

# Milan, Part One

by Geir Sør-Reime

In this column we have already discussed several Italian cities: Bologna, Florence, Modena, Rome and Turin, all of which are and/or have been capital cities: Bologna is the capital of the Italian province of Emilia-Romagna, but was the capital of the provisional state of Romagna during the Italian re-unification process 1859-60, Florence is the capital of the Italian province of Tuscany, and was also the capital of the Duchy of Tuscany prior to the Italian re-unification in 1860 and for a short period, it was also the capital of the re-unified Italian kingdom 1865-1871, Modena was the capital of the Duchy of Modena (and is now part of the province of Emilia-Romagna) until it was united with Sardinia in 1860, Rome has been the capital of Italy since 1871 (and before that, it was the capital of the Papal States) and Turin was the capital of the Kingdom of Sardinia prior to Italian re-unification and the capital of the re-unified Italy 1861-65.

Also common to all these cities, is that the areas for which they were capital cities prior to Italian unification also issued their own stamps.

Now, the time has come for another capital city: Milan. Today, Milan is the capital of the large province of Lombardy, but during Napoleon's rule of Italy, it was the capital of the Cisalpine Republic and then of the Kingdom of Italy until the fall of Napoleon, and between 1818 and 1859, it was the capital of the Kingdom of Lombardy-Venetia within the Austrian-Hungarian Empire. Austria issued special stamps



1850 1st issue (Sc. 1)

for this kingdom, with denominations in Italian currency until 1858: 100 Centesimi equaled 1 Lira, from 1858: 100 Soldi = 1 Florin instead of Austrian. Strangely enough,



1858 2nd issue in Italian currency (Sc. 12)

the stamps of Lombardy-Venetia were valid throughout Austria, but Austrian stamps in Austrian currency were not valid in Lombardy-Venetia.

A map of the Lombardy region appeared on a 2005 stamp (Sc. 2654). Besides the map, there is a view of the Cartosa di Pavia, a monastery in Pavia.



2005 map of Lombardy Region in background (Sc. 2654)

Milan is Italy's second largest city with around 1.3 million inhabitants in the city itself and around 5.2 in the surrounding metropolitan area. The city is Italy's industrial,

financial and commercial center. The Province of Milan was established 1860 and the 150th anniversary was commemorated on a 2010 stamp. In 2015, the Province was replaced by the Metropolitan City of Milan.

Milan can trace its history far back in history. It was founded by a Celtic people around 400 BC and then became part of the Roman Empire in 222 BC, and in fact, was the capital city of the Western Roman Empire AD 286-402. Ruins from the Roman period include the Columns of San Lorenzo, featured on the stamp imprint of a 2009 pre-stamped postal card for the national philatelic congress in Milan.



stamped postal card for the national philatelic congress in Milan.

Columns of San Lorenzo on a 2009 postal card and in a recent photo



The Edict of Milan was issued here in 313 by Emperor Constantine I and granted freedom of religion for the Christians. The 1700th anniversary of edict was celebrated on stamps from many countries, including Italy. Here, a stamp and a souvenir sheet were issued 2013.



Milan\_collage.jpg Milan Collage: From top, clockwise: Porta Nuova Business District, Milan Cathedral, San Siro Stadium, Parco Sempione with the Arch of Peace in the background, Galleria Vittorio Emanuele II



Above, Vatican 2013 stamps for 1700th anniversary of Edict of Milan;  
 Left, Italy 2013 stamp the anniversary;  
 Below, San Marino 2013 souvenir sheet for 1700th anniversary



The late 16th-century city encircled by the Spanish walls. a 1959 issue for the centenary of the Italian victories and the annexation of Lombardy to Sardinia (Sc. 778-82). One of these stamps also marks the centenary of the Red Cross (Sc. 779).



1959 for centenary of 1859 war (Sc. 779, 780, 782). Scott 779 also marks the centenary of the Red Cross.



Ruins of the Emperor's palace in Milan



1990 Lombard heritage (Sc. 1817)

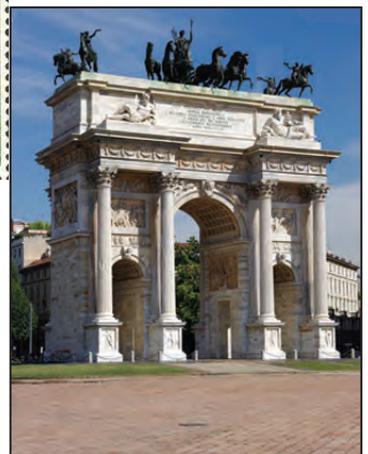
There was an uprising against the Austrians in Milan in March 1848, the so-called "Five Days of Milan", and after the Austrian army withdrew, a short-lived Provisional Government of Milan was formed. For the centenary of this and other 1848-49 overtures to the Italian reunification, a series of stamps were issued (Sc. 495-506, E26), one of which was devoted to the Milan uprising (Sc. 498). In 1995, a stamp featured a detail of the monument of the Five Days of Milan, erected at the Victory Gate in 1895 (Sc. 2021).



