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***Breakfasts at ... Eataly – An Italian Love Story
I Promessi Sposi by Alessandro Manzoni***

Due to the generosity of Eataly, the first major donor to the Duomo of Milan in the United States, International Patrons of Duomo di Milano are able to organize two special and exclusive events that focus on Italian culture and language.

*Two breakfasts held at **Eataly's** New York City flagship store celebrates the **Duomo of Milan** with a special performance by **Massimiliano Finazzer Flory** performing a portion of **I Promessi Sposi**, a classic by **Alessandro Manzoni**.*

New York, NY – February 11 & 12, 2015—International Patrons of Duomo di Milano, a nonprofit public charity established in 2014 to raise public awareness throughout the world of the needs of the Duomo of Milan and to raise money in support of the restoration of the Cathedral, presents two exclusive breakfasts at Eataly NYC (200 5th Avenue) on February 11th and 12th.

These private gatherings will celebrate Milan's iconic Cathedral together with Italian history, art and literature, by demonstrating Italian culture at its finest through the everlasting words of **Alessandro Manzoni**. **Massimiliano Finazzer Flory**, Italian playwright, actor and director, will reenact the first chapter of Manzoni's iconic novel: **I Promessi Sposi** (*The Betrothed*).

The breakfasts are organized under the patronage of two gracious hosts, who are each related in interesting ways to Alessandro Manzoni: Federica Olivares and Barbara Berlingieri. Federica Olivares's family is the protector of Don Rodrigo in Manzoni's novel, and Barbara Berlingieri inherited the estate in which Manzoni spent his summers.

These Italian breakfasts include a special guided tour of *Eataly per Duomo*, a once-in-a-lifetime exhibition showcasing for the first time in U.S. history - original architectural elements (including gargoyles and a statue of *Santa Lucia*) that were temporarily removed from the Duomo to be put on display in New York for six months (October 2014-May 2015).

Furthermore, Raffaella Curiel, a real *Signora Milanese*, beloved by New York's high society for her high fashion as a haute couture designer, presents on February 12th-- two creations inspired by the theme of EXPO 2015. These dresses will be showcased at the February 12th Breakfast.



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On the occasion of these two special events:
International Patrons of Duomo di Milano announces

'SAVE THE SAINT'
a crowdfunding campaign to conserve the spire of
Saint Francesca Cabrini

On March 3rd the crowdfunding campaign in favor of the Duomo di Milano will be launched on www.foritaly.org, the platform exclusively dedicated to preserving Italian heritage. This campaign is specifically created for the New York online community to take part in protecting Italian culture and history. This online crowdfunding campaign will offer all donors dreamlike perks and entertaining events with the objective of building a strong community around Italian culture and beauty.

The goal is to raise \$150,000.00 by May 1st, 2015, in order to ensure that the spire dedicated to St. Francesca Xavier Cabrini (Mother Cabrini) is safeguarded and restored, and to help the Duomo di Milano shine on for future generations. St. Francesca Cabrini links Milan to New York: she embodies the shared values of these two cities: work, commitment, love of beauty and culture, and so much more. When the Milanese Saint first arrived in New York and fell in love with the city and its people. Today, Mother Cabrini, that was the first American citizen to become a Saint, is remembered and beloved by New Yorkers as the mother of migrants.



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INTERNATIONAL PATRONS OF DUOMO DI MILANO

The mission of **International Patrons of Duomo di Milano** is to raise international awareness of the necessities of the Duomo, symbol of Milan throughout the world by collecting donations to support the **conservation, protection, restoration and valorization** of the Cathedral. This nonprofit was established in 2014 under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code in 2014 with the aim of ensuring the preservation and safeguard of the Cathedral of Milan.

www.duomopatrons.org

FOR ITALY

FOR ITALY is a crowdfunding platform exclusively dedicated to preserve Italian heritage. Crowdfunding is a collaborative process that involves communities that share objectives and projects with other organizations or individuals. Thanks to **FOR ITALY**, it is possible to make contributions to help maintain and protect the heritage of Italy in art and culture. Join the campaigns of For Italy and become associated with the greatest Italian masterpieces. Your generosity will be rewarded in multiple ways, including being recognized on a plaque with your name near the works of art themselves. **FOR ITALY** is the result of the passion and the competences of two Italian companies at the service of the Arts: ARPANet and Arts Council.

www.foritaly.org

MASSIMILIANO FINAZZER FLORY

Playwright, actor and director, he creates new formats where philosophy and literature mingle with the performing arts. He is one of the leading artists on the contemporary international stage, performing in the United States, Asia and Europe. His ambitious aim is to stage the classic or biographical texts of great artists by joining them with dramatic music, ballet and contemporary performing arts. In 2015 his theatrical production "*Being Leonardo da Vinci: an impossible interview*" or rather the biography of the Italian polymath, artist, scientist, and inventor *Leonardo da Vinci* will be staged during the period EXPO 2015.

<http://www.finazzerflory.com>



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