



Invitation to a ceremony for the dedication of the *Amphitheatre Hall at the Auditorium al Duomo* to the memory of **Andrzej Tomaszewski**

Wednesday, September 14th, 2011, h. 4.30 p.m.
Florence (Italy), Via de' Cerretani, 54r

Deeply touched by Andrzej Tomaszewski's untimely death, the Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco®-Life Beyond Tourism® is eager to express its gratitude and appreciation for Tomaszewski's activities as a member of the Fondazione's International Board of Experts.

To this end, the Fondazione is both delighted and honoured to invite you to a Ceremony due to be held on 14 September 2011 for the dedication of the Amphitheatre Hall at the "Auditorium al Duomo" to Andrzej Tomaszewski's memory. After the event the Amphitheatre Hall at the "Auditorium al Duomo" will formally be known as the

Amphitheatre Andrzej Tomaszewski

The Ceremony will start at 4.30 p.m., it will be followed by a concert given by bass-baritone Daniel Kotliński of the Gdansk Academy of Music and by Massimo Guidetti on piano. Shortly after the concert, we shall be inaugurating an exhibition on "*The Central Market Square in Cracow: The Underground Museum and the Cloth Hall. Restoration and Modernization Projects and Their 2002-2010*"; A buffet dinner for all participants will wind up the event.

The initiative in its entirety has been promoted by the Polish Embassy in Rome, ICCROM, ICOMOS Italy and ICOMOS Poland, together with the Polish Institute in Rome, under the patronage of those institutions whose logos are shown in the footnotes.

The event also marks the start of a cooperation between the Romualdo Del Bianco Foundation®-Life Beyond Tourism® and the Polish Institute in Rome. Thus, we believe that it will represent a tangible expression of the Fondazione's gratitude for Tomaszewski's outstanding achievements in the fields of conservation and cultural dialogue, and in particular for his role in the development of the Fondazione's philosophy and activity. In view of the above, all participants will be offered a copy of the book entitled "*The Image of Heritage: Changing Perception, Permanent Responsibilities*", edited by Andrzej Tomaszewski and printed in Florence in February 2011, soon after his untimely death.

The Ceremony is also of special significance when one remembers that Poland currently holds the EU duty presidency, and in connection with the initiative entitled "*From Florence, 90 Days for Cultural Dialogue with Life Beyond Tourism®*", promoted by the Fondazione and formally recognized by UNESCO.

With my warmest regards.

Florence, 1 September, 2011

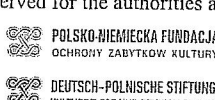
Paolo Del Bianco
President

Please note:

- the evening will be held in an area authorized for public performances;
- the evening will be recorded with an audiovisual recording which will be published, including on line, and made available to anyone unable to attend. The audiovisual recording of the entire event will be published on the www.fondazione-delbianco.org, www.lifebeyondtourism.org and www.auditoriumalduomo.com websites. We should point out that the recording may occasionally or accidentally film some of the guests in the audience, whom it may be possible to identify;
- to avoid any disturbance to the programme, the doors of the Auditorium will close at 4.45 p.m. and reopen only at 6.15 p.m. for the concert;
- 275 places are available overall, 85 of which have been reserved for the authorities and guests from Poland.



Fundacja Kronenberga
citi handlowy



DEUTSCH-POLNISCHE STIFTUNG
KULTURPFLEGE UND DENKMALSCHUTZ



Plaque (to the left) of the door leading into the Amphitheatre

Andrzej Tomaszewski

(January 26, 1934, Warsaw – October 25, 2010, Berlin)

Polish historian of art and culture, architect, urban planner and archaeologist.
Eminent theoretician of the preservation and conservation of the cultural heritage.
Investigator of Medieval architecture and art in Poland and abroad, including in Hungary, Belgium, France and Italy.

Throughout his professional career connected with his alma mater, Warsaw University of Technology.
Professor and Director of the Institute of the History of Architecture and Art in the Department of Architecture.
As a valued scientific collaborator, he maintained lively contacts with numerous academic centres in Europe.

In 1988-1992 he was the Director General of ICCROM – International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property - in Rome.

He was member of numerous national and international organizations, including ICOMOS, where he formed two international committees which he chaired: the Committee for the Training of Conservators and the Committee on the Theory of Conservation and Restoration.

For many years he was the Vice-President or the President of the Polish National Committee of ICOMOS.

In the years 1995-1999 he was Conservator General of the Republic of Poland, directing the State Service for the Protection of Historical Monuments. In this time, through his efforts, several important Polish sites were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

He was the Polish delegate to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee and a member of the Council of Europe's Committee on Cultural Heritage.

He was a member of the International Council of the International Cultural Centre in Krakow, a member of the Scientific Programme Council of Denkmal – The European Trade Fair for Conservation, Restoration and Old Building Renovation in Leipzig. In his final years, he was President of the Polish National Committee of ICOM.

In 2005 he became the first President of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration: re-elected in 2009 in Florence, he chaired the Committee until end of his life.

