



Two art exhibitions will be inaugurated to celebrate the historical ties between Argentina and Italy. Image Credit: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Argentina.

ARGENTINA-ITALIA

## Celebrating Historical Bonds: Presidential Visit to Rome Sparks Art Exhibitions Uniting Argentina and Italy

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As part of Chancellor Diana Mondino's visit to Rome alongside the presidential delegation, the Argentine Embassy in Italy has curated two art exhibitions.

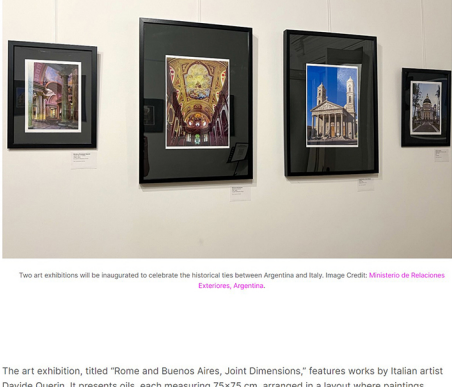
The Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores of Argentina states these exhibitions, showcasing plastic arts and photography, aim to commemorate the rich historical connections between Argentina and Italy.



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Scheduled for inauguration on February 13th at 6:30 p.m. at Casa Argentina, the Cultural Section's headquarters of the Embassy, these exhibitions are set against the backdrop of Piazza Barberini on the renowned Via Veneto.

Casa Argentina, situated on the second floor of a building designed in the 1920s by the esteemed Italian architect Gino Coppedè, holds significance as a cultural heritage site in the city.



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The art exhibition, titled "Rome and Buenos Aires, Joint Dimensions," features works by Italian artist Davide Querin. It presents oils, each measuring 75x75 cm, arranged in a layout where paintings within four rows of four seamlessly connect, creating the illusion of a single 300x300 cm artwork.

Querin's pieces draw inspiration from the landscapes and culture of Argentina.

Simultaneously, in collaboration with Lariviere editions, the photographic exhibition "Italy - Argentina, the Art of Building" will debut.

Curated by architect and photographer Fabio Gremontieri, this exhibition showcases images of emblematic buildings constructed by Italian architects across Argentina, primarily spanning the 19th and 20th centuries.



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Its aim is to highlight the construction of monumental landmarks such as the Casa Rosada, the Palace of Congress, the Teatro Colón, the Confritería del Molino, and the Pasaje Barolo in Buenos Aires, alongside various other public and institutional structures throughout Argentina's provinces, including government houses, legislatures, palaces of justice, and municipalities.

Additionally, a special section will exhibit images of products and buildings by the Techint company.

Through these exhibitions, the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Argentina states "it becomes evident once again that the historical ties between Italy and Argentina manifest in multifaceted ways."

#### Italian-Argentine Bonds

Writing about the Italian-Argentinian community involves "addressing a significant portion of our hybrid society, whose influence is so profound that it encompasses factors such as language, architecture, art, literature, gastronomy, and industry," writes [La Nación](#).

"In the popular imagination, it is claimed that half of Argentinians have "Tana blood," describes [La Nación](#). "To find reliable numbers, we have to refer to the statistics of national censuses: it is estimated that between 1857 and 1947, 2,967,759 peninsular immigrants arrived, of which 1,491,034 returned to their homeland. That is to say, in those 90 years, 1,476,725 Italians definitively settled."

However, this figure only refers to the immigrants themselves. As Argentina, like many American countries, grants nationality through jus soli – in other words, citizenship by birth within the territory – censuses only differentiate those who arrived from Italy, not their offspring born here, as they were already considered Argentine.

Therefore, that number does not reflect the actual size of this community, where the first South American generation retained nuances of ancestral culture through family, friends, and associations.

The peninsular immigrants who arrived in the early waves spoke their own dialects, such as Milanese, Neapolitan, and Sicilian, and this multilingualism promoted a rapid adoption of Spanish, not only due to its official use but also as a vehicular language.

#### Associations

The role of associations was essential in preserving and disseminating Italian identity, making their headquarters landmarks within the urban layout of numerous towns and cities in Argentina.

#### Architecture

Since the mid-19th century, the demand for professionals and specialized labor attracted engineers, architects, and experts in ornamentation trained in Italian polytechnics and academies, as well as craftsmen trained in workshops or through generational transfer.

They introduced construction and decorative techniques previously unknown here – stuccos, faux stone, plasterwork, marble work – soon applied in buildings inherited from the Hispanic period.

#### Fine arts

The preeminence of Italian art in Argentina "is evident in the very depiction of the Republic," celebrates [La Nación](#). That distinguished marble woman crowned with the Phrygian cap, who has presided over ceremonies in the White Hall of the Casa Rosada since the 1890s, was sculpted by the Sicilian master Ettore Ximenes. He is also the author of the mausoleum of General Belgrano in Buenos Aires, that of Francisco Muñiz in the Recoleta Cemetery, and the monuments to Independence in Brazil and Garibaldi in Milan.

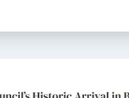
#### Government Relations

Italy and Argentina enjoy excellent relations, deeply rooted in historic bonds of friendship, further fortified by the presence of the largest Italian community residing abroad in Argentina, celebrates the [Italian Embassy](#) in Argentina.

Political dialogue thrives, fueled by frequent institutional visits flowing in both directions—from Rome to Buenos Aires and vice versa—as well as numerous institutional contacts and missions. Bilateral cooperation is robust and extensive, spanning from the economic sector to cultural and scientific realms.

Moreover, Italy and Argentina actively collaborate at a multilateral level. Within the UN, both nations are part of the "Uniting for Consensus" group, aiming to reform the United Nations Security Council, describes the Italian Embassy.

In the G20, their interests align in tackling issues such as climate change, supporting innovation, and combating poverty and inequality. Rome and Buenos Aires play significant roles in revitalizing dialogue between regional blocs, notably through negotiations for an Association Agreement between the European Union and Mercosur, seen as a vital instrument for cooperation and fostering growth opportunities.



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