

PAST, CURRENT & FUTURE PROJECTS

Friends of Florence



FRIENDS of FLORENCE







COMPLETED PROJECTS

✿ LOGGIA DEI LANZI IN PIAZZA DELLA SIGNORIA
 In 2002, the first project restored all of the marble statues, including Giambologna's *Rape of the Sabines*. A book and DVD were produced.

✿ ACCADEMIA GALLERY
 In 2003, twenty-two paintings were restored in the Tribune of Michelangelo's *David* including works by Allori, Pontorno, Portelli and other artists. A book and CD ROM were produced.

✿ ACCADEMIA GALLERY
 In 2004, Michelangelo's *David* was restored in celebration of the 500th anniversary of this masterpiece. FOF funded the entire diagnostic program for the statue and also created a website for scholars and a DVD of the restoration.

✿ UFFIZI GALLERY: SALA DELLA NIOBE IN 2006
 Restored the 17 ancient statues of the Niobe, the Roman biographical sarcophagus, the large painting by Grisoni of the *Rape of Persephone* that had been lost for more than 100 years. The restoration also brought the Niobe Room back to the original design from 1780, when it was first created. A DVD and a book are being produced.

✿ ALLORI'S *PORTRAIT OF ORTENSIA DE' BARDI DI MONTAUTO*
Underwritten by The Michael J. Collins Family
 The restoration, along with a book about the project, was unveiled on May 18, 2006.

✿ FOUR IVORIES, MEDICI COLLECTION, SILVER MUSEUM OF PALAZZO PITTI
Funds donated by FOF Advisory Board Member Christina Gilberti
 These precious ivories were restored and placed in the Silver Museum of Palazzo Pitti.

✿ CANDELABRA AND LARI ALTER, MEDICI COLLECTION OF ANTIQUITIES, UFFIZI GALLERY
Underwritten by Constance Milstein

✿ POTHOS SCULPTURE, MEDICI COLLECTION OF ANTIQUITIES, UFFIZI GALLERY
Underwritten by The Michael J. Collins Family

✿ TWELVE CAESARS, MEDICI COLLECTION OF ANTIQUITIES, UFFIZI GALLERY
Underwritten by The Cistercian School of Dallas-Class 2011
 The young *Marcus Aurelius*, *Nero*, and *Caligula* were restored. These young art patrons raised the funds for the restoration by performing various jobs in their community.

✿ SYMPOSIUM COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1966 FLOOD
 Conservation Legacies at the NYU Villa la Pietra, Florence

FOF underwrote the recording of the oral histories collected from individuals who participated in the rescue and restoration of a vast number of artworks during the flood of 1966. In addition, FOF has pledged to fund the eventual publication of the oral histories.



PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

✿ TWELVE CAESARS, MEDICI COLLECTION OF ANTIQUITIES, UFFIZI GALLERY

Underwritten by FOF Board members Elissa and Edgar J. Cullman Jr., and Kenneth and Noreen Buckfire.

Three busts including Trajan, Marcus Aurelius, and Claudius.

✿ BAPTISTRY: NORTH PORTAL SCULPTURAL BRONZE GROUP BY GIOVAN FRANCESCO RUSTICI *THE SERMON OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST*

Restoration of the three bronze figures and research to confirm participation of Leonardo da Vinci in the creation of the figures when he worked with Rustici in Florence. Restoration should be completed in 2008.

Cost: Euro 500,000

✿ BAPTISTRY: Ghiberti's *DOORS OF PARADISE*

FOF is funding the restoration and the reassembly for these world famous bronze doors which will be placed in the Opera del Duomo Museum. Three panels from the Doors are part of an exhibition organized by the High Museum. Exhibition venues in the U.S. are the High Museum of Art in Atlanta (April '07), the Chicago Art Institute (July '07), the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC (October '07).

Cost: US\$400,000

✿ ACCADEMIA: MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM FOR MICHELANGELO'S *DAVID* AND *PRISONERS*

After the funding of the restoration of Michelangelo's *David* for its 500th anniversary, a two year program to monitor the stability and status of the marble was implemented.

Cost per year: Euro18,480

✿ TRIBUNE IN THE UFFIZI GALLERY: WORK TO BEGIN IN 2008

The Tribune in the Uffizi Gallery is one of the first museum collections in the world and was established by the Medici when the Uffizi was built in the 1500s. This octagonal room is a unique treasure of extraordinary ancient sculptures, portraits, and other artworks that were prized by the Medici and put on display in the Tribune. FOF will restore all of the exceptional art and architectural elements.

Project Estimate: Euro 500, 000, *plus VAT*









POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS

✿ ALESSANDRO ALLORI'S EPIC PAINTING

This large painting, lost for many years, was recovered at the San Salvi Monastery. Restoration is needed for the entire surface. Research will be conducted on its origins. After restoration, the painting will be hung in the Uffizi Gallery.

Estimated Cost: Euro 90,000

✿ CRUCIFIXION BY MASTER OF FIGLINE: ABOVE THE MAIN ALTAR, SANTA CROCE CHURCH

This large wood panel work of the 1300s hangs above the main altar of Santa Croce, the main Franciscan church in Florence. The artist is called "The Master of the Pietà at the Fogg Museum" for the important painting of the Pietà displayed in this Museum at Harvard University.

Estimated Cost: Euro 165,000

✿ THE HISTORIC JEWISH TUSCAN COMMUNITY AND SYNAGOGUE OF FLORENCE

The Synagogue of Florence, built in the 1800's, is developing a master list of restoration projects for Friends of Florence. It will include the study and restoration of the Jewish tombs of the 1500's in the city near Porta San Frediano; the restoration of the important frescoes decorating the interior of the Synagogue; and, the conservation and study of the tombs and temples in Monte San Savino and Siena.

