

## NAPLES IN THE TIME OF NAPOLEON. REBELL AND THE GULF LIGHT

Gallerie d'Italia - Naples, Intesa Sanpaolo Museum

23 November 2023 to 7 April 2024

Curated by Sabine Grabner, Luisa Martorelli, Fernando Mazzocca and Gennaro Toscano

### IMAGES AT THE LINK:

REBELL

Naples, 22 November 2023 - Intesa Sanpaolo opens to the public **from 23 November 2023 to 7 April 2024** at the **Gallerie d'Italia in Naples**, the exhibition ***Naples in the Time of Napoleon. Rebell and the Light of the Gulf***, dedicated to the Viennese painter Joseph Rebell and the lively and vibrant cultural atmosphere of the city of Naples in the years from 1808 to 1815, the period of the reign of Joachim Murat and Caroline Bonaparte, who saw the arts as an effective means of promoting the civil growth of Neapolitan society.

The exhibition, **curated by Sabine Grabner, Luisa Martorelli, Fernando Mazzocca and Gennaro Toscano**, is realised in partnership with the Belvedere Museum in Vienna and with the collaboration of the Institut Français in Naples, and is made possible with the support of the City of Naples.

On exhibit are 73 works from important national and international cultural institutions, such as the Belvedere in Vienna, the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, the Austrian National Library, the Château de Fontainebleau and Versailles, as well as the Intesa Sanpaolo collection.

**Michele Coppola**, Executive Director for Art, Culture and Historical Heritage of Intesa Sanpaolo, stated: *"The exhibitions of Gallerie d'Italia, together with the proprietary collections housed here, are a tribute to the great art and history of Naples, rich in seasons and protagonists to be rediscovered. Rebell's magnificent landscapes tell the story of a significant historical moment for the city, in an exhibition project that we realised together with the Belvedere in Vienna and thanks to loans from important Italian and European museums. I believe that this initiative is also concrete proof of the Bank's strong link with Naples and the vitality of a museum that works to contribute to the artistic beauty, cultural prestige and social growth of this extraordinary city."*

The French Decade was a very flourishing period for landscape painting, particularly during the reign of Joachim Murat and Caroline Bonaparte, who called to their court French masters of the genre, such as **Simon Denis, Alexandre Dunouy, Auguste de Forbin**, and gave special patronage to the Viennese **Joseph Rebell**, who, alongside other innovators of landscape painting in those years, is the great protagonist of the exhibition.

This is the first exhibition dedicated to **Joseph Rebell** (Vienna 1787 - Dresden 1828), whose painting is characterised by a new way of representing the landscape, experimenting with it in real life and rendering it with dramatic force, marking a turning point in artistic production between Neoclassicism and Romanticism and anticipating the Romantic conception of landscape painting, based on the exaltation of atmospheric and sentimental values. His example was fundamental for the Dutch Antoon Sminck Pitloo and for the generation of artists of the Posillipo School.

Rebell's works are compared for the first time with the landscape artists of his time: **Michael Wutky**, who was his teacher, **Pierre-Jacques Volaire, Simon Denis, Alexander Dunouy, Louis de Forbin, Johan Christian Dahl**.

On display are the splendid youthful portraits of Joachim and Caroline Murat, the portrait of Napoleon in imperial coronation dress, numerous views of the Bay of Naples and its magnificent surroundings, Vesuvius, depictions of the Amalfi Coast and the Islands, as well as sketches and preparatory studies.

Many loans came from Austrian and French museums, with some major works never or rarely seen in Italy.

The exhibition catalogue is produced by **Edizioni Gallerie d'Italia | Skira**.

The Naples museum, together with those in Milan, Turin and Vicenza, is part of Intesa Sanpaolo's Gallerie d'Italia museum project, led by Michele Coppola, Executive Director of Art, Culture and Historical Assets at the Bank.

### **Intesa Sanpaolo**

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### **USEFUL INFORMATION**

**WHERE:** Gallerie d'Italia – Naples | Via Toledo, 177 Naples

**TIMES:** Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; closed Mondays; last entrance: an hour before closing time

**TICKETS:** full €7, reduced €4, free entrance for members, schools, children under 18, Intesa Sanpaolo Group customers

**INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS:** <http://www.gallerieditalia.com>, [napoli@gallerieditalia.com](mailto:napoli@gallerieditalia.com), Freephone number 800.167619

#### *Press information*

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### **About Intesa Sanpaolo**

Intesa Sanpaolo is Italy's leading banking group – serving families, businesses and the real economy – with a significant international presence. Intesa Sanpaolo's distinctive business model makes it a European leader in Wealth Management, Protection & Advisory, highly focused on digital and fintech, in particular with Isybank, the Group's digital bank. An efficient and resilient Bank, it benefits from its wholly-owned product factories in asset management and insurance. The Group's strong ESG commitment includes providing €115 billion in impact lending by 2025 to communities and for the green transition, and €500 million in contributions to support people most in need, positioning Intesa Sanpaolo as a world leader in terms of social impact. Intesa Sanpaolo is committed to Net Zero by 2030 for its own emissions and by 2050 for its loan and investment portfolios. An engaged patron of Italian culture, Intesa Sanpaolo has created its own network of museums, the Gallerie d'Italia, to host the bank's artistic heritage and as a venue for prestigious cultural projects.

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