

40 YEARS OF WMF IN VENICE

Following the disastrous floods of November 1966, WMF—at that time known as the International Fund for Monuments—embarked on a number of restoration campaigns in the fabled city. Since then, WMF has carried out some 25 projects in Venice, making

it one of the primary beneficiaries of its time and resources. Current efforts in the city are focused on the restoration of Verrocchio's famed equestrian statue of Bartolomeo Colleoni and a suite of Napoleonic rooms in the Royal Palace



1968
CHURCH OF SAN MOISÈ
Supported conservation of 17th-18th-century paintings

1968
CHURCH OF SAN SALVATORE
Conserved paintings of *Three Saints*, by Girolamo da Treviso il Giovane



1969-1975
SCUOLA GRANDE DI SAN ROCCO
On-site conservation lab and restoration of 58 paintings by Tintoretto

1969
CHURCH OF MADONNA DELL'ORTO
Bellini's *Madonna and Child*



1969-1979
SCUOLA GRANDE DI SAN GIOVANNI EVANGELISTA
Complete restoration of the 18th-century building



1970
CHURCH OF SANT'EUFEMIA (GIUDECCA)
Consolidation of panel paintings by Bartolomeo Vivarini

1970-73
CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA DEL GIGLIO
Restoration of the 17th-century building



1970-1978
CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA DELLA VISITAZIONE (SAN GIROLAMO DEI GESUATI)
Painted ceiling medallions

1970-1982
CHURCH OF SAN PIETRO DI CASTELLO
Restoration of the 15th-century church, its organ, and bell tower



1970-1988
CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA DELLA VISITAZIONE (LA PIETÀ)
Restoration of the roof and frescoes by Tiepolo



CA. 1971
CA' D'ORO
Conserved façade friezes

1971-74
CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA DEL CARMELO (CARMINI) Pictorial cycle of 15 paintings by Lorenzo Lotto, Tintoretto, et al.



1971; 1988-90
CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA DEI DERELITTI (OSPEDALETTO)
Restored 33 paintings; funded work in the Sala della Musica

1972-1975
CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA GLORIOSA DEI FRARI Restored 14th-century belltower and tombs



1972-1977
SCUOLA GRANDE DI SANTA MARIA DEI CARMINI Restored roof, façade, Tiepolo paintings, and stucco decoration of the staircase



1974-1981
PALAZZO QUERINI STAMPALIA Restored Bartolomeo Nazzari's *Cardinal Angelo Mario Querini* and library heating and storage facilities

CA. 1974-1985
PALAZZO DUCALE
Restored stuccoes of the 16th-century Scala d'Oro



CA. 1975
CHURCH OF SAN NICOLÒ DA TOLENTINI
On-site conservation lab and restoration of Strozzi's *Charity of St. Lawrence*

1977-1989
SCUOLA CANTON
Restoration of the 16th-century synagogue



1977-1985
CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA ASSUNTA (TORCELLO)
Supported restoration campaign

1979-1985
PALAZZO CONTARINI DEL BOVOLO

Restored spiral staircase



CA. 1980
CHURCH OF SAN SIMEONE GRANDE

Restored 15th-century tomb bas-relief depicting Sant'Ermolao

1980-1985
MISERICORDIA LABORATORY

Establishment and equipping of conservation-research laboratory



1983-85
PALAZZO DUCALE

Restored paintings in the Sala del Maggior Consiglio

CA. 1984
BIBLIOTECA MARCIANA, ANTISALA

Conservation of ceiling paintings—architectural perspective by Cristoforo and Stefano Rosa surrounding the allegory of Wisdom by Titian



CA. 1987-88
SCUOLA DALMATA (SAN GIORGIO DEGLI SCHIAYONI)

Installed fire and security systems to protect Carpaccio painting cycle



CA. 1988-90
BIBLIOTECA MARCIANA

International course for conservation of books and paper

CA. 1989
CA' ZENOBIO

Emergency repair of staircase; planning for restoration of baroque garden



1989-1990
CHURCH OF SAN GIOVANNI IN BRAGORA

Cima da Conegliano's *Baptism of Christ* and the stuccoed presbytery vault; Madonna and marble angels at the high altar

CA. 1990
CHURCH OF SAN POLO

Restored sculpted lions at campanile base



CA. 1996-2006
BARTOLOMEO COLLEONI MONUMENT

Conservation of one of Italy's most celebrated monuments, the late fifteenth-century equestrian statue of Bartolomeo Colleoni, a Renaissance mercenary, is drawing to a close, nearly a decade after the famed bronze appeared on WMF's 1996 list of 100 *Most Endangered Sites*.

Sculpted by Andrea del Verrocchio and cast by Alessandro Leopardi, the statue was inspired by Roman imperial monuments of the second century A.D. Centuries of exposure to Venice's corrosive marine environment and airborne industrial pollutants, however, had erased details and weakened structural components.

Following inclusion of the Colleoni Monument on the Watch list, WMF in partnership with Venice's Soprintendenza ai

Beni Artistici embarked on the development of a comprehensive conservation plan for the statue. In October 2003, a conservation laboratory was built around the statue, which was then disassembled on site. Following an exhaustive analysis of the condition of each of the statue's bronze components, conservators began cleaning each of the pieces and treating them with a silicate resin to arrest further decay. Moisture-trapping material that had been inside the horse since its casting was removed while the original iron supports for the statue, which were heavily rusted have been cleaned. Cracks in the legs and tail have also been sealed to prevent moisture from seeping into the statue in the future. Green corrosion, which covers much of the statue, was not removed as it would further weaken it and result in additional loss of detail. However, it has been stabilized. Current efforts are focused on reinforcing the supports that anchor the statue in its marble covered brick base to minimize motion when the wind blows. Upon completion of the conservation project, the statue is to be rededicated on March 21, 410 years after its creation.



CA. 1988-90
ROYAL PALACE-CORRER MUSEUM

Following the fall of the Venetian Republic to Napoleon Bonaparte in 1797, the buildings surrounding the Piazza San Marco were renovated to serve as the French Royal Palace; collectively, the rooms within each represent a rare example of French Empire style outside France. WMF is now supporting an effort spearheaded by the Comite Français de Venise to restore the chambers, which will become part of the Correr Museum.

