



# GIAN GIACOMO POLDI PEZZOLI BETWEEN MILAN AND EUROPE

Travels, connections and patterns of taste  
of a mid-19th century collector



UNIVERSITÀ  
CATTOLICA  
del Sacro Cuore

INTERNATIONAL STUDY DAY – MILAN OCTOBER 11<sup>th</sup> 2022,  
9 a.m. – 6 p.m. GMT + 1

The international study day organised by the Poldi Pezzoli Museum in collaboration with the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and the Society for the History of Collecting, aims to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of Gian Giacomo Poldi Pezzoli (1822-1879). Creator of the museum of the same name, this conference intends to explore his biographical profile and reconstruct his personal and cultural connections within a European context.

The pioneering studies by A. Mottola Molfino (1989) and the research undertaken in 2011 on the occasion of the exhibition *Gian Giacomo Poldi Pezzoli. L'Uomo e il Collezionista del Risorgimento* (L. Galli; F. Mazzocca) emphasised the role of the collector as a precursor of innovative museographic models in Italy. The time has come to examine his work in the light of the new research that has emerged in the last quarter century thanks to the development of studies on the history of collecting and the art market, particularly in Milan. In the same years in which Poldi Pezzoli put together his collection, Milan became one of the most important centre of the international art market, attracting scholars, merchants and travellers, including agents sent by the directors of the national museums of London, Berlin and Paris, who were in the process of building up their collections.

The conference is funded by Italian Ministry of Culture-Direzione generale Educazione, ricerca e istituti culturali, Regione Lombardia and DemhistiCOM.

Scientific Committee: Silvia Davoli, Lavinia Galli and Alessandra Squizzato.

## Admin:

Access to the auditorium is permitted subject to availability. To attend the conference in person, you must register on Evenbrite <https://www.eventbrite.it/e/biglietti-gian-giacomo-poldi-pezzoli-between-milan-and-europe-411164894267>

Contacts [ufficioconservatori@museopoldipezzoli.it](mailto:ufficioconservatori@museopoldipezzoli.it)

To participate remotely: LIVE on the Poldi Pezzoli Museum YouTube Channel [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9byh2L\\_tZlu5vwEEjcokDA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9byh2L_tZlu5vwEEjcokDA) from 9 a.m. GMT to 6 p.m. GMT + 1



8.45–9.00 a.m. The Poldi Pezzoli Museum, Via Manzoni 12

9.00 a.m. Registration

Welcome: **ANNALISA ZANNI** (The Poldi Pezzoli Museum, Milan)  
**ALESSANDRO ROVETTA** (Catholic University, Milan)

**morning session**

**PIONEERS, MODELS, LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARALLELS**

Chair: **ALESSANDRO MORANDOTTI** (University of Turin)

9.30 a.m. **LAVINIA GALLI** (The Poldi Pezzoli Museum, Milan)  
*Gian Giacomo Poldi Pezzoli's international network and models for a modern museum*

10.00 a.m. **MARINO VIGANÒ** (The Trivulzio Foundation, Milan)  
*The maternal line: Rosina Trivulzio Poldi Pezzoli and the family tradition of collecting*

10.30 a.m. **LUCA GIACOMELLI** (University of Bologna)  
*Gian Giacomo Poldi Pezzoli and Florence. Notes on an unsuccessful relationship*

Coffee break

11.15 a.m. **PAUL FROMENT** (Bibliothèque nationale de France–Département des monnaies, médailles et antiques, Paris)  
*Alexandre Du Sommerard and Italy*

11.45 a.m. **FRANCESCA TASSO** (Artistic Collections, Castello Sforzesco, Milan)  
*Gian Giacomo Poldi Pezzoli and the decorative arts: museums and temporary exhibitions in the 1870s.*

12.15 a.m. Discussion

**afternoon session**

**MILAN AS CENTRE OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET FOR ANCIENT ART IN THE MID-19TH CENTURY**

Chair: **JAYNIE ANDERSON** (Professor Emeritus, University of Melbourne)

2.30 p.m. **ALESSANDRA SQUIZZATO – LORENZO TUNESI** (Catholic University, Milan)  
*The foreign travellers in Milan and their interests, from the landmarks of Grand Tour to the art dealers*

3.00 p.m. **SHIVIA DAVOLI** (Strawberry Hill House, Oxford University)  
*'Objects bring us the traces of life': Cavaleri, Cernuschi and Giambattista Vico's theory of history*

3.30 p.m. **SUSANNA AVERY QUASH** (The National Gallery, London)  
*Sir Charles Eastlake, the National Gallery and the Milanese Art World of the mid-19th-Century*

Coffee break

4.15 p.m. **ELOISE DONNELLY** (The Victoria and Albert Museum, London)  
*Sweeping up the best things: the South Kensington Museum's dealings in Milan, 1860–1900*

4.45 p.m. **OLGA PICCOLO** (Italian Ministry of Culture–collaborator)  
*Cavalcaselle's inspections of the private collections in Milan and the international museum strategies for exporting paintings from the city during the years of Poldi Pezzoli*

5.15 p.m. **MARTINA COLOMBI** (University of Milan)  
*The Milanese antique dealers Baslini and Grandi and the international market*

Discussion



Thanks to / partner

