



Deputy PM Shalom joins crowded celebration for Italian National Day

Over 1100 guests took part in the traditional National Day reception at the Ambassador's residence on June 2. These included members of the Knesset, religious leaders from all faiths, diplomats as well as leaders from Israel's economic, social and cultural communities. Deputy PM and Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom (photo) represented the Israeli Government. The Italian community in Israel, around 10,000 members, attended with a large number of guests.

In his remarks Foreign Minister Shalom referred to the deep ties of friendship that have animated Israel's relations with Italy since 1948. Under the leadership of Prime Minister **Silvio Berlusconi** Italy is today "among Israel's closest and best



friends, not only in Europe but internationally too," added the Minister. In recent years this relationship has been strengthened (Cont p.2)

Minister of Defense Martino to visit Israel

The first official mission of an Italian Minister of Defense to Israel after the signing in June 2003 of the Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation in the military and defense sectors, will take place on 27-28 June, confirming an increasingly solid relationship between the two countries on security issues. Minister **Antonio Martino** (photo) will be received by P.M. **Ariel Sharon** and his Israeli colleague **Min. Shaul Mofaz** and by Foreign Minister **Silvan Shalom**. Intense bilateral cooperation is being implemented in multilateral frameworks such as the EU European Neighborhood Policy and NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue.



Italy is a major contributor to many international missions, i.e. UNTSO, MFO and TIPH. <>

Mission of MFA Undersecretary Mantica

A visit to Israel by Undersecretary of State at the Foreign Ministry **Sen. Alfredo Mantica** took place on May 14-16. The visit included talks with Israeli counterparts on questions relating to the political and economic aspects of the disengagement from Gaza and the Italian contribution to future development of the Palestinian economy.

The Senator held meetings with, among others, Deputy Defense Minister **Ze'ev Boim** (photo),

(Cont p.2)



Israelis fall in love with 'Targa Florio' cars

The first 'Targa Florio' rally of vintage Italian cars in Israel, from Jaffa to Caesarea, took place on May 27 and attracted a large crowd, including local automobile enthusiasts.



The Targa Florio Foundation, represented by its President, **Adv. Antonio Marasco**, assisted in the organization by bringing to Israel a rare 1938 Lancia Astura, with electric roof, owned by **Mr. Mario Ferri** of Rome.

Israel's main vintage car clubs (Club of 5, Club Alfa and Club Lancia) enthusiastically supported the initiative by assembling more than 60 Italian cars from different historical periods, while extensive media coverage catalyzed the interest of a huge public.

The guest of honor at the following day's festive gala dinner, at the Dan Panorama in Tel Aviv, was Tourism Minister **Abraham Hirschson** (photo, with **Adv. Antonio Marasco**, **Ambassador De Bernardin** and **Marco Ferri** next to the Lancia Astura).

(Cont p.5)





Deputy PM Shalom joins crowded celebration for National Day

(cont. from p. 1)

by further developments in areas such as cooperation in the fight against terrorism, safeguarding of human rights, sharing of democratic values and civil liberties, as well as intense economic and cultural exchanges. Recalling his recent meeting with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister **Gianfranco Fini** at the Euro-Mediterranean Summit in Luxembourg, Shalom expressed his fervid appreciation for Italy's balanced stand on Mid-East issues.

In his welcoming address, Ambassador De Bernardin stressed the close and fruitful working relationship which Italy and Israel have maintained during the last year, as well as the Italian commitment to help a just and comprehensive settlement of the conflict in the Holy Land. In that context - he said - Italy will remain a firm advocate of the right of Israel to security, while working at every possible level to facilitate communication and mutual understanding between the parties. Moreover, the Ambassador denounced the new phenomena of anti-Semitism in the world, condemning them as a mortal threat to the democratic values on which European societies are built. "Italy and Israel are natural partners that devote significant resources to the development of their partnership: we shall keep on investing in it", he concluded, "because we believe in it".

The evening ended with a ceremony during which the Ambassador consigned 16 decorations of the *Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana* and the *Ordine della Stella della Solidarieta'*

New decorations signed by President Ciampi



Sixteen Italian and Israeli citizens with special merits towards Italy were bestowed decorations by Ambassador Sandro De Bernardin during the celebrations of Italy's Republic Day on June 2.

Day on June 2.