For many years he was involved in Polish-German collaboration in the field of the protection and conservation of historical monuments.

He initiated the creation of the Working Group of Polish and German Art Historians, and the creation of the German-Polish Foundation for the Preservation of Cultural Monuments.

Since 1999 he participated in the activities of the Romualdo Del Bianco Foundation® -Life Beyond Tourism® (Florence, Italy) promoting the intercultural dialogue between Central-Eastern Europe and Western Countries, as President of the Polish Board of Experts of the Foundation.

He oversaw the settlement of the Executive Secretariat of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration in Florence.

Established the "Auditorium al Duomo" in Florence, as the place of the Committee odd-numbered years conference.

He left more than 300 works and publications in the field of research on Medieval architecture and the theory of the preservation and conservation of the world cultural heritage, published in Poland and abroad.

(Written by Agnieszka Stachurska, Andrzej Tomaszewski's daughter)

Plaque (to the right) of the door leading into the Amphitheatre

The reason for a dedication

Andrzej Tomaszewski, the president of the Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco®'s Polish Committee of Experts, played a crucial role, with his advice and unflagging encouragement, in raising the threshold of the Fondazione's awareness of the contribution it was making to the utilization of mankind's cultural heritage to promote intercultural dialogue through travel, encounters, knowledge and respect for diversity, in the shape of the program of activities it has conducted under the slogan "*international encounters without competition, respecting individual identities - discovering the past together; working to build a shared future*".

Taking this awareness firmly on board, the Fondazione has strongly rekeyed its activities toward the interpretation and communication of the cultural expressions of different regions in an effort to help visitors to perceive and to understand those regions' nature and their cultural biography.

Thus it was entirely natural for the Fondazione to decide to dedicate to his memory this amphitheatre, located only few steps away from the square over which Brunelleschi's immense cupola towers. The auditorium first saw the light of day as an oratory for the nearby church of Santa Maria Maggiore, but it was converted over the years first into an Educational and Moral Cinema, then into the Dante Cinema, the Mignon Cinema and finally the Astra Movie Theater, thus it has always been a public area. COMI SpA, the building's present owner, and its President Paolo Del Bianco opted to forgo the lure of a potentially highly profitable megastore, choosing instead to turn it into the *Auditorium al Duomo* to host encounters, seminars, concerts for budding talents and other cultural events designed to promote sensitivity to cultural diversity. The decision was formalized in Odessa, Ukraine, in the home of local Music Academy Rector Alexander Rovenko, on 21 May 2001.

That is one of the reasons why Andrzej Tomaszewski suggested to Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco® President, both in Cracow on 26 May 2006 and in Zakopane the following day, that he turn this auditorium into a venue for hosting the conventions of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee for the Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration, a committee which had been established in the course of the ICOMOS's 15th General Assembly in Xi'an, China. The Fondazione welcomed the proposal with enthusiasm, planning to contribute to the committee's work by involving its own network of contacts for the discovery, interpretation and communication of cultural diversity in the field of cultural heritage protection and enhancement, which has emerged in the course of various international scientific committee meetings devoted to fostering a better understanding and the potential harmonization of operations designed to safeguard the cultural heritage of mankind, which is part and parcel of the universal rights of man.

It was in this very room, on 4 March 2009, that Andrzej Tomaszewski was confirmed as President of the Committee, a post he held until his untimely death.

All of this explains why the Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco® has chosen to rechristen this amphitheatre hall the
Andrzej Tomaszewski Amphitheatre

in the course of an official ceremony on 14 September 2001, a date which marks the 20th anniversary of the start of the activities that the Fondazione is continuing to pursue today; a month in which we are celebrating the 15th anniversary of the launch of relations with Poland, both in Cracow and in Warsaw; five years on from the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee for the Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration's first meeting in Cracow; and as Poland holds the six-month duty presidency of the European Union, in the presence of Wojciech Ponikiewski, Ambassador of the Polish Republic of Piotr Żuchowski, Deputy Minister for Culture and Conservator General of the Polish Republic, of Jarosław Mikołajewski, Director of the Polish Institute in Rome, of Mounir Bouchenaki, Director General of ICCROM, of Bogusław Szmygin, President of ICOMOS Poland and representative of the ICOMOS Directorate, of Maurizio Di Stefano, president of ICOMOS Italy, all of them greeted with a welcome address by the Councillor for Education Maria Rosa Giorgi on behalf of the city of Florence.

The Fondazione would like to thank COMI SpA, the promoter and founder of the Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco®, for acceding to this request by accepting that the amphitheatre be thus rechristened.

The Fondazione is pledged to continue promoting cultural and scientific research and exchange, encounters and dialogue among different cultures in the shadow of Brunelleschi's cupola, in the certain knowledge that in so doing, it will be paying tribute from today on to the memory of Andrzej Tomaszewski, who was such a very good friend of Italy, of Florence, of the Fondazione and of its President Paolo Del Bianco.

Fondazione Romualdo Del Bianco®
President

5.30 p.m.

