



MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI



ROMA CAPITALE

Assessorato alle Politiche Culturali e Centro Storico
Sovrintendenza ai Beni Culturali

FARNESINA Palace and its Collections

press release

For the first time ever, the story of Farnesina Palace and its artworks
in an exhibition at the Ara Pacis Museum in Rome from
20 May to 3 July 2011

Rome, 19 May 2011

For the first time ever, the art works in the Farnesina Collection and the installations of the Farnesina Design Collection are to be seen outside the building that has housed Italy's Ministry of Foreign Affairs – the country's diplomatic heart – since 1959. The works will be shown in a special exhibition, "**Farnesina Palace and its Collections**", promoted by the *Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the General Department for the Promotion of the Country System, the Office for the Conservation and Enhancement of the Farnesina Art Collection*, in cooperation with *Roma Capitale, the Department for Cultural Policies & the Historic Centre of the Superintendency for Culture*, at the **Ara Pacis Museum from 20 May to 3 July 2011**. Curated by *Angelo Capasso, Renza Fornaroli* and *Roberto Luciani*, the project has been organised with contributions from the Bracco Foundation, Unicredit and Eni.

The exhibition is a unique opportunity to discover the more unusual aspects of the Farnesina and the history of the building through its architecture, its internal decorations and its art collections. Farnesina Palace houses two important collections - modern art and design – from which about **one hundred works have been selected** for display at the Ara Pacis Museum in an exhibition intended as a "window" on the collections.

The modern artworks were originally acquired through an open competition organised in the 1960s, and brought together in 2000 with the creation of the **Farnesina Collection**, which now has about three hundred works by Italy's leading 20th century artists. From this collection, the Ara Pacis exhibition will be showing **58 paintings and sculptures** by *Carla Accardi, Afro* and *Mirko Basaldella, Marcello Avenali, Davide Benati, Gianni Bertini, Domenico Bianchi, Alighiero Boetti, Massimo Campigli, Giuseppe Capogrossi, Pietro Consagra, Michelangelo Conte, Venanzo Crocetti, Filippo De Pisis, Fortunato Depero, Piero Dorazio, Tano Festa, Giosetta Fioroni, Omar Galliani, Alessandra Giovannoni, Renato Guttuso, Bice Lazzari, Carlo Levi, Osvaldo Licini, Marino Marini, Gino Marotta, Arturo Martini, Umberto Mastroianni, Elisa Montessori, Mattia Moreni, Gastone Novelli, Luca Maria Patella, Achille Perilli, Vettor Pisani, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Giò Pomodoro, Oliviero Rainaldi, Ascanio Renda, Ottone Rosai, Mimmo Rotella, Sandro Sanna, Ruggero Savinio, Emilio Scanavino, Mario Sironi, Giulio Turcato, Emilio Vedova* and *Domingo Notaro*. Visitors will also see **Impressioni di Guerra, a body of 20 works** by Giulio Aristide Sartorio from 1917-1918.

The **Farnesina Design Collection** was created in 2008 to support Italian creativity and enterprise in design. The Ara Pacis exhibition will present **26 projects** by *Ad hoc, Artemide, Bernini, Bosa, Cerruti Baleri, Domodinamica, Ducati, Elica, Giovannetti, Fratelli Guzzini, Ifi, Iguzzini, Knoll, Loccioni, Matteo Grassi, Metalco, Progetti, Revolution, Richard Ginori, Rimadesio, Rondine Motor, Stone Italiana, Tecno, Valvitalia, Venini* and *Voltolina*.

musei in omune

Museo dell'Ara Pacis

Visitors to the exhibition will also have the chance to admire **photographs of Farnesina Palace, including previously unpublished historical material** from the Central Catalogue & Documentation Institute of the Ministry for Culture and the Del Debbio archive, together with **recent images** taken by photographer Vitaliano Lopez. Designed by architects Enrico Del Debbio, Arnaldo Foschini and Vittorio Ballio Morpurgo and decorated by leading contemporary artists including Amerigo Tot, Francesco Coccia, Alberto Paolo Bevilacqua and others, today Farnesina Palace is monitored by the scientific community and the Ministry for Culture, which has listed it as a building of historical and artistic importance subject to particular conditions, and commissioned a series of studies and research projects for its conservation.

Two videos will be projected during the exhibition: "La Terza Roma" directed by Philippe Daverio for the RAI, and a documentary on the history and art of the twenty-year fascist period with material from the Istituto Luce video archive and photos from the archives of the Ministry of Culture.

The exhibition catalogue with a presentation by the Italian Foreign Minister, Franco Frattini, and the Mayor of Rome, Gianni Alemanno, is published by *Palombi Editori*. It illustrates the works and installations on display at the Ara Pacis Museum and includes a section on the open competitions for Palazzo del Littorio in Rome and Casa Littoria, which houses the office of the Italian Foreign Minister.

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