The National Gallery of Art celebrates Italy's rich cultural links to Washington, DC during Italian Culture Week, April 1–6, 2008.

The National Gallery of Art joins with the Embassy of Italy to celebrate the publication of the stunning book, *The Italian Legacy in Washington, D.C.: Architecture, Design, Art and Culture* during Italian Culture Week, April 1–6, 2008. Jointly planned events will include a lecture, panel discussion, and book signing featuring renowned professor Luca Molinari; and a symposium and book signing with Bruce Cole, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. The National Gallery of Art will screen *Abitare Palladio*, which addresses the ongoing maintenance and preservation of Palladian...
villas, and will present two concerts of Italian baroque music.

Scheduled events:

Lecture, Panel Discussion, and Book Signing
April 2, noon to 1:30 pm
National Gallery of Art, East Building Auditorium
4th Street and Constitution Avenue NW

Opening remarks by His Excellency Giovanni Castellaneta, Italian ambassador to the United States

Illustrated lecture by professor Luca Molinari, followed by a panel discussion featuring David Alan Brown, curator and head of Italian and Spanish paintings, and Maygene Daniels, chief archivist, National Gallery of Art

This program is coordinated with and supported by the Embassy of Italy and the Italian Cultural Institute in Washington, DC.

Symposium and Book Signing (closed)
April 3, 5:00 to 6:30 pm
Italian Embassy/Italian Cultural Institute, 3000 Whitehaven Street NW, Washington, DC

Introduction by His Excellency Giovanni Castellaneta, Italian ambassador to the United States

"Italy on the Potomac: The Italian Heritage in Washington, D.C."

Panelists:
Bruce Cole, chairman, National Endowment for the Humanities
Luca Molinari, professor, University of Naples, Italy
Mario di Valmarana, professor emeritus of architecture, University of Virginia
David Alan Brown, curator and head of Italian and Spanish paintings, National Gallery of Art
Eric Denker, senior lecturer, National Gallery of Art
Gregory Hunt, vice chairman, Leo A. Daly Associates
Film Screening: *Abitare Palladio*
April 4, noon to 1:30 p.m.
National Gallery of Art, East Building Auditorium
4th Street and Constitution Avenue NW

Interviews with contemporary architects and owners of Palladian villas discuss the maintenance and preservation of these architectural masterworks. Many of Palladio’s palaces and villas have been transformed into museums or sold to foreign corporations. Produced by RAI Television, Italy, 40 minutes, subtitled.

**Lecture and Concert**
April 5, 2008, 5:30 pm
The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD 20852-3224

“The Eighteenth Century Rediscovers the Ancient World,” Anthony DelDonna, lecturer, and members of the National Gallery Chamber Players with Rosa Lamoreaux, soprano

**Performance**
April 6, 6:30 pm
Chatham Baroque and Rosa Lamoreaux, soprano
National Gallery of Art, West Building, West Garden Court
*La cetra amorosa: songs and sonatas of baroque Italy*

Admission to all National Gallery of Art events is free. First-come, first-seated one-half hour before each concert / Entry at Sixth Street is open until 6:30 pm on Sundays.
For details visit [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov) or call (202) 737-4215.

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General Information

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden are at all times free to the public. They are located on the National Mall between 3rd and 9th Streets along Constitution Avenue NW and are open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1. With the exception of the atrium and library, the galleries in the East Building will be closing gradually beginning in July 2013 and will remain closed for approximately three years for Master Facilities Plan and renovations. For specific updates on gallery closings, visit www.nga.gov/renovation (http://www.nga.gov/renovation).

For information call (202) 737-4215 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176, or visit the Gallery's website at www.nga.gov. Follow the Gallery on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NationalGalleryofArt and on Twitter at twitter.com/ngadc.

Visitors will be asked to present all carried items for inspection upon entering. Checkrooms are free of charge and located at each entrance. Luggage and other oversized bags must be presented at the 4th Street entrances to the East or West Building to permit x-ray screening and must be deposited in the checkrooms at those entrances. For the safety of visitors and the works of art, nothing may be carried into the Gallery on a visitor's back. Any bag or other items that cannot be carried reasonably and safely in some other manner must be left in the checkrooms. Items larger than 17 by 26 inches cannot be accepted by the Gallery or its checkrooms.

For additional press information please call or send inquiries to:

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