

## **MUSEO FORTUNY – PALAZZO PESARO DEGLI ORFEI** **The Mariano Fortuny house museum to reopen in Venice**

**On Saturday 5 March 2022 the Museo Fortuny will reopen as a permanent exhibition venue. Two years after the ‘Acqua Granda’ flooding seriously damaged the Palazzo Pesaro degli Orfei, and following two years of work slowed by the pandemic, Mariano Fortuny’s house museum is set to reopen its doors to the public.**

The Venetian Gothic palace that was once the home and workshop of Mariano Fortuny y Madrazo and his wife and muse Henriette Negrin was a focal point, at the beginning of the 20th century, for the European intellectual elite and a productive centre in cosmopolitan, industrious Venice. It is now reopening its doors following essential conservation work on the ground floor, the part most seriously damaged by flooding in November 2019, and the refurbishment of the upper floors.

Extensive work has been done to refurbish and upgrade the palace, financed through the *Art Bonus* and with a significant contribution from the brand leader PAM. The ground floor *portego* has been restored and the reception facilities revamped. These modifications set in train a historically grounded reorganization of the museum spaces, with the restoration of the rooms devoted to the memory of the brilliant and highly talented Mariano Fortuny (the 150th anniversary of his birth was in 2021), and the reopening on the *piani nobili* of the marvellous *polifora* multi-light windows, the focal point of the palace’s architecture and an appropriately modulated source of natural light. The fascinating exhibition route has been designed by Pier Luigi Pizzi together with Gabriella Belli and Chiara Squarcina.

Palazzo Ducale
Museo Correr
Torre dell’Orologio
Ca’ Rezzonico Museo del Settecento Veneziano
Museo di Palazzo Mocenigo Centro Studi di Storia del Tessuto, del Costume e del Profumo
Casa di Carlo Goldoni
Ca’ Pesaro Galleria Internazionale d’Arte Moderna
Palazzo Fortuny
Museo di Storia Naturale Giancarlo Ligabue
Museo del Vetro
Museo del Merletto
MUVE Mestre
Centro Culturale Candiani
Forte Marghera



The exhibits included paintings, lighting systems, clothes, fabrics, colours and dyes resulting from the genius of Mariano and Henriette, together with photographic archives and items from the personal collection, documents and patents, and works by artists and friends who came to Venice and lived in and found new light in the palace overlooking Campo San Beneto. The palace will be open all year round with permanent exhibits and will also host temporary shows on contemporary themes. For the next 5 years the museum is pursuing a fruitful collaboration with Tessuti Artistici Fortuny SRL.

The inauguration will be an opportunity to present the Panza di Biumo collection of 20th-century international artworks, which are going on public view for the first time. The collection was recently donated to the Fondazione Musei Civici di Venezia in memory of one of the most important collectors of the twentieth century.

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