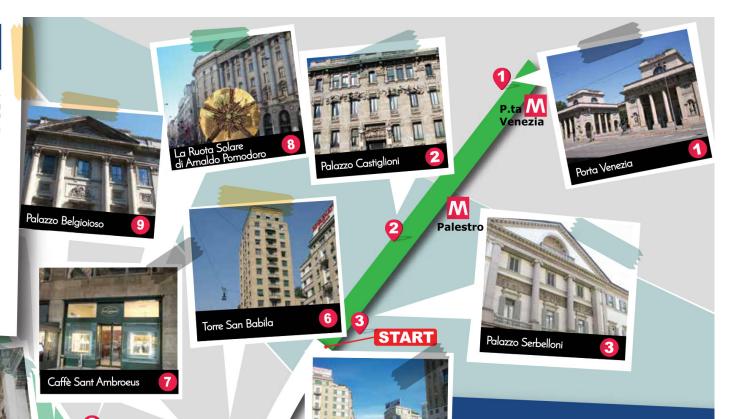


Wholeheartedly we say with pride "Welcome Lions of the World". These simple words are in our minds and hearts since March 2014 when Milan was awarded the International Convention of 2019. Milan is the Italian capital of solidarity. Milan is a hotbed of ideas: Leonardo da Vinci spent here many years of his life and crafted out masterpieces, like "The Last Supper": his uncommon raw materials were brainpower and light. He was the first humanistic engineer, a pathfinder, and laid down the grounds of many innovations. The city has always been an incubator of intelligence. Attendees could shop in stores of Armani, Versace, Dolce & Gabbana, Prada and many others, dine in hundreds of top-of-the-world restaurants, visit a lot of touristic and cultural attractions, enjoy a lively nightlife. Come and enjoy what will be, for a long time, an unforgettable experience in a town brimming with the joy of creativity!

CHAIRPERSON PDG Mario Castellaneta



San Babila

Fontana di Piazza San Babila







PARADE: HISTORY. ART AND CULTURE _____

Venezia Gate

It is one of the six main gates of Milan, built along the Spanish ramparts, today demolished. In the past it was also known as Porta Renza, corruption such as Porta Orientale (Eastern Gate -so called until 1860) of the primitive Roman Porta Argentea, that led to Argentiacum (today Crescenzago). Today it is characterized by two neoclassical tollhouses by architect Rodolfo Vantini (1827-1828).

2 Castiglioni Palace

This Palace, designed by Giuseppe Sommaruga and built between 1901 and 1904, is the most important example of Liberty style in Milan. For its "original and bizarre" style and the presence of two huge scantily-clad female figures sculpted by Ernesto Bazzaro at the sides of the entrance, it was the object of furious criticism as to be nicknamed Ca' di Ciapp. The architect was forced to move the sculptures on the façade of the Villa Faccanoni (today Columbus Clinic) designed by himself. Inside you can admire the magnificent hall, the three flight staircase with an impressive wrought iron balustrade and the Sala dei Pavoni' with stuccowork decorations.

Serbelloni Palace

This fine example of a Milanese Patrician residence, was designed in 1793 by the Swiss-Italian architect Simone Cantoni and built on an existing 17th-century building, whose brick façade on Via San Damiano survives. The palace famous for the stay of Several historical figures –Napoleon Bonaparte (1796), Metternich (1838) and King Victor Emmanuel II (1859)- anticipates many architectural and stylistic elements of Neo-classical period. Many parts of the Palace, including the grand staircase, the ballroom and the Sola-Busca library were destroyed in the air raids of 1943 and later rebuilt according to their original appearance.

4 San Babila church

Built in the 11th century on the remains of the previous cult it was renovated between 1598 and 1610 by Aurelio Trezzi. The current Neo-Romanesque appearance is due to Paolo Cesa Bianchi who between 1881 and the 1906 restored the building according to the principles of "stylistic restoration", recovering its "pure Lombard forms". Outside the church stands the 12th-century Lion Column, wich bears the emblem of the Porta Orientale District.

5 Fountain of San Babila square

Built in 1997 by architect Luigi Caccia Dominioni,this Fountain is the starting point for the long pedestrian axis that reaches the Castello Sforzesco.

It represents the mountains, lakes and rivers of Lombardy. In fact it plays the Lombard landscape and the natural water cycle: water flows from the sphere at the top (the cloud), flows along the pyramidal trunk (the mountain) and then under the long ground grid (rivers) and finally reaches the central pool (a Lake as the numerous Lombard Lakes). The water jet plays the evaporation process that ideally rejoins the sphere placed at the top of the fountain

The flowerbeds in the shell, which protect the pedestrian traffic, symbolize the Lombard hills and mountains that are the backdrop of Milan.