Commendatore, Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana

Architect David Cassuto (President, Association of Jews of Italian origin in Israel)
Adv. Beniamino Lazar (President, Com.It.Es)

Commendatore, Ordine della Stella della Solidarieta' Italiana

Professor Dan Bahat (Archeologist)
Dr. Zvi Ben-Ishai (Deputy Director, Rambam Medical Center, Haifa)
Dr. Arie Chen (President, "Amitei Italia" Association)
Father Stanislao Loffreda (Archeologist, Terrasanta Convent)

Professor Amotz Weinberg (President, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design)
Mrs. Alisa Benabu (Dante Alighieri Society)

Cavaliere, Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana

Mrs. Jacqueline Dayan Hauser (Embassy of Italy)
Professor Moshe Revach (Director, Rambam Medical Center)

Cavaliere, Ordine della Stella della Solidarieta' Italiana

Mr. Yossi Alfi (Director, Teatron Haam, Tel Aviv)
Mr. Yair Koren (Kol Israel Radio)
Mr. Alex Padwa (Designer, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design)
Mrs. Angela Polacco (Expert in Italian Jewish History)
Mother Umbertina Simontacchi (Franciscan Sister of the *Cuore Immacolato di Maria*)
Maestro Amos Talmon (Conductor, Founder of 'Music Angels') <>

Italiana to representatives from Israel's economic, religious, professional and cultural communities with particularly strong and fruitful ties to Italy (see box). During the course of the evening the magazine *Italy in Israel* was also presented (see below). Particularly moving were

the performances by soprano **Fiorella Burato** and tenor **Piero Giuliacci**, in Israel on the invitation of the ICI in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the New Israeli Opera. The two artists sang traditional Italian 'arias'. <>

'Italy in Israel': highlighting a flourishing relationship

The one-issue magazine 'Italy in Israel', edited and published by the Embassy, was officially presented on June 2 on the occasion of Italy's National Day. The magazine, a complimentary copy of which is included as a supplement to this issue of *Notizie Italiane*, includes articles by important personalities in both countries, and outlines in depth the wealth of bilateral cooperative initiatives in all sectors, thereby favoring their further development. The magazine is available on our website: www.italian-embassy-israel.org <>



MFA Undersecretary Mantica in Israel for high-level talks

(cont. from p. 1)

the Director General at the Office of Deputy Prime Minister Shimon Peres, **Efrat Duvdevani**, and the Foreign Ministry's Director of Economic Affairs for the Middle East, Amb. **Ilan Baruch**.

In his talks Senator Mantica stressed the importance for Italy, as a country aiding the development of the Palestinian economy, to count on solid, technical collaboration from responsible Israeli authorities on the prospective for disengagement from Gaza. The Undersecretary underlined Italy's maturing familiarity with cooperative projects in the territories, recalling in particular the developments in Khan Yunis.

Broad agreement on the basic principles advanced by the Italian Government was expressed by Sen.

Mantica's Israeli interlocutors, who also praised Italy's balanced position on Middle Eastern questions.

In his meeting with Deputy Defense Minister Boim, Sen. Mantica referred to his just concluded talks with Palestinian leaders and to several important Italian projects being undertaken in Gaza, and emphasized how these can contribute to the successful and smooth execution of the disengagement plan. However a quick recovery of Gaza's economy, said the Deputy Foreign Minister, depends on the recognition of its importance by both sides as well as by the international community. Deputy Minister Boim expressed the Israeli Government's warm appreciation of the humanitarian assistance work undertaken by Italy in the Gaza Strip. <>



Investing in agriculture in the Basilicata region

The B.S.R. Group has chosen Italy's Basilicata region to become its agricultural production center in the EU.

The Group has expanded its areas of activity into agricultural production and marketing by acquiring a farm of 35 hectares in Basilicata in March 2004. Launching asparagus and avocado cultivation facilities with the assistance of local entrepreneurs the project, led by Mr. **Lion Sufrin**, demonstrates a unique Israeli-Italian collaboration and sharing of know-how.



Agricom Italia Srl (the Italian subsidiary of B.S.R.) acquired the farm near the coast of the Gulf of Taranto, now named 'Victoria Farm'. The development of the farm is expected to last till end of 2006. Activity involves planting of vast areas of asparagus, setting fully computerized watering & irrigation systems, construction of a warehouse for storage and building of greenhouses.

Agricom@bsr.co.il <>

The Italian heritage of Libyan Jews

Accompanied by Ambassador Sandro De Bernardin, Israel's Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz visited the museum of the Association of Libyan Jews in Or Yehuda on May 8. The guests were welcomed by the President of the Association Rami Kahlon (photo, center).



The museum has a vast collection of testimonies from members of Libya's Jewish community, which include accounts of its broad cultural ties with Italy, a colonial power in Libya from 1912 until WWII. <>

Joint project in computer surgery

On June 1 the workshop on "Advanced Computer Aided Surgery & Biomedical Image Processing - Israeli-Italian Cooperative Project", took place at Tel Aviv University. The event was organized jointly by the Embassy of Italy, the Hebrew University and the Technion as part of the Italian-Israeli agreement on scientific, industrial and technological cooperation. The Italian delegation, coordinated by Dr. Roberto Foroni of Verona University, included 10 of the most noted and qualified experts in biomedical robotics and neurosurgical applications.

