



The philatelic collection “Marco De Marchi” Catalogued and digitalized

Donated to the City of Milan after the collector's death in 1936 (following his own will), the philatelic collection “Marco De Marchi” is really important since it documents Italian Risorgimento and presents many unique items, and a peculiar attention also to cancellations, a quite strange choice at his time.

The project consisted in taking pictures (over 5,500 shots), describing and cataloguing the whole collection, in order to make it available for everybody in a devoted section of Milan site (www.graficheincomune.it).

Headed by Fabio Bonacina, President of Unione stampa filatelica italiana, coordinated by Ilaria De Palma, Curator of the Civic Historical Collections, with the participation of Area Soprintendenza Castello, Musei Archeologici e Musei Storici of Milan, the job was sponsored by Usfi, Associazione nazionale professionisti filatelici, Associazione italiana di storia postale, Federazione fra le società filateliche italiane, Unione filatelica lombarda and the company Vaccari srl.

The collection was cleaned from dust and described by the expert Giacomo Bottacchi. Photographs were taken by Saporetti Immagini d'arte.

Thanks to Poste italiane filatelia, an important selection of items from the collection was exhibited at “Milanofil” in 2016; another part will be on show at “Milanofil” 2017.



“When Marco De Marchi (1872-1936) started collecting his material, - comments Paolo Vaccari, President of the board of directors of Vaccari srl - he had the whole philatelic world available and he was able to take advantage of the situation since he was a great scholar and lover. He gathered a unique collection of its kind, which is really important from both a philatelic and a historical point of view.”

Paolo Vaccari started collecting postage stamps when he was a child, but he also studied the history of the Post, focusing his interest on the Nineteenth century and on the Italian States issues and history. He then turned his passion into a commercial activity, 40 years ago, thanks to the help given by his wife Renata and his daughters Silvia and Valeria. He supplemented the sale of postage stamps with a specialized publishing department, because he has always believed deep knowledge to be fundamental in order to understand the object of one's collection.

Vaccari s.r.l. is therefore pleased and honoured for its taking part in the project aimed at cataloguing and digitalizing De Marchi collection, in order to make such an important heritage available, even though only virtually, for everybody.



Marco De Marchi was born on 5 December 1872 and died on 15 July 1936. Businessman and scientist, man of great culture and benefactor, he was a very well-known personality in Milan.

Following his will, his collection was donated to the City of Milan, together with a sum of 200 thousand lire, to be used to preserve and enhance it.

The collection had to be kept by Milan Museo del Risorgimento with the title “Il Risorgimento italiano nel francobollo - Collezione storico documentaria dei francobolli d'Italia”.

In 1951, De Marchi's widow donated also their family palace to the City of Milan, Palazzo Moriggia, where Milan Museo del Risorgimento is today, and where also Marco De Marchi collection is kept.



VACCARI s.r.l.

Filatelia - Editoria

Via M. Buonarroto, 46
41058 VIGNOLA (Modena) - Italy
Tel. +39 059 764 106 - Fax +39 059 760 157
info@vaccari.it - www.vaccari.it

The collection

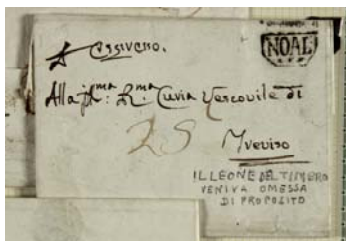
The collection follows Italian history in the Nineteenth century, from the Ancient States to the Kingdom of Italy, taking into consideration the different steps which led to the Italian Unification, the history of liberated territories and, in general, of the lands where Italian was spoken from Ticino to Malta, to Dalmatia.

As it is organized, it presents a section devoted to the most prestigious items, the so called "Fondo preziosi", which includes really rare or unique items and 103 albums.

Besides the many postage stamps, there are fragments and covers, a demonstration of De Marchi interest and attitude, quite unusual at the time: the postage stamp seen as an important part, but only one part, of the postal object.

There is a chapter relevant to the pre-adhesive period (before 1850), then all the Ancient states, with a wider attention to Lombardy Venetia, military mail to document, for example, the expedition in Crimea between 1855 and 1856 or in Gaeta in 1860-1861, the first years of a united Italy. There are also some items relevant to foreign countries.

De Marchi, in his will, had also specified what the collection included: 1) postage stamps of Italian Ancient States; 2) of Italy and its Colonies; 3) used in the States which included the liberated territories at the moment of their liberation; 4) used in the regions previously belonging to Italian Ancient States then to others (Nice and Savoy); 5) used in regions not liberated (Dalmatia) or in territories with Italian population and language (Malta, Italian Switzerland, Corsica); 6) offices where Italian currency and inscriptions were used (Levant). Moreover, cancellations, because of their special importance from a historical point of view to document Italian Risorgimento.



Noale - Letter of 1809 (Napoleon period): "Noal" postmark at top to leave out the Venice lion.



Lombardy Venetia Kingdom - In each sheet, 60 stamps and 4 St. Andrew's Crosses were printed.



Lombardy Venetia Kingdom - Two colours: those of the Habsburgs, ruling there at the time.



Lombardy Venetia Kingdom



Kingdom of Sardinia



Duchy of Modena



On 20 November 1987
Italy paid tribute to him
with a 500 lire postage stamp.

images - copyright Comune di Milano
All rights reserved, palazzo Morando, costume moda immagine, Milano)



VACCARI s.r.l.

Filatelìa - Editoria

Via M. Buonarroti, 46
41058 VIGNOLA (Modena) - Italy
Tel. +39 059 764 106 - Fax +39 059 760 157
info@vaccari.it - www.vaccari.it



FURTHER INFORMATION AND REFERENCES

The collection in the City of Milan site

<http://graficheincomune.comune.milano.it/GraficheInComune/bacheca/CollezioneFilatelicaMarcoDeMarchi>

The specific section in Usfi site

<http://www.usfi.eu/collezione-marco-de-marchi.html>



from *Vaccari news, philately in real time*
in Italian

Antichi Stati/2 - Oggi sarebbe impossibile rifarla

http://www.vaccarinews.it/index.php?_id=22069

Antichi Stati/1 - Bocce ferme sulla De Marchi

http://www.vaccarinews.it/index.php?_id=22068

Collezione De Marchi senza più segreti

http://www.vaccarinews.it/index.php?_id=22038

Luce sulla collezione De Marchi

http://www.vaccarinews.it/index.php?_id=22016

Marco De Marchi ottant'anni dopo

http://www.vaccarinews.it/index.php?_id=21030

In mostra la collezione "Marco De Marchi"

http://www.vaccarinews.it/index.php?_id=20281



In "Vaccari Magazine" n.55/2016, there is the article "Le carte di Marco De Marchi" (in Italian) written by Fabio Bonacina, President of Unione stampa filatelica italiana.

The magazine

www.vaccarimagazine.it



VACCARI s.r.l. 
Filatelia - Editoria

Via M. Buonarroti, 46
41058 VIGNOLA (Modena) - Italy
Tel. +39 059 764 106 - Fax +39 059 760 157
info@vaccari.it - www.vaccari.it