

RENT, SELL AND MANAGE PROPERTIES IN FLORENCE AND TUSCANY

WELCOME

Easter fills Italy with colour and pageantry, as the spring flowers reflect the honouring of rebirth and renewal. Enjoy time with your loved ones, sharing special easter bread and eggs with surprises inside. Music and art fill the city as Tuscany warms up beneath the sunshine, and the nights remain cool. Revel in laughter for April Fools Day and seek out the gardens of Florence as they come into bloom, with our warmest best wishes from SUZANNE, CORSO, BEI, LESLIE, VANNI, ANNA PIA, RAFFAELLA, AND MARISA.

JUMP TO YOUR FAVOURITE SECTION

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PITCHER & FLACCOMIO PICKS FOR APRIL

BEST EVENT: NEW CONTEMPORARY HUB, SOTTO AL BRITISH, LAUNCHES IN A FULLY REFURBISHED VENUE RIGHT ON THE ARNO RIVER, Launching April 2nd

SOTTO al British is a brand new concept, a dedicated space for contemporary creativity in Florence, with direct street access right on the Arno River at Lungarno Guicciardini 15, in the heart of the Oltrarno. SOTTO will be a home to a vast range of new international and Florentine creative projects and events, a buzzing hub for contemporary cultural exploration in the city. A place to create, to refresh your creative energy and share conversations, exhibits, live events and presentations, alongside outstanding special events and festivals. The first events launching in April:

ON.irica PRESENTS: April 2nd, and April 23rd, see some of Florence's hottest emerging contemporary musicians and artists in collaboration, creating experiential blends of live art and sound. UNDON3 open the season, and are followed up with MORGANA and LAB DESIGN.

Every Monday: Social Life Drawing session with model and wine, led by Tom Byrne.

Second Monday of the Month: Brainstorming for Writers, to share ideas over a cup of wine and get un-stuck together. Led by Lori Hetherington

Every Tuesday: Tuesday Talks, including Influencing Florence with Martina Bartolozzi, Producing Florence, with ON.irica, Romina Diaz, and Michelle Davis, and Dating Florence, with Patti DeRosa, Lauren Mouat and Mary Gray.

Third Wednesday of the Month: Placehold Open Mic Night, share your words, songs, stories, poetries, and rock your 5 minutes on the mic! Led by Marisa Garreffa with Lauren Mouat.

Open Doors Review Launch: April 27, come along for the launch of the new bilingual literature publication, Open Doors Review, with live readings and wine.

Pulp and Primroses: April 30, A handmade paper workshop as a part of the Oltrarno Gaze festival See all the events here.

BEST TRADITION: SCOPPIO DEL CARRO ON EASTER SUNDAY, April 17

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. The Procession starts at 10.00, and the Explosion of the Cart is at 11.00. For more things to do over the Easter weekend, check out these great tips from Visit Florence and Discover Tuscany.

BEST P&F RENTAL: A COSY, ATTRACTIVE AND WELL EQUIPPED APARTMENT IN A GOOD LOCATION

Via dei Conciatori, in the heart of the Santo Croce area, takes it's name from the ancient Medici dye house which has recently been restructured into modern apartments. It is an easy walk to most of the

city's most famous museums and monuments, as well as to the Sant'Ambrogio open-air fruit and vegetable market. It is a vibrant area with many small businesses, shops, and artisan workshops. The apartment is situated near several theatres ("Teatro Verdi" and "La Pergola") which host numerous concerts throughout the year, including some performances of the "Maggio Musicale" (the May musical festival) in the spring. This area is becoming very well known for its' famous restaurants: Enoteca Pinchiorri, Cibreo, Fishing Lab Alle Murate and Baraonda, all within easy walking distance. More information and photos.