In his opening remarks Ambassador **Sandro De Bernardin** dwelt on the excellent state of bilateral scientific, technological and industrial ties, and on the prospects opened up by the recent publication of the Italian Ministry of

Science's Call for Proposals for Israeli and U.S. partners (see page 4, 'Life Sciences').

Collaboration on biomedical robotics is an ongoing project between Italian and Israeli universities. Notable in this regard is the "MicroNeuroendoscopy of Spinal Cord (MINOSC)" project, implemented between 2001-2004, which received EC funding of over €1.1m. within the Fifth Framework Program. The project, organized by the *Scuola Superiore San'Anna* of Pisa, included the participation of Haifa's Technion, Bologna University and other European partners. The Italian delegation also visited the Hebrew University and the Chaim Sheba Medical Center. Participating Israeli companies operating in the biomedical robotics sector included Insightec of Tirat Carmel, Mazor Surgical Technologies of Caesarea and Objet Geometries of Rehovot. <>

From technology to jewelry

The Italian Israeli workshop on "Material Technology and Jewelry", organized within the framework of the Italian Israeli Agreement on industrial, scientific and technological cooperation, was held on May 2-3 at Tel Aviv University.

The Italian delegation was headed by Prof. **Maria Luisa Vitobello**, of Milan's Bicocca University, and included numerous experts from other Italian institutes of higher learning.

Collaboration between Tel Aviv University and Italian institutions in technology for precious materials and jewelry was started three years ago as part of the 2002-2004 research project "The European virtual institute for

Italian-Israeli Conference On Material Technology and Jewellery Tel Aviv University, May 2-3, 2005



jewelry technology", with financial support of the EU within the 5th Framework Program. That program, successfully concluded in December 2004, was coordinated by Prof. Vitobello and included the participation of various Italian and European Institutions together with Tel Aviv University, which resulted in close ties of collaboration between the university and Italian organizations.

The Italian delegation also visited the "Shenkar College of Engineering and Design" in Ramat Gan, where they discussed ongoing research projects with its Director, Prof. **Amotz Weinberg**, as well as the internship of young Shenkar graduates at Italian enterprises. <>



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Min. Shalom joins National Day festivities	p.1
Defense Minister Martino visits Israel	p.1
Sen. Mantica holds high-level talks	p.1
Israelis embrace 'Targa Florio' cars	p.1
Italy in Israel: a flourishing relationship	p.2
Investing in the Basilicata region	p.3
Joint project in computer surgery	p.3
From technology to jewelry	p.3
Italian Heritage of Libyan Jews	p.3
Italy-Israel Life Sciences seminar	p.4
'Festival Italiano' at Azrieli	p.4
Bravo Supersol!	p.4
Crazy for Vespa	p.4
Fifty years of Compasso d'Oro	p.5
Danilo Rea amazes Tel Aviv	p.5
Italian restaurants awarded recognition	p.5
Venetian and Genoese influence in Akko	p.5
Discovering Mediterranean art and culture	p.6
Harp concert at the Residence	p.6
Presentation of 'La Nativita'	p.6
Celebrating Tuscany	p.6
Italian movies in Sderot	p.6
Events in Israel	p.7
Event at the Nahon Museum	p.7
Events in Italy	p.8
Italian trade fair calendar	p.8

PRIMAVERA ITALIANA
aprile giugno 2005

► **Italy and Israel: Natural Partners in the Life Sciences**



לשכת התחרות והתעסוקה ישראל-איטליה
CAMERA DI COMMERCIO E INDUSTRIA ISRAEL-ITALIA

The first Italian-Israeli Biotechnology conference, organized within the framework of 'Biotech Israel 2005' by the Italian Business Desk as part of the Italian-Israeli agreement on industrial, scientific and technological cooperation, took place on May 25 in Tel Aviv. Vice PM and Minister of Trade and Industry Ehud Olmert also attended the event.

Opening the seminar, which was moderated by Dr. **Simone Botti**, General Partner of *Altiora Ventures*, both Ambassador **Sandro De Bernardin** and President of the Israel-Italy Chamber of Commerce Dr. **Ronni Benatoff** (photo, left, with Dr. Michael Sela) underlined the recent progress of bilateral relations between the two countries in science, technology and commerce and the optimistic prospects for further developments.

Vice Prime Minister **Ehud Olmert** stressed the

importance which Israel places on biotech and expressed his thanks to Italy for the initiatives undertaken within the framework of the agreement on scientific and industrial cooperation with Israel.