1948 for centenary of 1848 uprising (Sc. 498)



1995 for centenary of monument (Sc. 2021)



Victory Gate in a recent photo

Mussolini's fascist "Blackshirts" were formed in Milan and rallied there for the first time in 1919, and Mussolini's March on Rome started from Milan.

Stamps celebrating the first anniversary of the March were issued 1923 (Sc. 159-164). The tenth anniversary of the March was marked with a long series of 16 ordinary stamps, two air post stamps and two special delivery stamps (Sc. 290-305, C40-41 and E16-17).

After the Allied invasion of Southern Italy and the fall of Mussolini, he became the head of state of the Italian Social Republic in the north of Italy. Milan was liberated from the fascist forces April 25, 1945 by the Italian resistance movement (CLN) and Mussolini, his mistress and several of his ministers were executed near Lake Como April 28, 1945 and brought to Milan and hung on display in a square there on April 29.

The area around Milan is the homeland of the Gorgonzola cheese, a veined blue cheese, now enjoying a protected area of origin status. This was celebrated on a 2011 stamp, part of a series of four stamps celebrating famous Italian cheeses.

In 1845, the Fernet-Branca, a bitter herb liquor, was invented in Milan by Maria Scala. In 2015, this product was honored with a stamp.

Most Italian banks have their headquarters in Milan. The 150th anniversary of the BPM – Banco Popolare di Milano (a co-operative bank) was celebrated with a 2015 stamp. Borsa Italiana – the Stock Exchange of Milan – is Italy's most important stock exchange, established 1808. In 2008, a stamp showing the stock exchange building celebrated its 200th anniversary.

It also has a huge trade fair area, one of the largest in the world. In 1934, a set of stamps were issued for the Italian colonies, marking the 15th fair (Sc. 42-45). In 1936, four stamps marked the 17th Milan Trade Fair (Sc. 355-58).



Above, 1923 1st anniversary of Fascist March on Rome (Sc. 159, 162); right, 1932 10th anniversary of March, here Mussolini monument (in Bologna) (Sc. 297)



1936 17th Milan Trade Fair (Sc. 355, 357)



1949 27th Milan Trade Fair (Sc. 509)



1950 28th Milan Trade Fair (Sc. 531)



San Marino 1950 for its participation at the 28th fair (Sc. C73)

single stamp was issued 1949 (Sc. 509). Also for the 28th, a stamp was issued 1950 (Sc. 531). San Marino issued a set of three overprinted stamps to mark its participation at this fair (Sc. C72-74).

For the 29th Fair, two stamps were issued, one also commemorating a show of helicopters (Sc. 572-73). A single stamp and a pre-stamped postal card was issued for the 30th fair, in 1952.



1951 29th Milan Trade Fair (Sc. 573)



1952 30th Milan Trade Fair (Sc. 600)

San Marino celebrated its participation at the 36th Fair 1958 with a set of two stamps and one air post stamp (Sc. 414-15, C97).



San Marino 1958 for 36th Fair (Sc. 414-15)



The 50th anniversary of the fair was celebrated 1972 with a set of three stamps (Sc. 1062-64). In 1972 50th anniversary of 1997, a Milan International Fair stamp (Sc. 1064) was issued showing a modern exhibition hall at the Milan Fair.



1997 Fair exhibition hall (Sc. 2180)



1972 50th anniversary of 1997, a Milan International Fair stamp (Sc. 1064)

To Be Continued



Left, 2011 stamp, Gorgonzola cheese; right, 2015 stamp for invention of Fernet-Branca liquor



2015 150th anniversary of Banco Popolare di Milano



2008 200th anniversary of Borsa Italiana (Sc. 2850)

# Milan, Part Two

by Geir Sør-Reime

In 2005, a completely new fair complex was inaugurated outside the city centre, in the satellite town of Rho. This was marked with a 2005 stamp (Sc. 2663).

In 2015, the World Expo was held at the new complex at Rho. The theme of the expo was Feeding the Planet—Energy for Life, and the first publicity stamp for the expo was issued 2012. In 2015, both a single stamp in a similar design and a sheetlet of 15 different stamps, all showing some kind of food resource, were issued.