6 Tower San Babila

This tower is 59.25 meters high for 15 floors. It was the first, and for 14 years the tallest skyscraper in Milan. It was designed by the architect Alessandro Rimini and built in 1937 along the creation of the square during the Fascist period following Caesar Albertini's new master plan. Then it was called Torre Snia Viscosa and nicknamed "rubanuvole" for its sober and greatly cared architecture.

Sant Ambroeus Coffee

This Milan institution that takes its name from Sant Ambroeus, patron saint of Milan, born as a pastry shop in 1936 – thanks to its founder Teresa Cattaneo's passion, but, over the years, it has known how to adapt to the new Milanese requirements, expanding the business to cafeteria and restaurant as well. Dark boiserie on the walls, black marble counter, refined Murano chandelier as it was in 1936, mosaic floors, forest green-framed windows tell the story of the sweetest living room in Milan. Lombardy aristocracy and bourgeoisie, actors and international entertainers have passed and lost themselves among smells and flavours.

The Solar Wheel of Arnaldo Pomodoro

A large disk of 4.5 meters in diameter, inspired by the Aztec calendar, looks like a giant bronze Sun, where the true Sun, according to the side hitting gives suggestive gleams, which may seem gears of mysterious machinery or even a rapid succession of musical notes.

9 Belgioioso Palace

Prestigious milanese palace and grandiose expression of the Neoclassical style, overlooks the homonymous and elegant square where Casa Manzoni stand too. It was built between 1772 and 1787 for Prince Alberico XII di belgiojoso d'Este, who avid collector, made it into a lounge frequented by famous artists of the time. The project was entrusted to the architect. Piermarini who was inspired by the Royal Palace of Caserta by Vanvitelli. Behind the impressive façade, the building is built around a central courtyard which gives access to the majestic two ramped staircase and the garden.

UNDER PATRONAGE



10 Spinola palace

This Palace (1580-1597) was built for Leonardo Spinola from Genoa, who moved to Milan in 1546 in the entourage of the banker Tommaso Marino. The prestigious Hall of Gold (1819-1821) designed by G. Argantini and rewamped by g. Tazzini in 1838 with rectangular plan, Corinthian columns and grand late-Neoclassical decoration.

Since 1818 Palazzo Spinola has been home to the Società del Giardino, important cultural institution of the Milanese tradition, one of the ten world's oldest Clubs, remained always in activity from of its foundation in 1783.

Milan Gallery

Built in 1865 by Giuseppe Mengoni it is the public passage connecting Duomo and Scala squares. Designed as a large covered with glazed windows Gallery, 14.5 m wide, and 32 m high with iron structures. At the intersection of the two arms the so-called Octagon is created, a central space topped by a 39 m diameter dome below which the mosaic floor with the House of Savoy and the cities which were capitals of the Kingdom of Italy coats of arms. In one of the Gallery's restaurants the Lionism in Italy was born: here took up the Lions Club of Milan (now Lions Club Milan Host) the first Italian Lions club (1951).

Arengario Palace – 20th Century Museum

Designed by architects Griffini, Magistretti, Muzio and Portaluppi and built between 1939 and 1941, The arengario embodies the monumental ambitions of the Fascist period. The twins pavilions, which stand directly opposite the entrance to the Gallery, are clad in white marble and have two row tiers of round arches, a recurring theme in metaphysical art; the bas-reliefs above the rectangular doorways are by Arturo Martini. Since 2010 the building on the left houses the Museum of the 20th Century, whose rooms display works spanning the 1900s in the entirety from Futurism to Arte povera.

Milan Cathedral

The Metropolitan Cathedral Basilica of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, better known as Milan Cathedral, dedicated to Santa Maria Nascente. Its construction commissioned by Gian Galeazzo Visconti begins in 1386 on the area where the ancient basilicas of Santa Tecla and Santa Maria Maggiore were, demolished in later times. Milan Cathedral is the largest and more complex Gothic building in Italy, made of pinkish white marble from the quarries of Candoglia, in Val d'Ossola. It has a length of 157 metres and covers an area of 11,700 square meters. The main Spire reaches a height of 108.5 m. On top of this last is placed in October 1774 the golden statue of the Virgin Mary (high 4.16 meters) by the sculptor Giuseppe Perego. The construction work go on for five centuries, during which time architects, sculptors, artists and craftsmen, both local and from all over Europe, alternated in Fabbrica del Duomo. The result of their work is a unique architecture, a fusion between the Gothic style of the Alps and the Lombard tradition.