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 FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND CRAFTSMEN: MIDA, THE MOSTRA INTERNAZIONALE DELL'ARTIGIANATO AT FORTEZZA DI BASSO, April 23 - May 1

An event which has hosted the most important master craftsmen of history inside a privileged space, where tradition and innovation merge to create extremely valuable handmade products. Every year, you can admire the works of the ancient Florence workshops, as well as remote arts which are being rediscovered through the fair itineraries, following a harmonious path among the Italian regions and the countries of the whole world. Unique pieces, modelled by experienced hands, dedicated to people who want to stand out. Classical, modern, ethnic, contemporary, feasible - any kind of style here

finds its ideal dimension. Opening Times: everyday from 10.00 to 22.30 (last day closing at 20.00)

Website: http://www.mostraartigianato.it/en/the-fair.html

BEST DINING OUT: FLOREAL COCKTAIL BAR LAUNCHES NEW TASTING MENUS

Review by the fabulous Martina Bartolozzi @MementoMartina

Cocktail bar @FlorealFirenze recently changed its menus, and you know we just had to go check it out again! We mostly focused on the culinary offerings and were very impressed. Currently you can either order individual dishes or try one of their 26-30€ tasting menus, which are characterized by the use of mostly Italian ingredients in preparations inspired by cuisines from all over the world, including Spain, Mexico, and China.

Meat menu:

- Piedmontese Fassona beef tartare with steamed vegetables;
- gazpacho with Bufala mozzarella;
- homemade corn taco with pulled pork;
- mini burger with Bufala blue cheese and caramelized onions;
- white chocolate and puffed rice soup for dessert.

Fish menu:

- shiso leaf with raw Mazara red prawn on burrata mousse;
- swordfish tartare with steamed vegetables;
- squid ink bao with spicy chopped tuna;
- swordfish corn taco with orange;
- roast pear with pear gelato sprinkled with 36-months Parmigiano.

Find them here and their full menu 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. 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

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THE GREEN PASS AND THE SUPER GREEN PASS (GREEN PASS RAFFORZATO)

The current rules for accessibility to public spaces with the Green Pass for with the Super Green Pass or Tuscany can be found at the Regione Toscana website here.

Visit www.dgc.gov.it/web to obtain the EU Digital COVID Certificate

WHERE SHOULD I BE CHECKING FOR ACCURATE NEWS AND INFORMATION?

Italian Government Website: <u>www.governo.it</u>

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

Regione Toscana: https://www.regione.toscana.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

Tuscany Specific:

- Official coronavirus updates for Tuscany
- Latest <u>regional ordinances</u>
- Tuscany region on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>
- Regional coronavirus helpline: 055 438 5850

BEST OF THE REST

THEATRE FOR UKRAINE AT TUSCANY HALL

Another way to support Ukraine in these difficult times. Two great classical ballets to support Ukrainian artists are presented at the Tuscany Hall in April: "Il lago dei cigni" and "Giselle".

Il lago dei cigni – Classical Ballet for Ukraine, April 11

The first of the classical ballets presented by the Classical Ballet Company of Ukraine in support of Ukrainian artists.

Giselle - Classical Ballet for Ukraine, April 12

The second of two classical ballets presented by the Classical Ballet Company of Ukraine in support of Ukrainian artists.

Part of all proceeds will be donated to the Coop for Ukraine solidarity campaign.

EASTER WEEKEND HOLIDAY, April 16-18

Don't forget to mark in your calendars that the holiday will close many stores over the Easter weekend, while Italians flood out of the city to visit family and spend Springtime together. For things

to do over the Easter weekend, check out these great tips from Visit Florence and Discover Tuscany.

VIVICITTA HALF MARATHON FLORENCE, April 10

(from: visitflorence.com) If you're a runner more than a cyclist, you'll surely want to participate in one of the most traditional Florentine non-competitive race of the annual calendar: the Vivicittà Half Marathon Florence. A wonderful opportunity to mix sport and culture, surrounded by a one-of-a-kind artistic and cultural background, more info about the race story, registration fees on the official website, where you'll also find information about the other non-competitive races that will be organized as part of the same manifestation, like that dedicated to kids and the guided tour. Official Webpage

FIRENZE TANGO FESTIVAL: FLORENCE TANGO DAYS, April 20-25

Celebrating the newest edition of Firenze Tango Week, there is a week long program of tangothemed events including dances, DJs, and performances. There are numerous events you can sign up for, including music and dance workshops and lessons. A week to keep you on your toes, and put rhythm into your body... some sizzle for Spring! Website for the full program.

