

FRIENDS OF THE
ACCADEMIA DEI LINCEI ASSOCIATION



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Palazzo Corsini, Rome

Accademia dei Lincei and Corsiniana Library, reading room

Detail of the vault, Domenico Bruschi (1885)





*Palazzo Corsini, Rome
Accademia dei Lincei and Corsiniana Library, reading room
Allegory of mathematics, Domenico Bruschi (1885)*



FRIENDS OF THE ACCADEMIA DEI LINCEI ASSOCIATION

Friends of the Accademia dei Lincei Association established in 1986, aims to establish and develop a permanent link between the economic, business and productive world and the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei.

In particular, the Association, thanks to its Members, aims to:

- lend its collaboration and economic support for the achievement of the Accademia's aims;
- promote studies and research on topics of relevant interest to the life of the country;
- promote the dissemination of knowledge of the Academy's cultural, book and artistic heritage, including through initiatives, exhibitions and conferences promoted in collaboration with the Academy and relevant institutions;
- promoting collaboration between the Academy and the world of production, also through the enhancement of the Academy's historical heritage.

The Association is governed by a Board of Directors and is housed in the premises of the Accademia, in Palazzo Corsini, Via della Lungara, 10, where it has its headquarters.



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Palazzo Corsini, Rome
Princess Flat



Palazzo Corsini, Rome
Presidency Hall



THE ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI

The Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, founded by Federico Cesi in 1603, is the oldest scientific academy in the world: it counted Galileo Galilei among its first members. Its institutional purpose is “to promote, integrate and disseminate scientific knowledge in its highest expressions within the framework of the unity and universality of culture”.

It advises to the President of the Republic, who has granted permanent high patronage to all the Academy's initiatives. It is also an advisory body of the Government and has been classified as an institution of high standing in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 6 April 2006.

The Academy organises national and international congresses, conferences, symposia and seminars; it participates with its Members in similar Italian and foreign events and may also take on the international representation of similar cultural institutions; it promotes and carries out research activities and missions; it awards prizes and scholarships; it publishes reports of its meetings, notes and memoranda presented therein as well as the proceedings of congresses, conferences and seminars and of any other initiatives it may promote. It provides opinions to public authorities in its fields of competence and formulates proposals.

The Academy consists of two Classes:

Physical, Mathematical and Natural Sciences;
Moral, Historical and Philological Sciences.

Each of the two classes consists of 90 National members, 90 Corresponding members, and 90 Foreign members, elected by co-optation. The Academy's headquarter is in Rome, at Palazzo Corsini.



Palazzo Corsini, Rome
The linx painted on a chest (late 19th century)



PALAZZO CORSINI

The headquarter of the Friends of the Accademia dei Lincei is Palazzo Corsini, via della Lungara 10, headquarter of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei too.

In 1736, Cardinal Neri Corsini junior, who was the nephew of Lorenzo Corsini, Pope Clement XII, purchased the Palazzo, called Riario. He entrusted the Florentine architect Ferdinando Fuga to restructure and enlarge the building, which had been known as Palazzo Corsini. It is among the most magnificent Roman palaces of the 18th century.

In 1883, the Italian government bought the palace in order to house the offices and library of the Royal Academy of the Lincei (as it was known then) and the Gallery of Ancient Art. In the same year, Prince Tommaso Corsini donated to the Accademia his rich family library and an extraordinary collection of paintings initiated in the 18th century by Cardinal Neri. This collection, which is still housed in some rooms of the piano nobile, formed the nucleus of the National Gallery of Ancient Art.

The façade of the palace is on Via della Lungara; a spectacular staircase with two ramps leads from the entrance hall to the first floor and three great windows provide luminosity and a beautiful view overlooking the Janiculum hill and the Botanical Garden below. The wide vestibule of the first floor is, like the upper floor, adorned by the original balcony that is embellished by a wrought iron railing.

