



GALLERIA CIVICA
D'ARTE MEDIEVALE,
MODERNA
E CONTEMPORANEA
"VITTORIO EMANUELE II"

CIVIC GALLERY OF MEDIEVAL,
MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY
ART "VITTORIO EMANUELE II"

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THE TOWN OF VITTORIO VENETO

Vittorio Veneto arose from the union of two ancient municipalities: **Serravalle**, in the north, ruled by the Da Camino family, with its beautiful palaces nestled between hills with ruins of walls and towers built in the Middle Ages as defence against barbaric invasions; and **Ceneda**, in the south, situated partly on a plain and partly in the surrounding hills, with noble buildings recalling its ancient political and religious importance.

In 1866, when the Veneto region became part of the Kingdom of Italy, these two municipalities came together under the name of Vittorio Emanuele II to form the town of "Vittorio". In 1923, the name of the town was changed by adding the word "Veneto" to celebrate the victory of World War I. Since then, a large square facing the town hall and an attractive garden decorated with flowers and beautiful fountains have formed the new town centre of Vittorio Veneto.



Villa Croze, seat of the Civic Gallery "Vittorio Emanuele II"



THE GALLERIA CIVICA "VITTORIO EMANUELE II"

The seat of the *Galleria Civica d'arte medievale, moderna e contemporanea* "Vittorio Emanuele II" (Civic Gallery of Medieval, Modern and Contemporary Art) is located in Villa Croze, an elegant residential palace commissioned at the beginning of the 20th century (1906 ca.) by Engineer Ottavio Croze based on a project by Architect Carlo Costantini, situated along Viale della Concordia, now called Viale della Vittoria. After several transfers of property and intended uses, Professor Giovanni Paludetti and the Town Council finally chose this villa to host the Galleria Civica, which was inaugurated on 8th December 2002.

As a man of great learning, Giovanni Paludetti (1912 - 2002) was a teacher and principal at various institutes. He worked for several newspapers and published books of poems and essays on history and art, including the monographic volume about Giovanni De Min, a painter from Belluno.

Throughout his life, he focused on this collection, which was created to satisfy his own passion. After deciding to open it to the public, it was gradually enlarged in order to offer visitors a journey throughout the entire history of Italian art.



THE COLLECTION

The “*Maria Fioretti Paludetti*” Collection, exhibited at the *Galleria Civica d’arte medievale, moderna e contemporanea “Vittorio Emanuele II”*, displays important works by artists such as Pietro Pajetta, Alessandro Pomi and Pino Casarini, Guido Cadorin,

Bruno Saetti, Pio Semeghini, Carlo Dalla Zorza, Fioravante Seibezzi, the so-called Cagnaccio di San Pietro, Virgilio Guidi, Filippo De Pisis, Felice Carena, Armando Pizzinato, as well as artists from Treviso, such as Nino Springolo and Nando Coletti, Gina Roma and, from Vittorio Veneto, Armando Tonello and Luigi Cillo.



GUIDO CADORIN - Ritratto di Giovanni Paludetti
(Portrait of Giovanni Paludetti), 1943



The original core of the Collection, consisting of works, dating back to the early 1900s, by artists from the Veneto region, whom Giovanni Paludetti knew directly, was enlarged over the years in order to include also some examples from the previous centuries (with works attributed - among others - to Maestro di Barga, Domenico Puligo, Pierfrancesco di Jacopo di Domenico Foschi, Michele di Ridolfo del Ghirlandaio, Il Cigoli, Leandro Bassano, Girolamo Forabosco, Mattia Preti, Carlo Ceresa, Giacomo Carneo, Philippe de Champaigne, Gerolamo Induno, etc.), thus covering a period of time from the 14th to the 20th century.

The result is an extensive and diversified collection, which includes paintings, prints, drawings, sculptures and furnishings. Paludetti dedicated it to his mother, whereas he named a room after his sister Cecilia, which features the works he loved the most, dating back to different eras. The theme of the Risorgimento (the period leading up to the Unification of Italy) was very dear to the Professor and is widely displayed in the Gallery, which was named after Vittorio Emanuele II according to the donor's wishes.

This collection therefore necessarily reflects the taste, culture and personal experience of Professor Paludetti, who interpreted it almost as an opportunity for spiritual and cultural elevation.



CROZE ROOM

This space has been preserved, as far as possible, as it was when the Croze family resided in the villa. On its walls, there used to be paintings illustrating conventional pastoral landscapes, which are now kept at the storeroom because of their bad state of preservation.

The furniture, dating back to the early 1900s, belonged to the Croze family and was then purchased by Giovanni Paludetti, initially for his own home. In the showcases, some artistic objects are displayed, which are part of the *"Maria Fioretti Paludetti" Collection*, as well as the small head on top of an ancient capital on the centre of the table.



LUIGI CILLO - Ritratto di Cecilia Paludetti
(Portrait of Cecilia Paludetti), 1991



CECILIA'S ROOM

This room features several works chosen by Giovanni Paludetti, among the ones he loved the most, paying homage to his beloved sister Cecilia (1910 – 1992). This is what Paludetti wrote about this room:

“My sister Cecilia will also have what she deserves and that I know I owe her... Cecilia's Room, featuring authentic masterpieces from five uninterrupted centuries of modern and contemporary art. It is a real, concise and privileged Museum inside a Museum, [where] all the 38 works by 11 painters are arranged, across five consecutive centuries of history: the 16th century represented by Palma il Vecchio, the 17th century by Marinari and his St. Cecilia, the 18th century by Cifrondi, from Bergamo but belonging to Venice, and Giuseppe Angeli, a real Venetian, the 19th century by Michelangelo Grigoletti, and the 20th century by Cillo, Coletti, Rino Villa, Tonello, Dal Corso and Baldassin”.