INSTABILE CHAPITEAU, CULTURE ALONG THE RIVER

InStabile Chapiteau is an independent cultural space for contemporary circus, music, performing arts. Performances, concerts and cultural, environmental, social events will continue until April 20, 2022. Shows and concerts every day from 9.00 p.m. Sunday Brunch from 11.30 a.m. and shows from 4.30 p.m. Bistrot & Cocktail Bar from 5.30 p.m. - Restaurant from 7.30 p.m. Complete program on the website.

EXHIBITIONS

DONATELLO: THE RENAISSANCE, AT PALAZZO STROZZO, Until July 31

This historic, once-in-a-lifetime exhibition sets out to reconstruct the outstanding career of one of the most important and influential masters of Italian art of any age, juxtaposing his work with masterpieces by other Italian Renaissance masters such as Brunelleschi, Masaccio, Andrea Mantegna, Giovanni Bellini, Raphael and Michelangelo. Curated by Francesco Caglioti and devised as a single exhibition in two venues, Palazzo Strozzi and the Museo Nazionale del Bargello, the exhibition is designed to celebrate Donatello in dialogue with institutions of Florence and indeed the whole of Italy, in addition to crucial international cooperation, in an effort to expand the debate on this master both in time and in space, in terms of materials, techniques and genres, in order finally to do justice to the artist's universal dimension. More information.

MONTE VERITÀ. BACK TO NATURE. AN EXHIBITION REMEMBERING UTOPIA. Until April 10

The first exhibition in Italy dedicated to the famous hill of utopia, the Monte Verità community, its founders and the illustrious guests who frequented it: thinkers and anarchists, philosophers, theosophists, men of letters, artists and architects. Vintage images, testimonials, virtual reconstructions, clothes and symbolic objects describe this multidisciplinary circle, the cradle of European counterculture, characterised by the presence of illustrious personalities from every country who took refuge here far from the drama of the wars and the ideological clash between capitalism and communism that was prevailing in Europe: The anarchist Bakunin, the Hungarian choreographer Rudolf von Laban, the Dadaist Hugo Ball, the Bauhaus architect Walter Gropius, the artists Hans Arp and Paul Klee, through to Hermann Hesse and Carl Gustav Jung. More information here.

MICHELANGELO: THE BRONZE EFFIGY BY DANIELE DA VOLTERRA, Until June

This exhibition will be the first to display all of the early exemplars of bronze portraits of Michelangelo attributed to Daniele da Volterra, exploring the complex relationship between originals, replicas and derivations; the busts come from various international museums such as the Louvre Museum, the Musée Jacquemart-André in Paris and the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology in Oxford. This highly scientific initiative aims to involve leading experts in the field of 16th-century bronze sculpture and art, gathering them together for a study day organised in connection with the exhibition. More Information.

VINICIO BERTI CENTENARY EXHIBITION, A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

The exhibition, part of the celebrations of Vinicio Berti's centenary (1921-2021) and thirty years after his death, reconstructs the pictorial evolution of the founder of the Classic Abstractionism group through a selection of 25 works on canvas and wood panel ranging from the 1950s to the 1990s. The exhibition will run from Tuesday 15 February to 3 March in the C.A. Ciampi exhibition space. More information here.

CONTEMPORARY ARTIST ANJ SMITH AT THE MUSEO STEFANO BARDINI

"A Willow Grows Aslant the Brook". Museo Stefano Bardini is once again hosting an exhibition dedicated to a contemporary artist: Anj Smith. Her meticulously painted works depict still lifes and landscapes full of hybrid, dreamlike creatures, where art and fashion, scientific illustration and Gothic imagery, the iconic with the rhetoric of medieval and Renaissance symbolism and allegory recombine as if in a visual and mental journey through iconographic repertories and minor arts.