✿ WORKS BY ARTISTS OF THE 1800S AND 1900S — PALAZZO PITTI MODERN ART COLLECTION

This collection includes artworks by Pissarro, Zandomeneghi, Lega, and others who were of the Macchiaioli School, also known as the "Italian Impressionists". Several paintings require restoration.

Project Estimate: Beginning at US\$10,000 plus eventual production costs for a book or CD-ROM

✿ FRESCOES OF THE S. ANTONINO CLOISTER OF SAN MARCO- SOUTH WALL

This project includes seven lunettes and 15 medallions.

Project Estimate: Euro 140,000 *plus production costs*

✿ FRESCOES IN PALAZZO DAVANZATI

The Palazzo Davanzati Museum allows visitors and scholars to learn how private palaces were built, furnished and decorated in early Renaissance times. With the Palace open again to the public, restoration is still needed on the second and third floors to recuperate the frescoes and decor. Please inquire for room-by-room cost.

✿ INTARSIA DOORS IN THE CASA BUONAROTTI

This project highlights a series of exceptional wooden intarsia doors that adorn the main rooms of Michelangelo's home in Florence. The doors were created by Benedetta Calenzuoloi based on drawings by Pietro da Cortona and are in need of restoration.

Estimated Cost: US\$10,000 *per pair of doors.*

✿ EGNAZIO DANTI'S TERRESTRIAL GLOBE,
PALAZZO VECCHIO

This Dominican monk and cosmographer for the Grand Duke Cosimo I de' Medici, created maps that decorated the walls of the Map Room of Palazzo Vecchio. Danti created the gnomon, the astronomical quadrant, and the armill on the façade of the Church of the Santa Maria Novella. FOF seeks funding to restore Danti's large terrestrial globe in the map room of the Palazzo Vecchio.

Estimated Cost: Euro 360,000

✿ GARDEN OF THE LITTLE ISLAND, BOBOLI GARDENS

The gardens were designed for the Medici after they bought the Palazzo Pitti in 1549, and are an excellent example of stylized Renaissance gardening. FOF seeks to restore L'isolotto del Giardino (*the Garden of the Little Island*), which includes a statue of Neptune by Giambologna and other fine artworks.

Estimated Cost: Euro 1.5 million

✿ "RAPE OF THE SABINES" CAST IN THE ACCADEMIA
BY GIAMBOLOGNA

During an inspection of this important work, Cinzia Parnigoni (restorer of Michelangelo's *David*) found that two fingers were fragile and the surface requires urgent restoration.

Estimated Cost: Diagnostic analysis Euro 65,000; *restoration costs will be determined once the testing is completed.*

✿ THE NEPTUNE FOUNTAIN BY BARTOLOMEO
AMMANATI, PIAZZA DELLA SIGNORIA

Framed by the magnificent Piazza della Signoria, the *Neptune Fountain*, sculpted by Bartolomeo Ammanati in 1575, is one of the most important artistic creations in Florence. The Opificio delle Pietre Dure – the Florentine Art Restoration Department – has confirmed the need for restoration including the addition of a hydraulic water treatment system.

Estimated Cost: Euro 1.8 million

✿ THE GIAMBOLOGNA MAIN CHAPEL IN THE
CHURCH OF SS. ANNUNZIATA

This chapel was designed and executed by Giambologna and comprises his funerary monument. The architectural space and reliefs, sculptures and funerary monument are in urgent need of restoration.

Estimated Cost: Euro 380,000

✿ LEONARDO DA VINCI'S FRESCO ON THE
WALLS OF PALAZZO VECCHIO IN THE SALA
DEL CINQUECENTO

Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo were both called upon by the Medici to execute large frescoes on the walls in the vast Sala del Cinquecento depicting the battles won by the Florentine Republic. Da Vinci did execute his fresco but the final *Battle of Anghiari* is not visible due to the remodeling efforts by Vasari. A project is underway to examine the layers of the original, older wall to see if any remnants of Leonardo's fresco can be detected.



✿ ANCIENT SCULPTURES, MEDICI COLLECTION OF ANTIQUITIES UFFIZI GALLERY

The Uffizi Gallery regularly provides updated analysis of various artworks and estimates for their restoration. Individual projects continue to be underwritten by donors and FOF Board members.

Costs range from US\$10,000 depending on the extent of restoration. Plaques acknowledging the donors are placed in the Museum.

✿ UFFIZI- VASARI CORRIDOR SELF-PORTRAITS

There are approximately 1,500 self-portraits in the Uffizi Collection comprising the oldest, most important, and comprehensive collection in the world. Of these, only 413 are currently on view in the Vasari Corridor. The remaining portraits are in storage. FOF seeks to publish a book, in English, comprised of photographs, descriptions and information about the artists who produced the portraits, including the many contemporary artists who continue to donate their self-portraits to the Uffizi. The collection also could be available on-line and selected self-portraits could travel periodically to U.S. venues.

Costs to be determined

✿ IVORIES IN THE MEDICI COLLECTION OF THE SILVER MUSEUM, PALAZZO PITTI

Each restoration would include at least four pieces by the most celebrated German, Austrian and other international masters.

Project Estimate: Minimum US\$7,500



The Friends of Florence is a not-for-profit organization comprised of individuals from around the world who are dedicated to preserving and enhancing the cultural and historical integrity of the arts located in the city and region of Florence, Italy and to increasing public understanding and appreciation through educational programs and events.



FRIENDS of FLORENCE

Friends of Florence
www.friendsofflorence.org

ITALY

Via Ugo Foscolo 72
50124 Florence, Italy
Tel 39 055 223 064
Fax 39 055 229 8912

U.S.A.

4545 W Street, NW
Washington DC 20007
Tel 202 333 3705
Fax 202 333 4046