The second floor is composed of a series of magnificent rooms, among which the private apartment of the Corsini family. This is where the Academy's work takes place; this is where the assemblies of the two Classes are held the Commissions meet and many national and international conferences take place.



Barbault del.

Palazzo Corsini

1 Casina Farnese. 2 Chiesa e Monastero di S. Giacomo. 3 Porta S. Spirito.
4 Chiesa e Monastero di Regina Coeli. 5 Chiesa e Monastero delle Scalette.

A SUA E
IL SIG. DON BART
Principe di

Da Jac. Ugenti scultore

Palazzo Corsini in Rome in an ancient print



CELLENZA
TOLOMEO CORSINI
di Sismano ec.

Palais Corsini

- 1 Petit Palais Farnese. 2 Eglise et Monastere de S. Jacques. 3 Porte du S. Esprit.
4 Eglise et Monastere de Regina Coeli. 5 Eglise et Monastere della Scalotta.



Palazzo Corsini, Rome
interior façade





THE LIBRARY

The Library of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei e Corsiniana – housed in the premises of Palazzo Corsini – is named after the dual origin of the collections kept therein.

As part of the cultural project of the Accademia dei Lincei, the library reveals the multiple academic interests and includes philosophical, mathematical, architectural, astronomical, geographical, historical, philological, and literary works, as well as orientalist, astrological, alchemic and hermetic texts, testifying to the variety and richness of Lyncean research. Its purpose was, by observation and experimentation, to “read this great, truthful and universal book of the world”.

The Library is therefore a complex set of resources, archival and documentary materials, which today allows us to understand the history of Italian and European culture and scientific research.

The Library is divided into three sections: the Corsiniana Section, the Academy Section and the Oriental Section, the latter established in 1924, following the donation by Leone Caetani of his extremely rich Orientalist library.

As part of the enhancement of the library's holdings, exhibitions on topics of cultural and topical relevance are periodically promoted with the support of the Associazione Amici dell'Accademia dei Lincei.

The Library promotes the preservation, enhancement and valorisation of its collections and to this end has initiated an intensive digitisation and reproduction campaign.

Of great importance is the Academic Section. Among the most important fonds are the extensive correspondence of the major Italian scientists of the 19th and 20th centuries, such as Marconi, Volterra, Levi-Civita and the works of the Roman poet Cesare Pascarella.



VILLA FARNESINA

The Villa known as “Farnesina”, is in front of Palazzo Corsini, via della Lungara 230; was designed by the renowned architect Baldassare Peruzzi. It was commissioned by the wealthy Sienese banker Agostino Chigi, far from the anxiety and gloom of his city home in Via dei Banchi. The building, whose frescoes were inspired by classical myths, was decorated by Raphael and his students, as well as Sebastiano del Piombo, Giovanni Antonio Bazzi (known as Sodoma) and Peruzzi himself.

In 1511, Agostino Chigi, called “magnifico” by his contemporaries, lived the splendid life of a Renaissance patron of the arts, surrounded by wealth and honours, among the artists, princes, and cardinals whom he was so fond of hosting in his abode.

After a long period of splendour during Agostino’s lifetime, the Villa was used as a camp by the Lansquenets during the Sack of Rome in 1527 and was bought by Cardinal Alessandro Farnese at the end of the 16th century. It was given the name Farnesina in order to distinguish it from Palazzo Farnese, beyond the Tiber. According to the plans by Michelangelo, a bridge on the river should connect the two properties of the Farnese family.

Subsequently, the Villa passed to the Bourbon family and was later leased for a very long time to the Duke of Ripalda; in 1932, it was purchased by the Italian State as the headquarter of the Accademia d’Italia. It is now the property of the Accademia dei Lincei and is a museum open to the public.

Villa Farnesina, Rome

Lodge of Galatea

“Triumph of Galatea”, Raphael (1511-1512)

Following pages:

Villa Farnesina, Rome

Lodge of Love and Psyche, Raphael and his workshop

“Venus, Ceres and Juno” (1518)







Villa Farnesina, Rome



FRIENDS OF THE
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