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DEGLI STUDI  
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VENICE ASIAGO 2016

DATE: 19<sup>th</sup> August 2016

TIME: 9:00 – 12:00

LOCATION: Fondazione Giorgio Cini, San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice

## ***The 'three hearts' of the Most Serene Republic of Venice***

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### **ABSTRACT**

Venice was one of the greatest cities of Europe, a capital characterised by a unique form of government in a unique location.

The architecture of the Venetian Republic is a technical masterpiece, especially for the ingenious solutions found to the challenge of building in a lagoon. The evolution of the different types of buildings was influenced by the city's way of life. Its design evolved through the centuries, blending ideas brought from outside Venice, also due to the Venetian-Byzantine tradition.

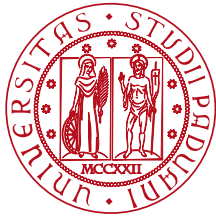
The main objectives of this lecture will be to show how ideas were transformed and incorporated into a distinctive Venetian style of architecture.

We will be taking a closer look at the buildings placed in the 'three hearts' of the Most Serene Republic: St. Mark's Square, headquarters of the government; Rialto, the centre of commercial activities; and the Grand Canal, the 'main street' of the city. St. Mark's Church, covered with lavish mosaic and coloured marbles, is a landmark for the development of religious architecture. In the same manner, the Doge's Palace and the Public Library influenced the domestic architecture for centuries.

The houses of Patrician families on the Grand Canal were the major means of expression of wealth, status and taste of their owners. Today, those buildings allow us to imagine how the Republic changed over the centuries.

### **FURTHER READINGS**

- 1) James A. Ackerman, *Palladio*, Harmondsworth 1966
- 2) Bruce Boucher, *Andrea Palladio: the architect in his time*, New York 1998
- 3) Tracy E. Cooper, *Palladio's Venice: architecture and society in a Renaissance Republic*, New Haven 2005



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- 4) Richard Goy, *Venice, the city and its architecture*, London 1997
- 5) Richard Goy, *Building Renaissance Venice: patrons, architects, and builders, c. 1430 – 1500*, New Haven 2006
- 6) Andrew Hopkins, *Baldassare Longhena and Venetian Baroque architecture*, New Haven 2012
- 7) Deborah Howard, *Jacopo Sansovino Architecture and Patronage in Renaissance Venice*, New Haven-London 1975
- 8) Deborah Howard, *The Architectural History of Venice*, London 1980
- 9) John McAndrew, *Venetian architecture of the early Renaissance*, Cambridge (Massachusetts) 1980