



Sisters in Liberty:

From Florence, Italy
to New York, New York

An Exhibition at the Ellis Island
Museum of Immigration, New York

October 11, 2019 to April 26, 2020

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The exhibition concept is developed with the world renowned art historians and produced in collaboration with the Lord Cultural Resources, an international leader in the cultural management.

This exhibition will explore the intersection between the ideas that inspired two monumental statues of Liberty: *Liberty of Poetry*, by Pio Fedi in the church of Santa Croce in Florence, Italy, in 1883 and Frédéric Bartholdi's *Statue of Liberty*, which was inaugurated in New York in 1886. The visitors will discover and interact with the symbols, voices and heroes of liberty and free-thinking.

A key objective of the experience is the exploration of the long-standing cultural ties between Italy and the United States through themes of art, architecture, liberty, poetry and the human condition.



Partners in USA

Ellis Island Museum of Immigration New York, USA



The Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration is the official State museum chronicling all eras of American immigration. A historical site that was the first port of contact for millions of people in pursue of the “**American Dream**”, this is now a working museum.

Opera di Santa Croce’s “Sisters in Liberty: From Florence, Italy to New York, New York” will feature in their temporary exhibition galleries from October 2019 to April 2020.

The museum is also in charge of a true **American icon, the Statue of Liberty**, at Liberty Island, that is visited by 4 million people each year.

Kent State Univeristy Kent, Ohio



The department of Arts and Sciences is joining forces with the Opera di Santa Croce in order to put a top of the line neuroscientific research in the service of culture.

With the **3D - Digital Art Project** they will be able to produce 360 degree data sets of the *Liberty of Poetry* by Pio Fedi, which will then be reproduced in almost 1 to 1 scale at the Ellis Island.

The other aspect of this collaboration is the creation of a **cutting edge interactive media experience: The Listening Wall**. Both promise to bring rich visual and educational value to our exhibition and its visitors at the Ellis Island.

In addition, this will be a **legacy project** that will allow Kent University and Opera di Santa Croce to further continue exploration on liberty, beauty and peace on line, as well as to envision future installations *in situ* in the museum complex of Santa Croce in Florence.

The Union League Club Philadelphia, USA



Founded in 1862 as a patriotic society to support the Union and the policies of President Abraham Lincoln, The Union League of Philadelphia laid the philosophical foundation of other Union Leagues across a nation torn by civil war. The League has hosted US presidents, heads of state, industrialists, entertainers and dignitaries from around the globe and has proudly supported the American military in each conflict since the Civil War. The Union League continues to be driven by its motto, *Amor Patriae Ducit* or Love of Country Leads.

Over the past 157 years, The Union League of Philadelphia has amassed important collections of art, archives, manuscripts, books, pamphlets and objects related to both the Union League and the Civil War—the reason for the League’s founding. One of these works of art is the **Bust of Abraham Lincoln, sculpted by Pio Fedi, in Carrara marble**. Having never met President Lincoln, Fedi sculpted the bust from photographs and other images of Lincoln. Fedi began the sculpture shortly after the President’s assassination in 1865. This bust will be the only original artwork by Fedi in the exhibition “Sisters in Liberty.”



Partners in Italy

United States Consulate General Florence, Italy



The exhibition “Sisters in Liberty” promises to create an important cultural and diplomatic impact in Italy and United States. In Florence, the exhibition is a focal point of the celebrations of the 200th anniversary of existence of US Consulate in Tuscany. **#Insieme200**

In the partnership with the consulate an event in the Cenacolo of Santa Croce, in the presence of US Ambassador will take place in the summer of 2019.

