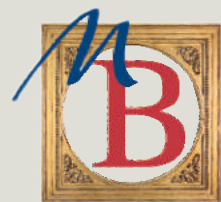


later in 1934 the museum, entitled to Francesco Borgogna, father of the collector, by his will and testament, was again enlarged with illuminated halls. Particularly significant was the intervention of Vittorio Viale, director of the Civic Museums of Turin, assigned in



1934 to rearrange Vercelli museums. He rearranged in Borgogna Museum, with the works of the original collection, the picture gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts formed by the detached frescoes from the churches of the territory and by panels of the Piedmont renaissance period. The precious works of decorative art collected by Antonio Borgogna were since then only partially exhibited. Their current repositioning, in some halls with evocative preparation, allows us to salvage nineteenth century style manner



Museo
Borgogna

Via Antonio Borgogna 4
13100 VERCELLI
Tel.: 0161.211.338 - 0161.252.776 – 0161.252.764
E-mail: info@museoborgogna.it
www.museoborgogna.it
Facebook “Museo Francesco Borgogna”

Opening hours
Saturday: 9.30 – 12.30
Sunday: 10.00 – 12.30 e 14.00 – 18.00
From the first Tuesday in October
From Tuesday to Friday: 14.30 – 17.30
From the first Tuesday in April
From Tuesday to Friday: 15.00 – 18.00
Closed on Monday
Museum guided tours on booking also in the morning



Museo
Borgogna

The Borgogna Museum of Vercelli is one of the most important picture galleries in Piedmont: second, in spaciousness and collection quality, only to the Sabauda Gallery in Turin. The museum was opened to the public in 1908 by will and testament of its founder, Antonio Borgogna, lawyer (1822-1906). Antonio Borgogna, a keen traveller, visited museums and picture galleries in various parts of the world. He attended national exhibitions, antique dealing auctions and contemporary art shows in Italian academies, becoming part of the refined middle class world of collectors at the end of XIX century. The beautiful neo classic mansion which hosts the museum today, built in 1836, was bought and enlarged by Antonio Borgogna since 1882 in order to put his eclectic collection together. The mansion became a vault for his treasures, and was later opened for the artists of the Institute of Fine Arts of Vercelli, supplying a unique set of samples and models. In 1915 and

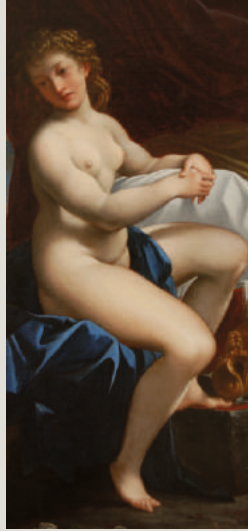


Italian picture paintings are represented at the Borgogna Museum by different examples of regional schools. Since 1934, detached frescoes belonging to the artistic production of Vercelli territory, most of them coming from the Institute of Fine Arts of Vercelli, are deposited at the Borgogna Museum. Among these, fragments of the XV and XVI century, from San Francesco, Santa Maria del Carmine, San Marco and Santa Caterina, churches in Vercelli. A fascinating nucleus of paintings of the Piedmont Renaissance includes works of *Defendente Ferrari*, *Girolamo Giovenone*, *Gaudenzio Ferrari* and *Bernardino Lanino*. The ancient picture paintings of northern and central Italy are represented by artists like *Bernardino Luini*, *Francesco Francia* and *Ghirlandaio*. The great tondo belonging to *Giovanni Antonio Bazzi*, better known as “*Il Sodoma*”, is one of the most important purchases of Antonio Borgogna, and it represents the single work of this great artist conserved in his native town. The museum hall where Borgogna once kept his oriental collection, host today the nucleus of paintings of the XVI century Vene-



G. Giovenone

tian school: pupils of Tiziano and Giovanni Bellini like *Pietro De Ingannati*, *Francesco da Santacroce*, *Francesco Bissolo* and *Vittore Belliniano*. The works of the six and seven hundred belong to a different schools of Italian picture: painting from the manner of Caravaggio of *Genovesino*, to the classicism of *Ludovico Carracci* and *Carlo Maratta*, to the bright landscapes of *Andrea Locatelli* and *Francesco Zuccarelli*. Italian eight hundred paintings hold a considerable position in the expositive course, among historical subjects, genre paintings and works of social realism represented by the canvasses of *Giovanni Migliara*, *Massimo d'Azeglio*, *Gerolamo Induno*, *Stefano Ussi*, *Gaetano Chierici*, *Giacomo Favretto* and *Angelo Morbelli*. We return to a very strict sphere of Piedmont works with a nucleus of paintings of XX century; among them the elegant portraits of *Ambrogio Alciati* and *Giacomo Grosso*, the intense landscapes of *Lorenzo Delleani*, *Clemente Pugliese Levi* and *Umberto Ravello* and the impressive canvas dedicated to the work of the men by *Giuseppe Cominetti*. **European picture painting** is nearly exclusively made up of paintings collected by Antonio Borgogna, whose preference was about Flemish, Dutch



L. Carracci (detail)

and German schools, from late five hundred to eight hundred. The panel of *Hans Baldung Grien*, pupil of Dürer, the detailed floral compositions on copper of *Ambrosius Bosschaert*, the mythological scenes of *Bartholomeus Spranger*, master of Dutch mannerism, and those of arcadian tones by *Cornelis Van Poelenburgh* are exhibited in the museum halls. Among the scenes of interiors, it is interesting to notice those of *Bartholomeus Molenaer* and *Willem De Poorter*. It is possible to admire among the eight hundred landscape artists *Barend Cornelis Koekkoek*, and also the famous Belgium animal picture painters like *Louis Robbe* and *Eugène-Joseph Verboeckhoven*. European art continues with the works of *William James*, pupil of Canaletto in London, *Ludwig Gloss*, *Claud-Joseph Vernet* and *Angelica Kauffmann*. **Sculpture collection** is mainly composed of marble and bronze statues of eight hundred, many of them reproducing ancient and renaissance masterpieces, but one can also find a *Pietà* in polychrome wood of the XV century, a sculpture from southern France, and a marble bust of *Leonardo Bistolfi*. The Borgogna Museum exhibits a significant selection of decorative art objects and of furniture



H. Baldung Grien (detail)

purchased by Antonio Borgogna at national exhibitions, at auctions and during many travels throughout Italy and abroad. Among major prestige furniture there are the antique marble tables inlaid with semi precious stones and the cabinets of ebanists from Milan and Florence of XIX century. **Decorative art** objects reflect the eclectic tastes of Antonio Borgogna who, in his house museum, loved to create unusual matchings among precious works of art, exotic objects and souvenirs of his travels. An example of refined artistic craftsmanship are chinaware from Meissen, Sèvres, Dresda and those of Italian manufacture like Ginori and Cantagalli; the minute Roman mosaics; the glassworks from Murano; the rocca crystalware from Bohemia; the German neo-baroque silverware and copies on Viennese china. The **graphic corpus** of the museum includes a nucleus of about eighty drawings and more than two thousand prints produced by interesting engraving techniques, from burin to etching. Among them there is a drawing of *Andrea Appiani* and the collection of etchings of *Giovan Battista Tiepolo* and *Jacques Callot*.



F. Porzio



G. Ferrari



A. Morbelli (detail)



B.C. Koekkoek



Room XV, ground floor