Representing Italy's Ministry of Education, Universities and Research (MIUR) Prof. **Gianluigi Condorelli** announced the Call for Proposals for Israeli and US partners in scientific cooperation that disposes of a €29.7m budget. This is a result of the "Declaration of Interests" signed by Minister **Letizia Moratti** in June 2004 with five Israeli universities.

A presentation was delivered by Prof. **Michael**



Sela of the Weizmann Institute, inventor of *Copaxone*, who recalled his long ties with Italian colleagues. The Vice-President of the Weizmann Institute, Prof. **Haim Garty**, outlined methods for technology transfer from his organization.

Prof. **Adriano De Maio**, Rector of LUISS University of Rome emphasized the opportunities for developing cooperative projects with Israeli organizations. The Italian delegation was composed of 34 representatives from academia, industry and finance. Many "one to one" meetings between Italian and Israeli enterprises were organized by the Israel-Italy Chamber of Commerce. <>

► **Italian flavor skyrockets in Azrieli**



'Festival Italiano', a celebration of Italian taste,

took place in the mall of the Azrieli Towers between May 15-19.

cream parlors. Cultural events were organized in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv, which also presented visitors with information about Italian language courses. Stores in the mall displayed Italian merchandise such as jewelry, clothing, furs, cosmetics, perfumes and wines.

► **Bravo Supersol !**



On June 1 at *Supersol*, one of the largest supermarket chains in Israel that includes the *Ipernetto* and *Kosmos* stores (165 retail outlets throughout the country, with a turnover of €1.3bn. annually), Ambassador **Sandro De Bernardin** opened a special promotional campaign dedicated to products from Italy. Italian exports to Israel grew by 12.5% last year, reaching \$1.57bn., of which agro-alimentary products accounted for 4.1%. The initiative, which lasted for two weeks, was coordinated by the Italian Business Desk of Tel Aviv (and particularly by the **ICE- Italian Trade Commission**), and offered Israeli shoppers a vast array of alimentary products (wines, cheeses, confectionary, pasta, seasonings), some of which were presented for the first time. In addition several Italian household and kitchen items (such as the celebrated *Bialetti* coffee percolators) made their 'debut' in the chain.



Inaugurated by Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sen. **Alfredo Mantica** (photo, center, with Ambassador **Sandro De Bernardin** and **Arnon Toren**, Vice President of Marketing, Azrieli Group), the Festival featured special stands by several Italian enterprises. Visitors to the mall (approximately 30,000 daily) were welcomed at booths from companies such as *Fiat*, *Alfa*, *Lancia*, *Barilla*, *Bialetti*, *Brasilia* and *Caffè Mauro*, as well as by Italian restaurants and ice-

► **Crazy for Vespa**

The inauguration of the first Israeli Vespa Club, directed by Mr. Zami Levin, took place on June 3 within the framework of 'Aviv Italia' at Tel Aviv University.

The event was sponsored by the Italian Cultural Institute in collaboration with the Israeli Vintage Motor Club - Club of 5, a cooperation that started last year with the exhibition "Vespa: An



Italian Symbol" jointly curated by the *Museo Piaggio* and the *Shenkar Institute*.

As remarked by the President of the Club and by Dr. **Lucio Izzo** (photo), this event has finally permitted Italian scooter fans, always numerous in

Israel, to affiliate with the large International Vespa Club Federation. During the ceremony a newly restored model of the *Vespa Super 150* of 1957 was presented alongside with many other epic scooters.



אביב איטליה 2005 אפריל יוני



► Fifty Years of Compasso d'Oro: a Tale in Images

A month-long exhibition of 48 products, presented at the 20th edition of the world famous 'Compasso d'Oro' Award for Italian design (1954-2004) opened on June 5 at the Shenkar Institute for Engineering and Design of Ramat Gan.



from left: Bob Noorda (designer), Dr. Carlo Forcolini (President, ADI), Dr. Simonetta Della Seta (Director, Italian Cultural Institute), Prof. Amotz Weinberg (President, Shenkar), Arch. Luisa Collina (Politecnico di Milano) and Ambassador Sandro De Bernardin

The exhibition, promoted by the Italian Cultural Institute in cooperation with ADI, the Italian Association for Industrial Design, and the Shenkar Institute chaired by Prof. Amotz Weinberg, consists of an historical introduction and audiovisual presentation, as well as a

choice of objects selected by an international jury for the three-yearly editions of *Compasso d'Oro*, the most prestigious acknowledgement dedicated to design.

