

PRESS RELEASE

Milan, Friday 29 September 2022, from 10 am to 8 pm

ARCHITECTURE AND REMEMBRANCE: REDISCOVERED STORIES OF THE LIVES OF JEWISH ARCHITECTS, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS, TURNED UPSIDE-DOWN BY THE RACIAL LAWS OF 1938

In a conference organised by the Fondazione dell'Ordine degli Architetti di Milano, thanks to new research carried out by the Fondazione CDEC and Comenius University in Bratislava and funded by the European Commission, new discoveries and the stories of individual lives affected by the discrimination practiced against Jewish professionals.

**Ordine degli Architetti della Provincia di Milano
(Via Solferino, 17)**

Milan, 19 September 2022 – Distressing stories of many lives shattered and others fallen into oblivion that when put together, like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle, constitute so many chapters in history. A conference, *Architecture and Remembrance*, scheduled to be held from 10 am to 8 pm on 29 September and organised by the Fondazione dell'Ordine degli Architetti of the province of Milan and the Fondazione Centro di Documentazione Ebraica Contemporanea, will throw light, thanks to recent research and new studies, on the effects that the Racial Laws of 1938 had on academic circles and the professional associations of architects. Papers from the archives, individual life stories and hitherto unexplored documents so as not to forget a page in history that, as a result of a joint effort of research, has been brought back to life and presents itself as an important moment of reflection.

The initiative will be divided into two stages:

- **morning and afternoon**, in **webinar** (in **English**) from 10:30 am to 4 pm
- **evening**, solely with a **live audience at the institution's seat, Via Solferino 17 in Milan** (in **Italian**) from 6 to 8 pm

Architecture and Remembrance is a cultural project that is the fruit of a partnership between four professional Orders, those of the Italian architects of the provinces of Milan, Bologna, Rome and Ferrara, together with three cultural institutions (Fondazione CDEC – Centro di Documentazione Ebraica Contemporanea, Fondazione MAXXI in Rome and Comenius University in Bratislava – UKBA), funded by the European Commission as part of the call for proposals 'European Remembrance'. The aim is to inform both the professional community and the general public and to make them aware of the discrimination suffered by Jewish architects under the Nazi and Fascist regimes, as well as to recall how anti-Semitism led to the exclusion of numerous architects from their professional field. Reconstructing the memory of this tragic passage in history

will help to serve as an effective means of preventing intolerance in the future and fostering dialogue.

‘With the conference of 29 September we are commencing the series of events and activities of the project funded by the European Commission *Architecture and Remembrance*’. It marks the beginning of a process that will lead us to talk of architecture and racial laws in different formats and languages. We feel confident that such a multifaceted narration, constructed through the efforts of all the members of the partnership, will allow us to involve not just our colleagues but also a broader swathe of the public, providing an opportunity to get to know and reflect on personal stories as well as on works of the 20th century,’ has declared **Marialisa Santi, chair of the Fondazione dell’Ordine degli Architetti di Milano**.

This research activity will culminate in the production of a range of materials and means of information, in particular a **video-documentary** (Ordine Architetti Bologna), an **exhibition** on the architects affected by acts of discrimination (MAXXI), a **graphic novel** telling the story of some of these architects (Ordine Architetti Ferrara) that is aimed above all at the younger generation and a **publication** presenting the results of historical research (Fondazione OAMi with CDEC and UKBA).

‘The European project *Architecture and Remembrance*, coordinated by the Fondazione dell’Ordine degli Architetti di Milano, provides an invaluable opportunity to open a new front of studies into the persecution of Jews in Italy and elsewhere in Europe. The expulsion of professionals from the world of work for absurd racist motives dealt a heavy blow to European societies in terms of skills and creativity, in addition to bringing about painful experiences of exile, flight and concealment. Studying those events today signifies boosting the sense of solidarity and social conscience and helps to throw light on tragic episodes of our past’, has said **Gadi Luzzatto Voghera, director of the Fondazione CDEC**.

THE PROGRAMME

MORNING

10 – 10 am **Marialisa Santi** (FOAMi) – Official greetings

10:05 – 10:15 am **Beatrice Costa** (FOAMi) – Introduction and moderation

10:15 – 10:40 am **Gadi Luzzatto Voghera** (CDEC) – European historical background to the *Architecture and Remembrance* project.

10:40 – 11:05 am **Eirene Campagna** (CDEC) – CDEC research on ARCH-MEM: first results

11:05 – 11:30 am **Peter Szalay** (UKBA) – UKBA research on ARCH-MEM: first results

11:30 – 11:55 am **Luciana Gunetti** (Milan Polytechnic) and **Roberta Moro** (Associazione Italiana Biblioteche) – Memory of the Project/Project of Memory. A historical overview of documents, specialist magazines and architecture.

11:55 am – 12.20 pm **Martina Massaro** (University of Padua) – Guido Costante Sullam, a Venetian architect and his professional archives under Fascism

12:20 – 12:30 pm Q&A

AFTERNOON

2 – 2:05 pm **Paolo Mazzoleni** (Turin City Council – former president of Milan Architects Association) – Greetings

2:05 – 2:30 pm **Donatella Calabi** (IUAV) – Italian Professionals and Exile: the case of Daniele Calabi

2:30 – 3 pm **Agnes Kelemen** (European Research Council) - Refugees from Anti-Semitism in a Fascist Country. Hungarian Jewish students in Italy

3 – 3:30 pm **Ursula Prokop** – The Contribution of Jewish Architects to Building in Vienna

3:30 – 3:45 pm Q&A

3:45 – 4 pm **Alberto Melloni** (FSCIRE) – Conclusions

3rd PART

6 – 8 pm Evening meeting for further discussion

6 – 6:05 pm **Federico Aldini** (Oami) – Official greetings

6:05 – 6:45 pm Introduction and moderation by **Mariavittoria Capitanucci**
Three Architects

6:45 – 7:15 pm **Giovanna Latis** on Vito Latis

7:15 – 7:45 pm **Pier Giorgio Giannelli** and **Daniele Vincenzi** on Alessandro Rimini, with a contribution from **Liliana Rimini**

7:45 – 8 pm Questions and conclusion

Communication partner and press office

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