ANTHOLOGY ART 2022 - MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART AT TORNABUONI ARTE, Until November 2022

Tornabuoni Arte, the internationally recognized artistic and cultural reality founded by Roberto Casamonti, shows its latest news and its proposals of classic and contemporary works of art for the coming year. The exhibition is divided into sections: one dedicated to the works of the greats of the last century: Alberto Burri, Jannis Kounellis, Alighiero Boetti, Emilio Vedova, Lucio Fontana, Arnaldo Pomodoro, Piero Dorazio, Alberto Biasi, Emilio Isgrò, Maurizio Cattelan, Wassily

Kandinsky, Joan Mirò e Victor Vaserely . On the second floor the exhibition continues with a selection of works dedicated to the great masters of Italian figurative art of the early twentieth century: Giovanni Fattori, Plinio Nomellini, Massimo Campigli and Giorgio de Chirico. Website.

SILK, ON DISPLAY AT THE SALVATORE FERRAGAMO MUSEUM, Until April 2022

Seta' celebrates the silk prints of the Salvatore Ferragamo maison of which Fulvia Visconti Ferragamo was the creator and creative soul. The exhibition tour tells the perfect union of fanciful intuitions, and high industrial craftsmanship that is behind the production of a scarf - and any silk print - beyond the infinite inspirations that are at the origin of each design. In the first section the exhibition hosts the 'site specific' installation by Chinese artists Sun yuan & Peng Yu entitled 'Were creatures born celestial?' which exemplify conceptually what fertile ground of encounter and exchange between East and West was the Silk Route. Website.

DANCE, THEATRE AND MUSIC

ORCHESTRA DA CAMERA FIORENTINA AND THEIR STUNNING 2022 PROGRAM

The 2022 season of the Orchestra da Camera Fiorentina presents more than 30 concerts from March to October with international conductors and performers such as Bruno Canino, Giuseppe Andaloro, Ahmed El Saedi, Nikolay Lalov. The Orchestra Da Camera Fiorentina was founded in 1981 by Giuseppe Lanzetta, the current conductor, to spread the knowledge of symphonic and chamber music repertoires. Book your tickets here.

DISCONNECT CODE: MUSICUS CONCENTUS MUSIC FESTIVAL, March and April

Four appointments, three concerts on a single date, two exceptional locations and a closing live that promises to be one of the most anticipated of the summer. Disconnect <code> is back, the review resulting from the collaboration between Musicus Concentus and Disconnect. Preview of a really important concert season: in 2022 Musicus Concentus - the association founded in 1972 with the aim of establishing a stable center of musical activity in Florence and Tuscany - turns 50. See the program here.

LA DEMOCRAZIA DEL CORPO DANCE FESTIVAL, Until April 30

The new edition of the international Festival La Democrazia del Corpo by Virgilio Sieni. A program of dance workshops, site-specific creations and performances for dancers and people of all ages and ability levels. The Festival La Democrazia del corpo develops, together with the Academy's experience in the art of gesture, research practices aimed at art and creates new geographies between new projects and places in the city. Please click here to get the whole <u>programme</u>.

AMICI DELLA MUSICA FILL THE WINTER NIGHTS WITH WORLD-CLASS CLASSICAL MUSIC

Founded in 1920, the Amici della Musica di Firenze is one of the oldest and most prestigious concert organisations in Italy. The numerous events take place in the historic and centrally located Teatro della Pergola, on a weekly basis (Saturday afternoons and Sunday evenings), from October to April. The programmes offer everything from chamber music classics to contemporary music (often with world premieres), from pieces for orchestral ensembles to solo pieces, from jazz to traditional music. Don't miss the best of the best as they take to the stage this winter! See the whole program here.

MAGGIO MUSICALE FIORENTINO CONTINUE WITH THEIR UNMISSABLE SEASON

The Theatre of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino owes its name to the prestigious Maggio Musicale Festival, the oldest in Italy, a first that it shares in Europe with the festivals of Salzburg and Bayreuth. Founded in Florence in 1933, the festival quickly became a centre of dissemination of the great European musical culture indicating and proposing new and unconventional ideas, in regards to classical repertoire and contemporary compositions. The Opera and Symphonic seasons, as well as special Touring artists, will fill the nights. See what's coming up here at the website.