2005 new Milan Fair site in Rho (Sc. 2663)

In October 1976, an international philatelic exhibition, ITALIA 76, was held in Milan. Two stamps featuring the logo of the exhibition were issued in March 1976 (Sc. 1219-20). During the exhibition period, a set of five stamps with postal history themes was issued (Sc. 1235-39). Also in 1998 an international philatelic exhibition was held in Milan, ITALIA 98. Milan Cathedral, the Duomo, was featured on a pair of stamps issued 1996 to publicize the exhibition (Sc. 2071-72). A set of four stamps with various philatelic themes were issued in a souvenir sheet 1997, again



1976 ITALIA 76 publicity (Sc. 1220)



2015 EXP 2015 sheetlet



ITALIA 76 (Sc. 1235, 1237, 1239)



1996 ITALIA 98 publicity (Sc. 2071)



to create publicity for the event (Sc. 2129). In 1998, a joint issue between Italy, Vatican City and San Marino and featuring a portrait of Pope John Paul II was issued at the exhibition (Italy Sc. 2259).



1998 ITALIA 98 with portrait of Pope John Paul II (Sc. 2259)



1979 3rd International Machine Tool Exhibition (Sc. 1371)



2015 EXPO 2015

In 1951, two stamps (Sc. 582-83) were also issued for the Milan Triennial Exhibition of Decorative Arts and Contemporary Architecture, held 13 times so far, last time in 1996, next is scheduled for 2016, although the Triennale exhibition building was a city pavilion of the 2015 World Expo in Milan.



1951 Milan Triennale (Sc. 583)



Milan Triennale Design Museum.jpg



1997 ITALIA 98 publicity (Sc. 2129)



1998 *ITALIA 98 - Armed Forces Day* (Sc. 2260)



1998 *ITALIA 98 - Stamp Day* (Sc. 2273)

A set of four stamps with *ITALIA 98* se-tenant labels, for the Armed Forces Day, was also issued at the exhibition (Sc. 2260-63). Similarly, stamps were also issued for the Art Day (Sc. 2264), the Ferrari Day (Sc. 2265), the Communications Day (Sc. 2272) and the Stamp Day (Sc. 2273).

Milan is probably the most important fashion city of the world, and an important design center. In 2000, Italy issued a sheet of six stamps featuring modern household furnishings and most of these were designed by industrial designers with education from



2013 stamp for 150th anniversary of Milan Politecnico; right, a photo of the University



Milan's Polytechnic University and/or residing in the city (Sc. 2334). The same is the case with the 2001 stamps showing other household furnishings (Sc. 2420). In 2002, a set of stamps were devoted to Italian fashion houses (Sc. 2508), several of which are based in Milan: Dolce & Gabbana, Gianfranco Ferré, Giorgio Armani and Prada. The 40th anniversary of the Armani fashion house was marked with a 2015 stamp.

Many designers have been trained at the Milan Polytechnic, and in 2013, a stamp showing the front of the main building of the university, celebrated its 150th anniversary.



2015 40th anniversary of Armani fashion house



2002 Italian fashion, stamps are fashion houses based in Milan (Sc. 2508)



Left, 2000 household furnishings (Sc. 2334) and right 2012 (Sc. 2420). The individual stamps show objects by at least one Milan resident.



1944 Italian Social Republic featuring Basilica of S. Maria delle Grazie, Milan (Sc. 30)



Equatorial Guinea 1974 (part of set Sc. 7442-50)

The church of Santa Maria delle Grazie is decorated with Leonardo Da Vinci's Last Supper painting and is on the UNESCO World Heritage List. Milan's Cathedral, Duomo, is the fifth-largest cathedral of the world, and just besides it lays the Galleria Vittorio Emmanuelle II, the world's oldest shopping mall and here is also the Royal Palace. The Duomo appears on a stamp



Vatican 2012 for 7th World Meeting of Families, Milan, with the Cathedral in the background

from Equatorial Guinea, issued 1974 for the Holy Year 1975 (part of Sc. 7442-50). It is also shown in the background of a 2012 Vatican