Special guests at the opening included Ambassador Sandro De

Bernardin, the President of ADI Dr. Carlo Forcolini and designer Bob Noorda, living in Italy since the end of the Fifties. Noorda designed the signs and symbols of the Milan, San Paolo and New York underground systems, and is a three-time winner of the *Compasso d'Oro* award.◊

► Danilo Rea amazes Tel Aviv

The concert by jazz pianist Danilo Rea held on June 6 at the elegant auditorium of the Enav Cultural Center in Tel Aviv was a great success. Rea, invited to Israel by the Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv, performed items from his latest album 'Lirico', a collection of his jazz arrangements of famous Italian opera arias.



Before a capacity audience of 400 people Rea performed spectacular arrangements of familiar operas such as *Tosca* and

Madama Butterfly, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Nabucco*. The audience, which included some of Israel's leading jazz figures and Directors of the local jazz festivals, was mesmerized by his performance and warmly applauded him for his capacity to combine and fuse different musical styles. Danilo Rea (photo, with Dr. Della Seta) was accompanied to Israel by Giampiero Rubei, Director of the Jazz Festival of Villa Celimontana, and has been invited by Dani Gottfried and Miki Gov, the artistic director and producer of the Jazz Festival in Eilat, to participate at the upcoming edition of this important musical event in Israel.

► Restaurants awarded in the Festival of Italian Cuisine

The following Italian restaurants received special mention by the Accademia Italiana della Cucina at the Festival:



ANGELO
9 Horkanus,
Jerusalem 02-6236095

AMORE MIO
Ibn Gvirol 100,
Tel Aviv 03-5244040

BARBARESCO
Dizengoff 226,
Tel Aviv 03-5241616

BELLINI
Suzanne Dellal Center,
Tel Aviv 03-5178486

DIVINA
Ashtorei Haparchi 14,
Tel Aviv 03-6020724

ERNESTO
Ben Yehuda 90,
Tel Aviv 03-5273394

IL PASTAIO
Ibn Gvirol 27,
Tel Aviv 03-5251166

LUCCA
Marina Herzliya
Pituach 09-9514000

DA FIORELLA
Ben Yehuda 148,
Tel Aviv 03-5248818

PASTA MIA
Wilson 10, Tel Aviv
03-5610189

PRONTO
Nachmani 26,
Tel Aviv 03-5660915

STUZZI
Sderot Rothschild 60,
Tel Aviv 03-5665655

Special Acknowledgement
Chef Dino Sartirani.

'Targa Florio' cars

(cont. from p. 1)

The event was coordinated by the Italian Business Desk and the Italian Cultural Institute and supported by contributions from the Sicily Region and by private sponsors (Samelet, importers of FIAT, Alfa and Lancia; Neni, importers of Bialelli, Brasilia and Caffè Mauro; Ash Bar, importers of Barilla, and Ophir Tours).



During the gala dinner citations were awarded to the best cars participating in the rally as well as to 12 Italian restaurants selected by the Accademia Italiana della Cucina that participated in the Festival of Italian Cuisine. (see below). The dinner was prepared by Sicilian chefs Giuseppe Dell'Oglio, Nicolò Bazzano and Antonino Gibiino of Palermo's Francesco Paolo Cascino club (photo).◊



► Venetian and Genoese influence in Akko

The cycle of conferences on the historical and architectural legacy resulting from the presence of the Marine Republics in the city of St. John of Acre (Akko) concluded at the Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv on May 24.

The cycle included presentations by Dr. Barbara Zerbini and Dr. Elisa Pasqualetto. At the opening ceremony Father Quirico Calella, Custodian of the Holy Land, awarded medals commemorating the research campaign to Ambassador Sandro De Bernardin, to Dr. Yaakov Sheffer and to Dr. Lucio Izzo of the Italian Cultural Institute.

A large number of conservation and restoration experts were present at the conferences, held in Akko's Holyland School, that included the presence of the ICI's director in Haifa, Dr. Edoardo Crisafulli as well as representatives from the Municipality of Akko.◊



Discovering Mediterranean art and culture

A convention on Art and Mediterranean Culture, held in Haifa on May 15-17, was organized by the Faculty of Humanities (art history dept.) of Haifa University in cooperation with the Haifa section of the Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv.

The Italian delegation included **Massimo Bernabò** (University of Pavia); **Attilio Petruccioli** (Bari Politechnic); **Ada Segre** (University of Milan); **Sabina Fulloni** (Environmental Protection Agency); **Ricardo**



University Prof. **Yossi Ben-Artzi**, the Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in Israel Amb. **Ramiro Cibrían-Uzal**, and the Director of the Haifa section of the Italian Cultural Institute **Edoardo Crisafulli**. <>

de Mambro Santos (La Sapienza of Rome) **Gerhard Wolf** (Director, 'Istituto di Storia dell'Arte' in Florence). The event was opened with addresses by Prof. **Yoni Ascher**, lecturer in the History of Christian Art, the Rector of Haifa

Presentation of 'La Natività' in Nazareth

A ceremony was held at the new Maronite Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth celebrating the donation, to citizens of the city, of 'La Natività', by the artists **Ennio Tesei** ed **Ernesto Lamagna**.