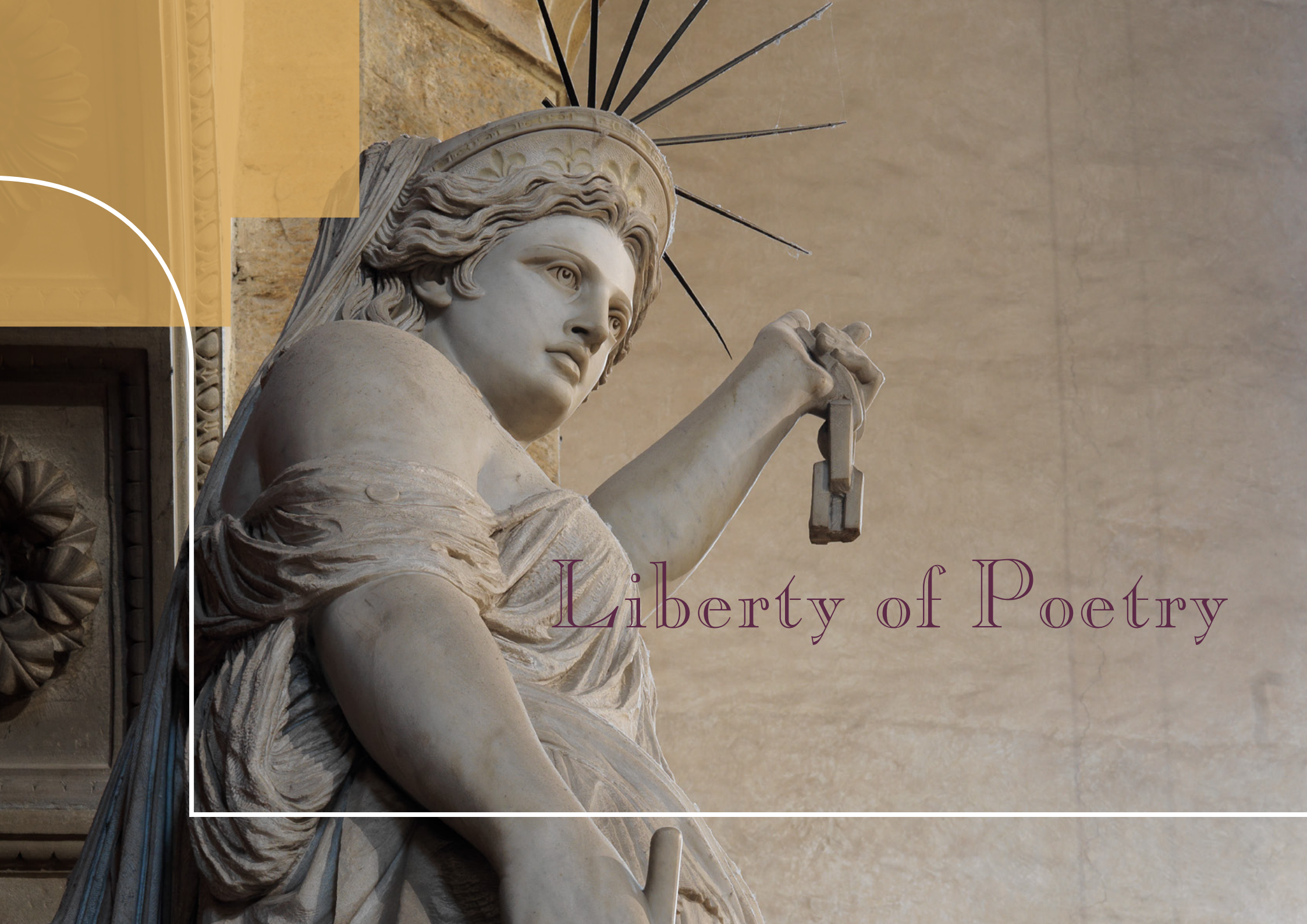
Friends of Florence Florence, Italy



Friends of Florence is a U.S. non-profit organization supported by individuals from around the world who are dedicated to preserving and enhancing the cultural and historical integrity of the arts in the city and surrounding area of Florence, Italy.

Friends of Florence provides financial support directly to the city's restoration laboratories to restore, safeguard, and make available to the public a broad range of art from paintings and sculptures, to architectural elements and collections of smaller objects. Through educational programs and events, Friends of Florence strives to increase public understanding and an appreciation of the glorious city of Florence and its abundant treasures.

The generous contribution of Friends of Florence will allow for the restoration of the *Liberty of Poetry* by Pio Fedi, planned for April/May 2019.



Liberty of Poetry

About Liberty of Poetry

The **tomb of Giovan Battista Niccolini**, poet and playwright of the *Risorgimento* era, is probably the most recognizable monument to visitors of Santa Croce because it so convincingly recalls a **true American symbol**, the **Statue of Liberty**.



