

## VICENZA'S MUSEO DEL GIOIELLO PRESENTS THE "DAMES AND KNIGHTS. Jewels of Honors" EXHIBITION

*Vicenza's Museo del Gioiello inaugurates its new temporary exhibition entitled "Dames and Knights. Jewels of Honors", curated by Alessandra Possamai.*

Vicenza, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017 - Opening debut on May 23<sup>rd</sup> - from 6.30 pm to 8 pm - of the new temporary exhibition entitled "Dames and Knights. Jewels of Honors" at the Museo del Gioiello in Vicenza, under the directorship of Alba Cappellieri, Professor of Jewellery Design at Milan Polytechnic and Italy's leading scholar within the sector. The museum, the first in Italy and one of only a few in the world specifically dedicated to jewellery, is located inside the Basilica Palladiana and is managed by Italian Exhibition Group S.p.A. (IEG) - the trade show company generated by a merger between Rimini Fiera and Fiera di Vicenza - in partnership with Vicenza Municipal Council.

The "Dames and Knights" exhibition, which will be open to the public from 24<sup>th</sup> May to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017, celebrates and recalls the historic tradition of bestowing honours that has been handed down through the centuries and which is still very much alive on the Italian and global scene, in different forms and representations.

The new temporary exhibition, located on the ground floor of the jewellery museum, is arranged into two sections. The first will display about 40 Knighthood honours and decorations selected from among the most pre-eminent and rare collections around the world, and 10 significant items that pay homage to the Giovanni Giolitti collection, decorations given to the Italian statesman by the King and other European and international countries when he was the Italian Prime Minister.

Included among the splendid masterpieces on display and reviving the values that constitute the foundations of our history, will be the honorary decorations of the Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus, the Insignia of the Grand Cross, the Collar of Our Lady of the Annunciation, the Grand Collar of St. George and the Colonial Order of the Star of Italy's Grand Cross.

The second section dedicated to Ladies, includes ten or so items, such as the Legion of Honour's Insignia of Knighthood and Insignia of the Ordo Supremus Militaris Templi Hierosolymitani.

A fascinating itinerary that takes the visitor on a journey through time and honorary decoration culture and their intrinsic and evocative meanings. A "piece" of our history that recalls a value handed down through the years with the aim of rewarding praiseworthy actions in favour of the Nation in the fields of literature, arts and economy and for commitment in carrying out public duties and activities for social, philanthropic and humanitarian purposes as well as for long-standing and remarkable services in civil and military careers. Insignia, decorations and medals that date back to the 11<sup>th</sup> century with Knighthood honours bestowed purely on men who highly distinguished themselves, a usage that was only extended to women in 1662.

The exhibition will also be presenting about ten creations by G.B. Ballarino, a goldsmith from a company with a long tradition in the field of honorary decorations, authorized to raise the arms of the Royal House of Savoy and the Royal House of Bulgaria with the inscription "fornitore della Real Casa" (Royal House supplier) through gold, enamel and precious stone cross pendants.

What the curator has tried and wants to do is to present the "Ladies and Knights" exhibition in Vicenza, in this one-of-its-kind museum in Italy, to celebrate this artistic genre as a subject worth noting due to its quality, origin and proof of the history of different countries and geographical areas.

The Museo del Gioiello is the result of IEG's commitment to promoting the universal culture of Italian gold and jewellery, a sector in which it is well known as a global Business Hub thanks to the VICENZAORO International Show. The Museo del Gioiello thus continues in its intent as a solid flywheel in the promotion of artistic "Beautiful" and "Well Done" through the two-yearly rotation of its exhibits and confirms its position as a wonderful place to visit over and over again.

Information about the Museo del Gioiello and the temporary exhibition is available on [www.museodelgioiello.it](http://www.museodelgioiello.it)

Exhibition: from 24<sup>th</sup> May to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
Museum opening times: Tuesday to Friday from 3 pm to 7 pm  
Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 7 pm.  
Tickets: Full price Euro 6.00, reduced Euro 4.00

#### TALIAN EXHIBITION GROUP SPA: FOCUS ON

*Italian Exhibition Group SpA, the Company generated by a merger between Rimini Fiera and Fiera di Vicenza, is led by President Lorenzo Cagnoni, together with Executive Vice President Matteo Marzotto and Managing Director Corrado Facco. IEG, which closed 2016 with a consolidated pro-forma turnover of Euro 124.8 million, a pro-forma EBITDA of Euro 21.9 million and a consolidated net result of Euro 6.6 million, is Italy's second player in terms of overall volume with 59 products in its portfolio (relating to Food & Beverage, Green, Technology, Entertainment, Tourism, Transport, Wellness, Jewellery and Fashion, Lifestyle & Innovation) and 216 events and congresses. The Company's priority asset is to favour internationalization in segments representing Beautiful and Well Done around the world, starting from its already solid presences in the United Arab Emirates, where it has an on-going joint venture, and in the USA, China, India and South America. Furthermore, IEG is also the Italian leader in the convention and congress segment. In 2016, IEG events at its exhibition and congress sites in Rimini and Vicenza totalled 14,593 exhibitors and almost 2.5 million visitors.*

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