The initiative was carried out with the support of the *Pontificia Accademia di Belle Arti* and the Haifa section of the Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv. 'La Natività' is a clay sculpture that the artists created to express solidarity with all peoples in the Holy Land. It is part of an artistic project by Ennio Tesei - *In cammino verso Nazareth* - that is comprised of four themes of Christian art: the Way of the Cross, the Crucifixion, the Nativity and the Annunciation. Tesei designed the 5 sculptures



that compose the work, while Lamagna painted the four panels that complete it.

The church was crowded with hundreds of people: faithful from the Arab-Christian community as well as local Muslim and Jewish cultural figures.

Aside from the artists themselves the event was also attended by a delegation from Haifa University led by Prof. **Yoni Ascher**, lecturer in the history of Christian art. Opening addresses were given by the Maronite Bishop Mons. **Boulos Sayyah**, **Edoardo Crisafulli**, Director of the Haifa section of ICI, Dr. **Lucio Izzo** of the ICI in Tel Aviv and the Mayor of Nazareth **Mr. Ramez Jaraise**. <>

Celebrating Tuscany

The "Toscana...where reality meets fantasy" project opened on May 25 at the *Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem* with the *lectura Dantis* "Nel mezzo del cammin di nostra vita...", filmed and recited by the *Vittorio Gassman*, accompanied by an introduction of the *Divine Comedy* given by *Dr. Sandra Debenedetti Stow*.

The evening was held in the presence of the President of the Dante Alighieri Society of Jerusalem, Dr. **Yehuda Pardo**, Ambassador **Sandro De Bernardin** and the Consul General **Nicola Manduzio**. The evening continued with a lecture given by the Cultural Attaché of the Italian Cultural Institute, Prof. **Lucio Izzo**, on the *History of the Italian Language*. Prof. **David Cassuto**, President of the Italian Jews Association of Jerusalem gave a lecture on the *The Latest Generations of Jews in Florence*. The evening concluded with a *Virtual Visit to*

the Treasures of the Uffizi Gallery given by Dr. **Flavia Lvov** from the Israel Museum. More conferences and lectures were then held on theatre, architecture, gastronomy and music, all themed towards Tuscany, including a photographic exhibition by the sculptor *Eili Ilan* (1928-1982) entitled "Through the streets of Florence in the 60's"

On June 9 the month-long celebration to Tuscany reached its peak with the *Day of Dante* hosted by the Italian Consulate General in Jerusalem in the presence of Dr. Yehuda Pardo; the Consul General of Italy **Nicola Manduzio** and the Director of the Italian Cultural Institute, Dr. **Simonetta Della Seta**. A concert was performed by the *Perle di Musica Classica Ensemble* and a conference was given by musicologist Dr. **Massimo Acanfora Torrefranca** in homage to *Tuscan Music*. <>

Italian movies at 'South Film Festival'

Sponsored by the Italian Cultural Institute, the 'International South Film Festival,' which was held in Sderot (Negev) from May 31 to June 2, presented a significant contribution from Italy's "Cinema Sud" retrospective, promoted by the Italian Foreign Ministry in cooperation with AIP-FilmItalia and the six Italian southern regions. Two films were screened on the opening night, 'Tornando a casa' by **Vincenzo Marra** and 'Mio cognato' by **Alessandro Piva**.

An Italian evening was organized on June 1 by the producer **Dan Muggia**. The Cinema Sud retrospective presents a modern approach to the reality of the south of Italy, recalled on this occasion Ambassador **Sandro De Bernardin** in his introductory remarks, and accurately illustrates the spirit of constant change that characterizes those areas. <>

Harp concert at the Italian Residence

A concert of harp music, organized by the *Israel Harp Association*, took place at the *Ambassador's residence* on May 3.

The Ambassador and Mrs. **Anna De Bernardin** welcomed 150 invited guests to the concert, which was intended as a preparatory event for the prestigious *International Harp Contest* to be held next year in Israel. The contest committee is led by its President **Ester Herlitz**, Director **Ilana Barnea** and by Secretary **Aliza Gondor**. Taking part in the evening were harpists **Julia Sverdlov**, **Julie Bunzel** and **Emanuela Battigelli**, accompanied by violinist **Alexander Stark**. <>



from left: Mrs. **Ilana Barnea**, Director of the *International Harp Contest* in Israel; Mrs. **Anna De Bernardin**; Mrs. **Edith Teomim**, Chairperson of the *Israeli friends of Beth Hatefutsoth*; Mrs. **Esther Herlitz**, Chairperson of the *International Harp Contest* in Israel.



