



Unione Europea / Regione Marche



FONDO EUROPEO AGRICOLO PER LO SVILUPPO RURALE: L'EUROPA INVESTE NELLE ZONE RURALI

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Montefiore dell'Aso



**Sala
De Carolis
Polo Museale
San Francesco**





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CATALOGUE-GUIDEBOOKS FOR THE MUSEI PICENI NETWORK

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CATALOGUE GUIDEBOOKS INTRODUCTION

This guide is part of a set of 22 volumes which will lead the reader on an exciting journey of discovery of Piceno territory. Of these 22 guides, 18 are dedicated to the collections of the four museums that make up the Musei Piceni network (Palazzo de Castellotti museum complex, Offida; Palazzo Bonomi Gera municipal museum, Ripatransone; San Francesco museum complex, Montefiore dell’Aso; San Francesco cultural complex, Monterubbiano). The other four volumes are written as itineraries that focus on the specific history, art and environment traits that forge the Piceno identity (Piceno Museums and Collections; Natural Environment and Environmental Education Centres; Typical Towns and Products in Piceno; Artisan Studios of Piceno). Inspired by the complexity of the museum system and the lavish territory where it is located, these guides offer important proof of the fact that every element of material cultural heritage (whether housed in a museum or otherwise) and of Piceno’s traditional and typical way of life is the product of what happened and was generated in history and by the territory’s social development.

For this purpose, the 18 guides dedicated to Musei Piceni collections not only contain a presentation of each single collection and the relative museum, but also offer the reader an engaging cross-referenced text for putting together the various aspects of the complex web of relationships woven between a museum’s heritage, the actual container, the heritage spread across the territory, and the extensive intangible heritage of customs, traditions, rites, legends, and traditional production processes that still reflect the Piceno identity.

The Italian version of each guidebook comprises two main sections: the first is an introduction dedicated to the museum tour and brief notes point the reader/visitor in the direction of the idiosyncrasies of each collection. The second part focuses on one or more objects in the collection and in addition to the general information and the description of the object, offers a series of focused facts for explaining the artefact in more detail and revealing the link between the object and the museum and territorial context in which it is found.

Foreign language texts, in addition to general information offering concise, immediate tips for locating and identifying the object, contain a **descriptive part**, with three main areas of content: a reading of the image/description, origin and original location (physical context and social setting of provenance), original function and meaning.

The Musei Piceni guidebooks are conceived as four macro categories, one per museum, and are dedicated to the following subjects, which reflect the collections on show in each museum venue.

POLO MUSEALE PALAZZO DE CASTELLOTTI, OFFIDA

1. Museo delle Tradizioni Popolari – museum of folk traditions
2. Quadreria civica – municipal art gallery
3. Museo del merletto a tombolo – bolster lace museum
4. “G. Allevi” municipal archaeological museum.

MUSEO CIVICO PALAZZO BONOMI GERA, RIPATRANSONE

5. Pinacoteca civica – municipal art gallery
6. Galleria d’Arte Contemporanea – contemporary art gallery
7. “U. Gera” plaster cast museum
8. Raccolta storico-etnografica – historical and ethnographic collection
9. “G. Mercantini” – history of the Risorgimento museum

POLO MUSEALE SAN FRANCESCO, MONTEFIORE DELL’ASO

10. Carlo Crivelli room
11. “G. Basili” set design documentation museum
12. Museo della civiltà contadina – museum of rural culture
13. “D. Cantatore” collection
14. “A. De Carolis” – museum

POLO CULTURALE SAN FRANCESCO

15. Model of the Aso valley
16. Museo Civico Archeologico – municipal archaeological museum
17. “S. Mircoli” coin collection
18. Quadreria civica – municipal art gallery

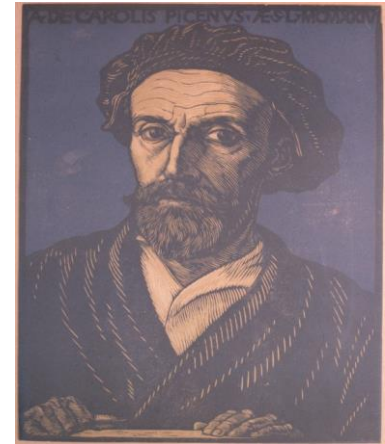
MUSEO ADOLFO DE CAROLIS

The San Francesco museum complex concludes in the Sala Adolfo De Carolis, accessed from the Sala Cinque Colli. The room also has direct street access from Via Garibaldi.

The walls and ceiling of this room, which is sometimes used to host meetings and conferences, are lined with sketches for the



decoration of the Salone dei Quattromila in the Palazzo del Podestà



in Bologna, where Adolfo De Carolis worked between 1908 and 1928.

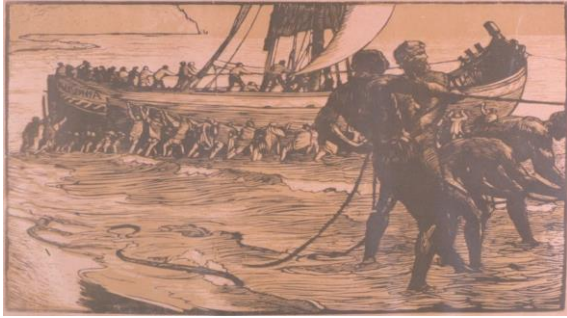
All traces of the original decoration in the Salone in Bologna having been lost so this exhibition provides fundamental historical evidence of the cycle of paintings by the artist from Montefiore. Due to a number of events over the years, a full picture of the Salone is no longer possible today.



The ceiling frescoes were damaged during an earthquake, while a lack of funds, the client's subsequent change of mind and the disappearance of some of the artist's assistants prevented him from completing the original project. Furthermore, a seriously damaged section of fresco was detached for restoration in 1969, but has not been replaced due to the installation of an air conditioning system that prevents it being put back into position. The cycle is dedicated to the



history of the city of Bologna and is divided into three large sections: historic events along the walls, divided chronologically into three periods (origins, Middle Ages, and Renaissance), the celestial sphere on the ceiling and the great models of the past and allegories in the corbels. In addition to the sketches, the Bolognese cycle is also documented by the red chalk studies of some figures, displayed in the cabinets at the back of the room.



Lastly, there is a small gallery adjacent to the room, which houses the collection of woodcuts by the artist donated to the town by the De Carolis family in 1974 and divided into four thematic sections (*Family, Piceno, Legend* and *Religion*), as well as some tools and furnishings from the artist's studio in Bologna.

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