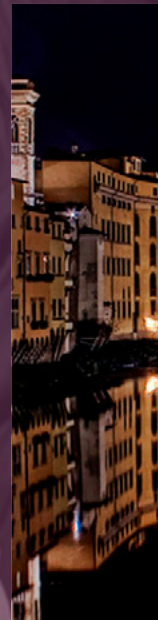
Giovan Battista Niccolini (1782-1861)



Cultural bridge between the continents

Presented on the 3 continents, the exhibition guarantees high international visibility with an estimate of 3 million visitors. For a large part of these global audiences, this cultural journey will be the first ever encounter with the history of Florence and the Temple of Italian Greates, the Basilica of Santa Croce.

This exhibition will be a focal point of events for 2019 at the United States Consulate General in Florence on the occasion of the 200 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Tuscany. In the partnership with the United States Consulate, there will be a series of related events in Florence.



Ellis Island, NY, USA

The National Museum of Immigration

The seat of the exhibition



About the National Museum of Immigration

Golden Door to America

In the shadow of the *Statue of Liberty*, Ellis Island remains a powerful symbol of America's immigrant tradition. Between 1892 and 1954, approximately 12 million people who entered the United States through the port of New York were legally and medically inspected at Ellis Island.

Reopened in 1990 after a massive restoration, the Main Building on Ellis Island is now a museum dedicated to the history of immigration.

Each year, over 3 million people visit Ellis Island, one of America's greatest historical sites operated by the U.S. National Park Service.





About Statue of Liberty National Monument

Located on Liberty Island in New York Harbor, the *Statue of Liberty* was the brainchild of French scholar Édouard de Laboulaye. The Statue's principal designers were French sculptor Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi and French engineer Alexandre-Gustave Eiffel. Its design and construction were recognized at the time as one of the greatest technical achievements of the 19th century and hailed as a bridge between art and engineering.

Get Involved!

Opera di Santa Croce is currently offering exclusive partnership opportunities for this international touring exhibition. All donations made in the United States are 100% tax deductible: goo.gl/QUd8Sy

The following levels of donations are considered “Friends of Liberty”.

Friends of Liberty Silver \$10,000

Donors will be:

- Recognized on our website
- Inscribed in the Book of Donors
- Will be acknowledged in the exhibition at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum
- Recognized on the donor wall located in the cloister of Santa Croce in Florence, Italy.
- Invited to the New York opening of the exhibition in October 2019.

Friends of Liberty Gold \$25,000

All of the donor benefits above plus:

- Receive a limited edition Liberty medal crafted in Florence, which features Pio Fedi’s “Liberty of Poetry” on one side and Frédéric Bartholdi’s “Statue of Liberty”, on the other side.

Friends of Liberty Platinum \$50,000

All of the donor benefits above plus:

- Have their name featured on all the printed material about the exhibition
- Invited to be present at the press conference
- Invited to a special event related to the exhibition in Florence, Italy.

Friends of Liberty Diamond \$100,000

All of the donor benefits above plus:

- A private cocktail reception
 - Presenting Partner for exhibitions in both New York and Florence.
-

Special events

There is the possibility of doing **3 types of receptions at the Ellis Island Museum:**

For the inauguration of the exhibition - included in the budget - Cocktail reception with lunch, that will take place during the opening of the complex to the public for maximum 85 people.
Location: Conference Room and Balcony.

The Presenting Partner can also organize one of the following private events* after Museum Opening hours:

Seated dinner for 99 people.

Location in the Museum: Museum / Wall of honor area.

OR

Cocktail reception with Hors d'oeuvres, for 1000 people.

Location in the Museum: Baggage Room.



Ellis Island

Liberty Island

*The Presenting Partner has the once in a lifetime opportunity to organize a private event in one of the most important locations in the history of the United States, the Immigration station on the Ellis Island.

The French Renaissance Revival structure, restored to its 1918 - 1924 appearance, welcomed 12 million immigrants, most of them of the Italian descent, who arrived in the new land in the search of American Dream.

This event is priced separately, in concordance with our Institutional Partner, the Ellis Island Museum of Immigration, and their official event organizers.

The Presenting Partner incurs the cost of the event in addition to the costs related to the opening of the museum after hours, and logistics of transportation of guests to and from New York City main land on a private ferry.



“When I walk up the piazza of Santa Croce I feel as if it were not a Florentine nor an European church but a church built by and for the human race. I feel equally at home within its walls as the Grand Duke, so hospitably sound to me the names of its mighty dead. Buonarroti and Galileo lived for us all.”

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1835



Florence, Italy

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