Events in Israel

▶ Paolo Virzì Film Retrospective



August 7 - 25, Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa

The Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv in collaboration with the Cinémathèques of Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa are proud to present in Israel the Paolo Virzì Film Retrospective with the screening of *Ferie d'agosto*, *Ovo sodo*, *My Name is Tanino*, *Caterina va in città*, *Baci e abbracci*, *La bella vita*.

www.jer-cin.org.il, Tel. 02-5654333

www.cinema.co.il, Tel. 03-6060800

▶ Claudio Monteverdi Chorus

September 13 - 20, Jerusalem, Nazareth, Jaffa and Bethlehem

On the 25th Anniversary of its foundation the *Claudio Monteverdi* Chorus of Bono, in the province of Sassari, will perform in Jerusalem, Nazareth, Jaffa, Acre and Bethlehem. This is a joint initiative by the Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv, Medianova Productions and the Custody of the Holy Land.

Tel. 03-5161361

▶ Italian Archeological Digs at Capernaum

September 15, Haifa

A conference will be held at the Italian Cultural Institute of Haifa by Prof. Father **Stefano De Luca** (Order of the Frati Minori) with slide projections.

Tel. 04-8536091

▶ Italian Electronic Jazz Festival

September 22 - 23, Tel Aviv

The concert by the Italian electronic jazz groups of **Flavio Boltro**, **Marco Siniscalco** and **Alessandro Gwis** will take place in the inner courtyard of the Suzanne Dellal Center. The Center will also host workshops conducted by the groups and Israeli musicians. This event is a cooperation of the Italian Cultural Institute in Tel Aviv and the *Villa Celimontana Jazz Festival* of Rome.

Tel. 03- 5179634

▶ Science and Communication Convention

September 25-27, Rehovot

Hosted by the Weizmann Institute of Science, Yad Chaim Weizmann, in Rehovot, in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute in Tel Aviv.

Tel. 03-5161361 <

▶ Fantasy and reality tours

Italy in the heart of Jerusalem: a fascinating 3 hour tour of Italian sites in the heart of the



Holy City. **"Angels and Demons"** in Nahalat Shiva: inspired by the "Angels and

Demons tours" conducted in Rome. Take a 90 min. tour of the picturesque neighborhood of Nahalat Shiva, featuring ghosts from the past. <

▶ 22nd International Film Festival

July 7 - 16, Jerusalem

This year Italy will be represented by the following films: *The Big Question* of Alberto Molinari and Francesco Cabras; *Chatzer: volti e storie di ebrei a Venezia* of Carlo Hintermann; *Come inguainammo il cinema italiano: La vera storia di Franco e Ciccio* of Daniele Cipri and Franco Maresco; *L'amore ritrovato* of Carlo Mazzacurati and *Nemmeno il destino* of Daniele Gaglianone.

www.jer-cin.org.il

▶ Cinema Forum

July - September, Haifa

Throughout the summer the Italian Cultural Institute of Haifa will hold special screenings of Italian films, including Massimo Troisi's *Il Postino* (1994), *Radiofreccia* (1998) by Luciano Ligabue and *Pane e tulipani* (1999) by Silvio Soldini.

Tel. 04-8536091

▶ 14th International Puppet Theatre Festival

August 14 - 19, Jerusalem

The *Teatro di Piazza d'Occasione*, arriving from Italy, will participate at this year's festival with

six performances. Israelis will learn the tricks and secrets of the trade by these Italian artists through workshops held by the TPO troupe.

Tel. 02 5618514 ext. 5

▶ Film Retrospective: Ermanno Olmi

Sept. 4 - 25, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa



The Italian Cultural Institute of Tel Aviv, in collaboration with the Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa Cinémathèques will screen 15 films directed by Ermanno Olmi.

www.cinema.co.il

Tel. 03-6060800

▶ 'Italians in the Holy City: the Carmelite passage'

September 7, Haifa

A conference with Dr. **Ada Segre** will be held at the Italian Cultural Institute of Haifa with slide projections.

Tel 04-8536091

Summer events at the Museum of Italian Jewish Art

▶ Wednesday weekly music nights

July and August

In the Museum piazza; the public is invited and admission is free.

▶ Italian art and pasta festival

August 16-17

Once again the Museum will be hosting a festival of Italian art and pasta in its magical old piazza. The festival will include performances and colorful events based on Italian culture: Italian music of all kinds, *commedia dell'arte*, plastic arts, creative workshops for children, guided tours, chefs serving Italian delicacies from the best restaurants, and many surprises. Admission to the festival is free.

