

PRESS RELEASE

**ON 21 MAY, INTESA SANPAOLO OPENS THE NEW  
GALLERIE D'ITALIA MUSEUM IN NAPLES**

**Saturday, 21 May, the “Gallerie d’Italia – Naples” opens to the public  
with triple the space of the previous exhibition area**

**Caravaggio's *Martyrdom of St. Ursula* and Neapolitan painting will be on display; three new  
themed itineraries: painting, ancient ceramics and contemporary art**

**The four museums in the Bank's historic buildings – in Milan, Naples, Turin and Vicenza – bring  
Italy together through art and culture**

Gallerie d’Italia – Naples, Intesa Sanpaolo museum, via Toledo 177

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*Naples, 20 May 2022* – Intesa Sanpaolo has opened the “**Gallerie d’Italia – Naples**”, in the central and monumental historic building of the former Banco di Napoli, designed by architect Marcello Piacentini at via Toledo 177. Thanks to the project and the interventions, the spaces of Palazzo Zevallos Stigliano triple, reaching ten thousand square metres. It is a high impact architectonic requalification that updates the building without affecting the nature of its historic prestige, developed by Michele De Lucchi - AMDL Circle, which transforms the spaces so that they can be used according to modern museological and museographic criteria. These environments are in line with the most innovative and recognised international museum standards. In the museum, a selection of Neapolitan and southern Italian paintings and sculptures from the beginning of the 17th to the first decades of the 20th century will be on display, starting with the masterpiece

of the Intesa Sanpaolo collection, the *Martyrdom of Saint Ursula* by Caravaggio, as well as new expositions dedicated to Attic and Magna Graecia ceramics and modern and contemporary art.

The opening of the Neapolitan museum, which comes in addition to the new Turin site that opened to the public on 17 May, is a fundamental step by Intesa Sanpaolo in promoting culture in Italy and enhancing the value of its artistic heritage of over 35,000 owned works of art, the economic value of which has been included at fair value in the financial statements since 2017.

The four Gallerie d'Italia museums – Milan, Naples, Turin and Vicenza – evoke common distinctive traits, consolidating the Intesa Sanpaolo museum system managed by the Bank's Progetto Cultura, created to enhance the historical and artistic heritage that has flowed into the Group over the years. The premises are historic buildings that were formerly the Bank's offices and that, in the renovation work guided by the new requirements – including opening to the public, protection and preservation of works of art, sustainability and full accessibility – maintain a clear recollection of their past functions.

The 2022-2025 Business Plan recently presented by CEO Carlo Messina reinforces Intesa Sanpaolo's commitment to culture with the expansion of the Bank's other two museums in Milan and Vicenza, leading to the doubling of the Gallerie d'Italia's total exhibition space by 2025 – from 14,200 square meters to 30,000 square meters – and consolidating the Group's position among the top private cultural operators internationally in terms of reputation, commitment and the size, quality and financial value of the collection: a commitment that is in keeping with the Group's ESG activities.

Both museums will feature original temporary exhibitions and will organise numerous activities, such as education for schools, scientific research and social inclusion initiatives. Some of the spaces will be available for city events and initiatives.

## **Le Gallerie d'Italia – Naples**

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The museum entrance to the building, the historic premises of the Banco di Napoli, will be from Via Toledo 177.

Works from the permanent collection are spread along three themed itineraries. On the second floor of the museum, the section curated by Fernando Mazzocca houses paintings and sculptures, mainly from the Neapolitan and southern areas, dating from the early 17th century to the first decades of the 20th century, starting with the absolute masterpiece of the collections, Caravaggio's *Martyrdom of Saint Ursula*, the last painting by the master made in May 1610, a few weeks before his death. Notable names include Artemisia Gentileschi, Luca Giordano, Gaspar van Wittel, Anton Smink Pitloo, Giacinto Gigante and Domenico Morelli. A collection of drawings and sculptures by Vincenzo Gemito forms one of the most important collections of the great artists' work, effectively documenting his extraordinary artistic career.

The second floor will house exhibitions of Attic and Magna Graecia ceramics and works from the modern and contemporary art collections. The former exhibition, curated by Fabrizio Paolucci, presents for the first time to the public in its entirety Intesa Sanpaolo's historic Caputi Collection, consisting of over 500 vases and other artefacts made in Athens, Apulia and Lucania between the 5th and 3rd centuries BC, all from Ruvo di Puglia, a town in the province of Bari that played a very important political, economic and cultural role in Magna Graecia.

On the same floor, a row of rooms overlooking Via Toledo hosts the second exhibition: a selection of works from Intesa Sanpaolo's collection of 20th and 21st century art, curated by Luca Massimo Barbero, an evocative journey through chronological juxtapositions from the post-War period to contemporary art. There are works by Lucio Fontana, Alberto Burri, Piero Manzoni, Enrico Castellani, Mario Schifano, Giulio Paolini, Alighiero Boetti, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Giosetta Fioroni, Carol Rama, Afro, Emilio Vedova, Gerhard Richter, Jannis Kounellis and Sol LeWitt.

The Gallerie d'Italia – Naples is, for all intents and purposes, a place for the people. Continuity and close connection with the urban space is established by the monumental entrance hall, which functions in symbiosis with the street. The beating heart of the building will be the large hall on the ground floor dedicated to temporary exhibitions and major cultural initiatives by top international artists and curators. The cafeteria-bistro (opening soon) and the bookshop can be freely accessed from Via Toledo.

Three classrooms on the second floor allow the expansion of educational activities for schools and specific audiences, always free of charge, which over the years have represented a fundamental element of the Bank's commitment to the community. A new library with a set of volumes from Intesa Sanpaolo's book collection, connected to Italy's National Library Service, will offer scholars and enthusiasts the opportunity to delve into themes and aspects related to the works in the museum's collections and temporary exhibitions.

The Neapolitan museum will continue to be run by Michele Coppola, Executive Director of Intesa Sanpaolo Art Culture and Historical Heritage and Director of the Gallerie d'Italia, assisted by Deputy Director Antonio Ernesto Denunzio.

## **The opening exhibition**

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The first temporary exhibition hosted in the new location will be the final exhibition of the 19th edition of **Restituzioni**, the two-year programme of safeguarding and enhancing the national artistic heritage that Intesa Sanpaolo has been conducting for over 30 years in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Culture. The public heritage works from archaeological sites, museums and places of worship from all over Italy restored thanks to Intesa Sanpaolo over the last three years (the pandemic has delayed, but stopped, the project) will be exhibited to the public.

## **USEFUL INFORMATION**

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

TIMES: Tuesday to Friday, 10.00 to 19.00; Saturday and Sunday, 10.00 to 20.00; closed Mondays; last entrance: an hour before closing time

PRICES: full €7, reduced €4, free entrance for members, schools, under 18 year-olds, Intesa Sanpaolo Group customers

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

## **PRESS INFORMATION**

### **Intesa Sanpaolo**

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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. 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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