating reflection on memory, identity and the complex mechanism of storing memories. In the midst of a worldwide pandemic that causes sudden amnesia, Aris (Aris Servetalis) is a middle-aged man who finds himself enrolled in a recovery program designed to help patients who have not been identified by anyone build a new identity. Aris carries out the tasks that are prescribed to him daily on audio cassettes, so that he can create new memories and document them with a camera; he seems to return to a normal life by meeting Anna (Sofia Georgovasili), who is also part of a recovery program. Link to view and more information [here](#).

ODEON: LO ZIO DI BROOKLYN - IL CINEMA DI CIPRÌ E MARESCO

Lo Zio di Brooklyn, the film debut by Daniele Cipri and Franco Maresco, is available on our platform MioCinema, accompanied by exclusive content directed by the iconic couple. The film, which tells of a grotesque and surreal humanity, is an expression of the post-apocalyptic imagery of the cinema of Cipri and Maresco, which shocked the right-thinking audience and still appears an alien in the Italian cinema scene. Link to view and more information [here](#).

ODEON: RASSEGNA ANIMAZIONE D'AUTORE

The review dedicated to author animation. Eleven animated jewels in which cinema meets the universe of design, from the traditional to the more modern that explores the techniques of digital and the progress of technology. Two arts that merge creating images and narrations that suggest and stimulate the imagination. A selection of titles intended for families, children and teenagers, but also adults, from The famous invasion of the bears in Sicily, based on the novel by the great writer Dino Buzzati, directed by Lorenzo Mattotti and with the extraordinary participation of Andrea Camilleri in the role of voice actor, in the Golden Globe-winning film **Waltz with Bashir** by Ari Folman. Through the grace and intensity of the animated film, it is possible to reach all kinds of audiences and tell all kinds of stories. Link to view and more information [here](#).

PIÙ COMPAGNIA, THE NEW VIRTUAL MOVIE THEATRE IN TUSCANY

Più Compagnia is the new virtual theatre, unique of its kind in Italy, with a programme rich in literature, theatre, music and dance events, a project by the Fondazione Sistema Toscana and the Regione Toscana. Not a simple streaming platform, but a virtual room where the user can choose its contents, hours and prices. Più Compagnia focuses on documentaries, cult films and a selection from prestigious Tuscan festivals. [See the website here.](#)

STANLEY TUCCI'S NEW SERIES, SEARCHING FOR ITALY, IS NOW STREAMING

Stanley Tucci: Searching for Italy is a six-part CNN original series that follows Academy Award nominee Stanley Tucci as he travels across Italy to discover the secrets and delights of the country's regional cuisines. He introduces viewers to some of the places and main players around the Emilia Romagna region in Italy. Tucci breaks bread with and interviews food producers, food purveyors, chefs, activists and other locals — each of whom has helped the region garner and maintain its reputation as Italy's "Food Valley". So, if you are interested in watching this new travel cooking series and want to know where it is streaming online, read on and see a trailer here at republicworld.com.

APRIL WISHES

April is the month to walk the hillsides, enjoying the scent of flowers and the emergence of the sunshine. We hope you will savour the easter delights and the soul-warming colours of Spring. Summer is just around the corner...

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.

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CLASSIFIEDS



SALE – Santo Spirito – Historic Center

Second floor apt, refurbished, approx. 170 Sq. Mt. (1700 Sq. Ft.). 3 bed, 2 bath; High ceilings and spacious rooms, quiet, natural light, autonomous heating,

Asking Price 930,000 Euro



SALE - Oltrarno Loft – Historic Center

Ground floor loft space in good condition, approx. 260 Sq. Mt. (2600 Sq. Ft.) plus 20 Sq. Mt. (200 Sq. Ft.) of out door space. 2 bed, 3 bath; quiet, private and spacious living areas.

Asking Price 1,300,000 Euro



SALE – Ponte Vecchio View – Historic Center

Refurbished Apt, third floor with elevator aprox. 150 sq. mt. (aprox. 1500 sq. ft.) two bedrooms and three bathrooms. Under floor heating, air conditioning, sunny and views.

Asking price 1,500,000 Euro



SALE – Via Maggio Attic – Historic Center

Second and top floor apt, approx. 600 Sq. Mt. (6000 Sq. Ft.), plus approx 60 Sq. Mt. (600 Sq. Ft.) outdoor terrace. 5 bed, 6 bath; High ceilings and spacious rooms, staff apartment, car parking, autonomous heating,

Asking Price 3,600,000 Euro



SALE – Tronabuoni Attic – Historic Center

Top floor apt, refurbished, approx. 200 Sq. Mt. (2000 Sq. Ft.), plus approx 35 Sq. Mt. (350 Sq. Ft.) outdoor terraces. 4 bed, 4 bath; High ceilings, modern finishes, quiet, air conditioning, autonomous heating,

Asking Price 2,000,000 Euro



SALE – Santo Spirito – Historic Center

First floor, refurbished, approx. 60 sq. mt.(600 Sq. Ft) 2 Bed, 2 Bath. Modern with all amenities, autonomous heating, air conditioning, quiet street.

Asking Price 375,000 Euro

PITCHER & FLACCOMIO

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