▶ Italian soirée in the Museum piazza

August 18

A gala evening of Italian culture for Italians and Italophiles in Israel, with artists from Italy and Israel. The program includes a sumptuous Italian dinner, an Italian artistic program, valuable prizes and surprises.

▶ Italian summer experience

Activities for the entire family (every Thursday in August at 11 a.m.). See, hear, and taste Italy right in the heart of Jerusalem. Activities include a guided tour of the exhibition, pizza-making, and an opportunity to design pasta jewelry.

Jerusalem Italian Jews Association

• The U. Nahon Museum of Italian Jewish Art •

27, Hillel st., Jerusalem Tel: 02-6241610 Fax: 02-6253480 www.jija.org jija@netvision.net.il

Events in Italy

▶ Stresa Festival

27 July - 30 September, Stresa and Lago Maggiore



The *Settimane Musicali di Stresa e del Lago Maggiore* Association presents the annual Stresa Festival, which is among the most

famous European classical music events offering performances by internationally renowned artists.

www.stresa.org

▶ The Giving Person, the gift of the artist

Until August 10, Naples

A new museum for contemporary art, *Palazzo delle Arti Napoli* (PAN), has opened in Naples at the Palazzo Rocella. The city council acquired the 18th century palace in 1984 and began renovating the building in 1999. Two floors of the institution will house a series of temporary shows while a library and conservation studio are on the third floor.

www.palazzoartnapoli.net

▶ Futurismo in Sicilia (Taormina)

Through October 16.



The exhibit focuses on luminous Sicilian Futurism. The works illustrate the growth of Modernism in the interwar period. Works by Pippo Rizzo, Vittorio Corona, Giulio D'Anna and Giovanni Varvaro.

www.taormina-arte.com/futurismo

▶ Boldini



Ends Sept. 2, Rome

A new look at one of the major artists active in the 18th and 19th centuries
Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna, Rome

www.gnam.arti.beniculturali.it/boldini.htm

▶ Maria de' Medici, a Florentine princess on the throne of France

Until Sept. 4, Florence

Palazzo Pitti – Museo degli Argenti



www.polomuseale.firenze.it

▶ Passage to India. Yesterday and today

Until September 11, Rome

Watercolors of Thomas e William Daniell and photographs of Antonio Martinelli.

www.scuderiequirinale.it

▶ Antonio Ligabue, tragic expressionist



Ends September 18, Reggio Emilia

www.palazzomagnani.it

▶ The inner picture: from Lotto to Pirandello

Ends October 2, Aosta

Archeological Museum, Aosta

www.regione.vda.it/cultura

▶ Biennale of Venice

Ends 6 November, Venice

The 2005 edition opens with two projects: *The*



Experience of Art and *Always a Little Further*, curated respectively by Spanish art historians and critics María de Corral and Rosa Martínez. The exhibitions focus on the international contemporary art scene,

from the 1970s to date, with a glimpse of the imminent future. *The Experience of Art* features trends in the development of various languages since 1970, as interpreted by 42 international artists; while *Always a Little Further* is about the works of 49 international artists whose shared research into the nature of the contemporary offers a variegated overview of the latest trends.

www.labiennale.org <

Italian Trade Fair Calendar

SUN 2005

30 Sept. - 2 Oct. 2005, Rimini

SUN

International Exhibition of Outdoor Furnishing and Equipment.

"Shows within the Show" include SUN (outdoor furnishing and equipment sun shields, curtains, new indoor/outdoor furnishing concepts, home and household accessories); SUNMARE (novelties, furnishing and equipment for bathing establishments); SUNAQUAE (swimming-pools, whirlpool baths, and equipment for well-being in and with water); GARDENSUN (products for green-space care and maintenance, from balconies to gardens) and UNCONTRACT (outdoor furnishing and equipment for public places). www.italia-israel.com



לשכת הסחר והתעשייה ישראל-איטליה
CAMERA DI COMMERCIO E INDUSTRIA ISRAEL-ITALIA

ECOMONDO 2005

26 - 29 October, Rimini



International Exhibition of Material and Energy Recovery and Sustainable Development

Now at its 9th edition, Ecomondo brings together in one specialized, qualified space the major sectors and markets involved: the complete waste cycle, water and contaminated sites, air and soil quality, urban environment quality, risk and safety for the population. www.italia-israel.com

PITTI IMMAGINE BIMBO

July 1 - 3, Florence

World preview of clothing and accessories collections for children and teens (0 to 18 years), maternity wear and childcare products

www.pittimmagine.com

PITTI IMMAGINE FILATI

July 6 - 8, Florence

Preview showing of yarn collections for the knitting industry

www.pittimmagine.com

CAMPIONARIA INTERNAZIONALE

July 30 - August 15, Messina

Messina (Sicily) International trade fair
www.fieramessina.it