

## 12 November 2019 Venice Flooding Support the Querini Stampalia Foundation

As a result of the exceptional flood that struck the city of Venice on the night of 12 November 2019, the Querini Stampalia Foundation suffered severe damage to the entire ground floor of the building.

An initial survey revealed significant destruction to the spaces of the building designed by Carlo Scarpa, as well as to the Auditorium, the locker area, the bookshop, and the cafeteria.

Although the art collection was not affected, the book collection was severely damaged: miscellaneous works from the late nineteenth century, occupying 35 meters of shelf space, including part of the book collection once belonging to Piero Treves, a celebrated scholar of the ancient world, require urgent treatment to ensure preservation. Also, modern publications and periodicals, occupying 600 meters of shelf space located in both the main building and in external storage areas in the historical centre of Venice, were completely submerged in water.

Several utility systems and the elevators are currently not operational. There is considerable damage to the cafeteria. A portion of the Bookshop was heavily affected by the flood with the loss of books and drawings and damage to the furnishings.

The area designed by Scarpa was also affected and is no longer suited to host the temporary exhibit of *Luigi Pericle (1916-2001) \_ Beyond the visible*. The exhibit has consequently been closed prior to its scheduled conclusion on 24 November.

It is too early to quantify the amount of the damage in monetary terms, but an initial estimate indicates hundreds of thousands of Euros.

The director of the Querini Stampalia Foundation **Marigusta Lazzari**: "In the last thirty years, large sums of money were spent to protect the building from floods up to 160 cm. But every attempt made over time has been put at risk by this dramatic event, and it is with great sadness that we must acknowledge that this will have severe repercussions for the Foundation in the near future. I am deeply grateful to the incredible number of people who have already supported our institution during these first difficult days, in particular secondary school and university students, who have helped us rescuing the books, which have been damaged by water".

For those who so desire, it is possible to support us by donating to the Querini Stampalia Foundation either by means of a bank transfer:

IBAN: IT7600100502000000000032500

Payment description: FONDO TREVES

or online

[http://www.querinistampalia.org/eng/support\\_us/venice\\_flooding\\_12\\_november\\_2019.php](http://www.querinistampalia.org/eng/support_us/venice_flooding_12_november_2019.php)

**The Foundation has closed the Library, Museum, and exhibit space to the public until Monday 18 November 2019 in order to secure the building. All scheduled activities for this period are hereby cancelled.**

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