



GRELL 2008 SOCIAL PROGRAMME


Wednesday 30th of April

All participants and accompanying persons are invited to:

H. 19.30 Guided visit to Palazzo Ducale

H. 21.00 Welcome buffet at Starhotel Du Parc and Chorus "Quod Libet" concert.


Created by Vignola in 16th century for Ottavio Farnese, the palace, which nowadays houses the Carabinieri offices, is frescoed in the Mannerist style with 18th century stucco-works. A monumental staircase leads to the Sala degli uccelli or Bird Room, named after the stucco decoration by Benigno Bossi representing 224 birds of different species against the blue barrel-vaulted ceiling.



The Sala di Alcina contains the oldest fresco in the palace, a cycle dating back to 1568 based on book VII of Orlando Furioso. The Sala del Bacio or Room of Kiss was probably frescoed by Bertoja after 1570, drawing inspiration from Orlando innamorato by Boiardo. There is also a smaller Sala di Erminia and a Sala dell' Amore, which was almost certainly designed by Agostino Carracci in 1601, even though he only executed the scenes depicting the allegories of Love.

Thursday 1st of May

Reserved for participants and accompanying persons who booked for it. Not included in the registration fee.

H. 19.30 Pick up point: bus station, Via Toschi and transfer to Colorno 


H. 20.15 Visit to San Liborio church

H. 20.45 Cocktail and concert: Maestro Leonardo Morini (spinetta), Francesca Cassinari (soprano), Claus Reunis (flute)

Gala dinner at Reggia di Colorno 



At the end of 15th century, the Sanseverino family transformed a previous four-sided stronghold on the road leading to Mantua into an aristocratic residence. Incorporated within the Farnese duchy, the small town experienced its most splendid period and the palace became the summer residence of the dukes of Parma, undergoing changes under Ranuccio II Farnese .



When the court passed under Bourbon rule in the second half of the 18th century, it was divested of its art works by Charles III. Thanks to Philip Bourbon, interior furnishings were added in Louis XV style in the late 18th century and the ducal chapel of San Liborio was built on a design by Ennemond Petitot.



After the Unification of Italy, the art collection and palace furnishings were dispersed and many pieces ended up in the royal residences in Turin, Florence and Rome, where they still can be seen in the Quirinale palace and in several museums.

Recent works carried out in the park have revived the English garden appearance wanted by Marie Louise in the first twenty years of the 19th century.