Unfortunately, due to lack of space, it has not been possible to exhibit all of these works in a single room, but the most significant ones have been chosen to remain loyal to Paludetti's wish.

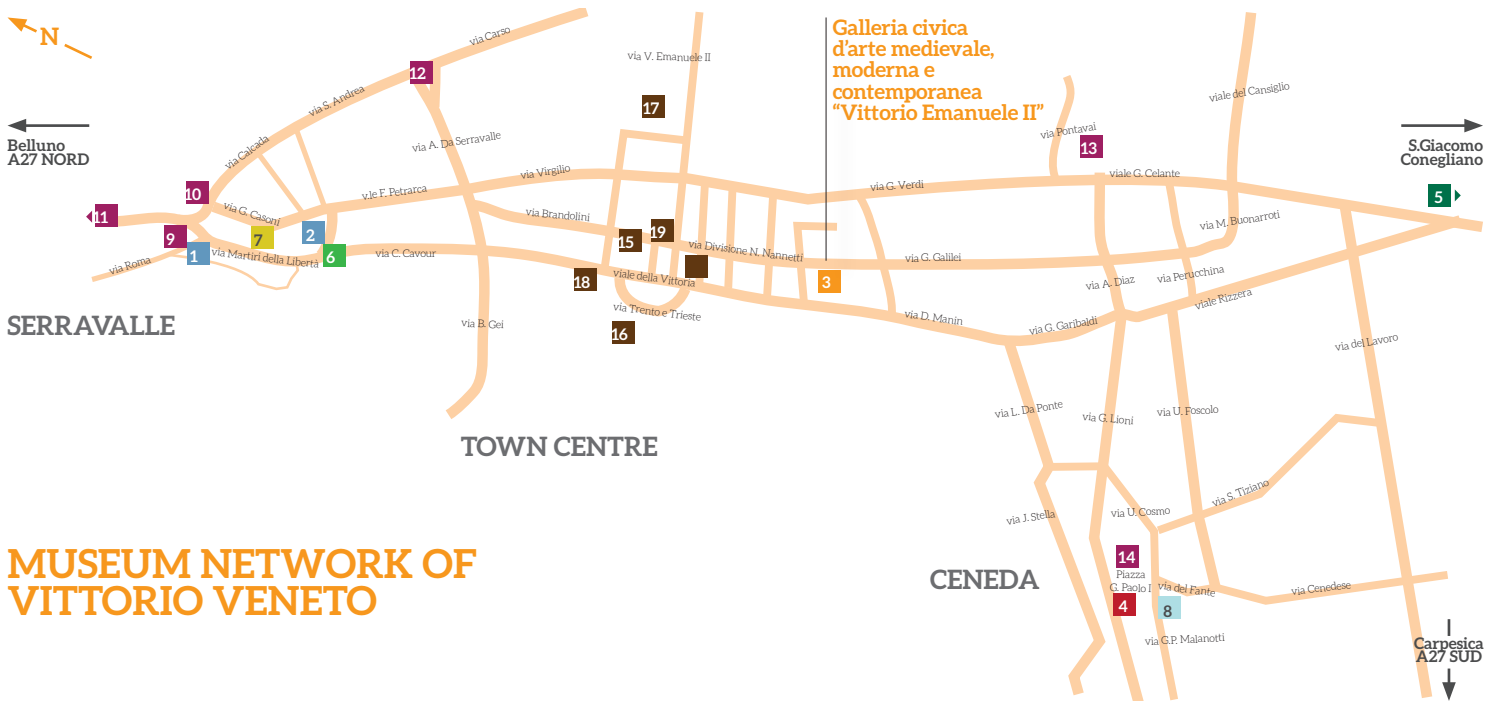


THE RISORGIMENTO ROOM

This room was created to host the works and memorabilia that, for Giovanni Paludetti, recalled his beloved ideals and myths of the Italian Risorgimento. In fact, here the busts of the Risorgimento heroes are displayed, made in terracotta by Luigi Cillo (1920 - 2011), a medal that recalls the

sacrifice of Paludetti's father during World War I, and pottery dedicated to the Battle of Vittorio Veneto, which the Professor considered as the final battle of the Risorgimento period.

In addition, the room features other objects and furniture of special value to him, since they belong to his family: for example, the portrait of his mother, which Giovanni Paludetti directly commissioned to the painter Armando Tonello from Vittorio Veneto (1897 - 2001).



MUSEUM NETWORK OF VITTORIO VENETO

Civic Museums

- 1** Museo del Cenedese
- 2** Oratorio dei Battuti
- 3** Galleria Civica "V. Emanuele"
- 4** Museo della Battaglia (Battle museum)
- 5** Museo del Baco da seta (Silkworm museum)

Other museums

- 6** Torre dell'Orologio
- 7** Palazzo Minucci De Carlo
- 8** Museo Diocesano di Arte Sacra "A. Luciani" (Diocesan museum of holy art) and Museo di Scienze Naturali "A. De Nardi" (Natural science museum)

Buildings of artistic interest

- 9** Palazzo Todesco
- 10** Duomo di Serravalle
- 11** Church of Santa Giustina
- 12** Church of Sant'Andrea
- 13** Church of S. Maria di Meschio
- 14** Cattedrale di Ceneda

Information and services

- 15** Town Hall
- 16** Railway station
- 17** Coach and bus station
- 18** Treviso Tourist information office
- 19** Informagiovani (youth information office)





TOWN HALL OF VITTORIO VENETO

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GUIDE TO THE GALLERIA CIVICA "VITTORIO EMANUELE II"

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