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 is truly one of the most stunning theatres in Europe, and their program is full of music, dance, musicals, and variety shows. OUR PICK FOR THIS MONTH:

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR WITH TED NEELEY, April 22-24

This is not a drill! Get this into your diary, it's one of the single most incredible experiences I have ever had in my years living in Florence. I'm a huge musical theatre fan, but I never imagined the pure energy of seeing a packed-out Italian crowd celebrating the life of Jesus - and especially with the original actor who played the role in the now famous film. People were rushing out of their seats to dance and cheer at the foot of the stage, as Ted Neeley as Jesus was raised out above the crowd by a motorised, hovering catwalk, while a light-filled mega crucifix flashed to the beat in the background. I was singing the songs for weeks after. Tickets and more information here.

See the full theatre program here.

FILMS, LECTURES, AND CULTURAL EVENTS

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE CULTURAL PROGRAM IN THE HAROLD ACTON LIBRARY

A beloved favourite in Florence, The British Institute continue their offerings of Wednesday lectures, concerts, and other cultural treats in the stunning location of the historic Harold Acton Library. Enjoy exquisite views of the Arno River together with the majesty of the library, and its cultural events.

April 5: Meet the Author - Charmaine Wilkerson

April 6: Lecture - Henry James and John Singer Sargent in Florence

April 13: Lecture - Stefano Bardini, Wilhelm Bode, and the Madonna Pazzi Puzzle

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April 20: Lecture and Wine Tasting - I Mazzei, A Great Winemaking Tradition

April 21: Thomas Kelly Live

April 27: Lecture - Bunkered, buried, bricked and bandaged: Florentine art during the liberation of Italy

More information and the links to join here at the website.

ALFRED HITCHCOCK RETROSPECTIVE AT THE CINEMA LA COMPAGNIA

A retrospective dedicated to the one who, more than anyone else, comes closest to the ambitious definition of "perfect director": Alfred Hitchcock arrives at La Compagnia with 14 unmissable appointments on the big screen. Often referred to as the "master of thrills", Hitchcock actually tried his hand at many genres (including comedy), not always managing to make exactly the film he wanted. These include a special event with The Lodger with live music by Diego Andreotti. See the website for the schedule.

THE ICONIC ODEON CINEMA PRESENTS ORIGINAL LANGUAGE FILMS

The stunning Odeon Cinema was opened in 1922, built into the interior of Renaissance treasure, Palazzo Strozzino. The original palazzo design was by Filippo Brunelleschi. This month, *LICORICE PIZZA*, *CODA*, *and FANTASTIC BEASTS 3* come to the big screen. Seat Places are with spacing, entry with Super Green Pass and FFP2 masks are required. Films are shown in English, with Italian subtitles. For the full programme, see www.odeonfirenze.com.

APRIL WISHES

Let your wishes for the year begin to bloom along with the flowers of Spring.

All the best,

The Staff of Pitcher and Flaccomio

Newsletter written and compiled by Marisa Garreffa.

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CLASSIFIEDS













SALE – Ponte Vecchio Apt – Historic Center First and top floor, listed with the Fine Arts, refurbished, approx. 120 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 1200 Sq. Ft.). 2 bed, 3 bath plus study on loft; quiet, high decorated ceilings and centrally located Asking Price 980,000 Euro

SALE – Calenzano Villa – Outskirts Historic villa with depandance approx. 2500 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 25.000 Sq. Ft.). 18 bed, 21 bath; autonomous heating, air con., land and garden

Asking Price 10,000,000 Euro

SALE – San Lorenzo Apt – Historic Center

Top floor, with elevator, listed with the Fine Arts, refurbished, approx. 140 Sq. Mt. (aprox. 1400 Sq. Ft.) and 10 Sq. Mt. (100 Sq.Ft) of terrace. 3 bed, 2 bath, quiet, and centrally located

Asking price 740,000 Euro

SALE – Via Nazionale, San Lorenzo area – Historic Center Top floor with elevator, good conditions, approx. 140 sq. mt. (1400 Sq. Ft), plus 30 sq. mt. (300 sq. ft.) of terraces. 3 Bed, 3 Bath. Autonomous heating, air con.

Asking price 1,100,000 Euro

SALE – Ponte Vecchio – Historic Center

Third floor with elevastor, refurbished, approx. 110 sq. mt. (1100 Sq. Ft) 2 Bed, 1 Bath. Modern with all amenities, air conditioning, natural light, quiet street.

Asking Price 470,000 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