Agnieszka Stachurska, Andrzej Tomaszewski's daughter, greets the participants

In the course of the Conference on European Culture held in Wrocław a few days ago, participants were debating the issue of whether culture can serve authority as an alternative way of taking power and of consolidating its ideology. This, for instance, is what it was in the Middle Ages, when it was the driving force behind, and a vehicle for the dissemination of, culture, traditions, customs and sometimes even language. Is there room for cultural differences in the "European Community" today? Is there a culture that completely transcends national borders?

Europe is a very specific area, an area in which many "changes of nationality" occurred in the second half of the 20th century, and this led also to changes in the historical monuments in the area. The problem of our "common historical heritage", and of both architectural monuments and moveables, is an important, indeed possibly the most important, issue in connection with pan-European relations. Addressing a conference at the University of Mainz in 1953, Robert Schuman said that: "... *There will be no synthetic pan-European culture. A culture of that kind should be rejected even though it might be possible. Local specificity, language, law, art and education must be unassailable. Europe cannot be Europe without its European diversity.*" My father's theoretical works on the protection and conservation of cultural assets are imbued with the notion of unity in diversity.

He believed that special attention should be devoted to the monuments situated in areas such as, for instance, Poland where there are traces of a German, Austrian and Italian presence, or traces of a Polish presence in the eastern borderlands. These traces must be seen as a common legacy. They must be protected because such monuments are a legacy which transcends individual European countries. Europe's specific quality is its "prosperous heritage". In the past we were extraneous to the reasons why borders changed, "*because art is not national, it is European*". Art has always been international, created for the common weal, yet at one point people began to consider monuments as "belonging to others". All of my father's research focused on this issue. What is to be done, he would ask, with this heritage which is not ours yet towards which we have an obligation?

Having said that, cultural heritage does not comprise only historical monuments, be they in a distant land or in a specific region. Cultural heritage is first and foremost a symbolic sphere, which has today become a market product.

Thus there is a justified need for us to change our approach towards cultural heritage. Heritage protection today must associate good practices with that heritage's potential, with the doctrine of conservation and with the demands of today's world. The protection of monuments must be framed into a broader context involving not only public - and private - sector sponsorship but also local rules and regulations, three-dimensional European policy and education at every level of society.

Ensuring the effective protection of cities' and historical regions' cultural heritage in a free-market system depends on our ability to optimize the relationship between heritage and the world of business. This is true, among other things, for tourism, which plays such a significant role in forging the cultural context of our heritage. This means that a compromise must be found between protection, the demands of daily life and the laws governing economics. Tourism in Europe is a specific "territory" in the context of cultural heritage protection policy. Europe in the Middle Ages considered art to be universal, transcending national boundaries; indeed, it was the common property of Western Christendom. Its homogeneity worked in favor of the mobility of sculptors and artists, who travelled the length and breadth of the continent. Areas that had adopted Christianity were exposed to the examples of Italy, of France and of Germany. Schuman supported this historical truth, and it should be our guide too, since we can plunge into diversity with both hands. The end of the Middle Ages marked a levelling in European culture. Thanks to Casimir the Great, the Latin world made deep inroads into the east, and even

deeper inroads were made during the baroque era, in the days of the Republic of the Two Nations. Europe was aware of its cultural unity at that time. No one asked artists what country they hailed from. Everyone's position was defined by their belonging to the same, global Western culture. Yet we have had to wait almost until the end of the 20th century to attenuate nationalism and to set dialogue in motion again between regions, between two or more cultures. There are many in Europe today who are in favor of the expansion of political borders. That may mean that all the peoples of Europe are concerned for their "lost and rediscovered heritage". Thus special procedures are required to maintain and to consolidate that heritage. In terms of the protection of cultural assets, tourism is the very thing that can help the citizens of Europe, if we consider that protected areas are endowed with a natural and cultural heritage and that those areas must be protected for the generations both of today and of the future.

Protecting monuments means constantly fostering the best conditions to allow them to survive. Protecting means promoting.

Now, I would very much like to voice my gratitude to President Paolo Del Bianco for his extraordinary gift to Europe consisting in cultivating my father's memory and in promoting his idea of culture as transcending all national boundaries. I hope that this venue and today's ceremony will mark the start of great work to come.

After us, all of this which we hold dear in our hearts will remain for future generations.

Ore 5.45 p.m.

Greetings by the Authorities

- Rosa Maria Di Giorgi
Councillor for Education, representing the City of Florence
- H. E. Wojciech Ponikiewski
Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in Rome
- Piotr Żuchowski
Deputy Minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland
- Mounir Bouchenaki
Director General of the ICCROM
- Maurizio di Stefano
President of the ICOMOS Italian National Committee
- Bogusław Szmygin
ICOMOS Executive Committee Member, Secretary of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee for Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration and President of ICOMOS Poland
- Jacek Purchla
Director of the International Cultural Institute in Cracow
- Robert Kunkel
Vice-Chancellor of the Faculty of Architecture in Warsaw
- Peter Schabe
German-Polish Foundation Office Manager