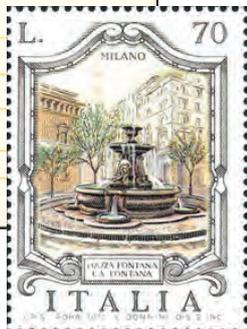
A photo of the Duomo, taken by the author

stamp issued for the 7th World Meeting of Families in Milan. Not far away is the Scala Opera, one of the world's leading opera houses. Close to the Cathedral, the Duomo, is the Fountain Square (Piazza Fontana), depicted on one of the 1975 Fountains of Italy stamps (Sc. 1203). In 1969, this square was the scene of a terrorist bomb attack, aimed at the Banca Nazionale dell' Agricoltura (National Agrarian Bank), killing 13

and wounding 88 people. Also in 1969,



2007 postal card for national philatelic congress, Milan, with stamp imprint showing Piazza Mercanti; right, 1975 showing Piazza Fontana, Milan (Sc. 1203)



1931 postal card for opening of the new Milan central railroad station

there were attacks at the Fair area and at the main railway station in Milan. The railroad station, opened 1931 and one of Italy's and Europe's main railroad stations, was the subject of a series of 1931 postal cards issued by Italy.



Above, the Piazza Mercanti, circa 1860, with The Duomo cathedral in the distance.

The Piazza Mercanti used to be the central square of the city in Medieval times, and it was featured on the stamp imprint on a pre-stamped postal card issued for the 2007 philatelic congress of Italy held in Milan (previous column). The square is surrounded with palaces that used to house the administrative functions of the city.

The fortress, Sforza Castle (Castello Sforzesco) is also a cen-



Milan Sforza Castle in a recent photo and on a 1980 definitive (Sc. 1409)



tral landmark of Milan. It was depicted on one of the "Castles" definitives of 1980 (Sc. 1409).



1989 (Sc. 1764)

A series of Italian stamps featuring learning institutions also included a stamp featuring the Liceo Ginnasio Statale Giuseppe Parini (G. Parini College) (Sc. 1764), named after the poet Parini (1729-99), who lived and died in the city.

To Be Continued

# Milan, Part Three

by Geir Sør-Reime

There is a private, catholic university in Milan, the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, and in 2001, the Vatican issued a stamp featuring the seal of the university (Sc. 1196), celebrating its 80th anniversary.



2014 80th anniversary of institute



2001 for 80th anniversary (Sc. 1196)

Milan also hosts the ISPI – International Institute for Studies of International Politics, founded 1934. The 80th anniversary of this institute

was marked with a 2014 stamp.

There are a number of great museums in Milan. Of particular interest is the church of Santa Maria delle Grazie, which houses da Vinci's The Last Supper, and which is included on the UNESCO World Heritage list. Da Vinci lived and worked in Milan 1482-1499, where he painted the Virgin of the Rocks for the Confraternity of Immaculate Conception and The Last Supper for the monastery of Santa Maria delle Grazie. The church was featured on two of the stamps issued 1944 by the Italian Social Republic (Sc. 30-31).



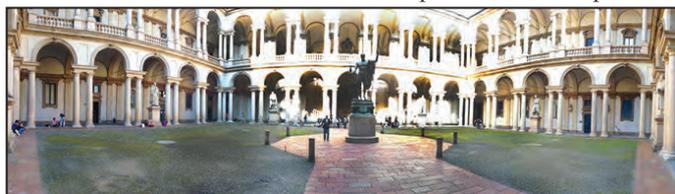
1952 for 500th birth anniversary, Da Vinci self-portrait (Sc. 601)

In 1952, the 5000th birth anniversary of Da Vinci was marked with three stamps, two showing his portrait and one the painting Virgin of the Rocks (Sc. 601-601B). In 1998, a stamp celebrating the 500th anniversary of the completion of The Last Supper was issued, reproducing the complete painting (Sc. 2200).



1998 for 500th anniversary of completion of The Last Supper (Sc. 2200)

The Pinacoteca di Brera boasts a number of famous Italian paintings. It also hosts a large library, the Braidense National Library, which was honored on a 2014 stamp, and there is also a botanical garden and an astronomical observatory at Brera. The 250th anniversary of the observatory was commemorated with a 2012 stamp. Four paintings from the collections of the library have been reproduced on stamps of the



Brera Academy main court, in a recent photo



Interior of library



2012 for Brera Observatory, 250th anniversary



Order of Malta 1992: Madonna with Child Jesus, etc.

Order of Malta: in 1991 the "Immaculate Conception, with St. John the Baptist and St. Sebastian" by Timoteo Viti, 1992 "Portrait of a Knight of the Order of Malta" by Bernardo Strozzi and also 1992 "Madonna with Child Jesus, Angels, Saints and the Duke Federico da Montefeltro" by Pietro della Francesca. A San Marino stamp of 2004 reproduces the painting "Rebecca at the Well" by Giovanni Battista Piazzetta (Sc. 1620), also in the Brera.

The same is the case for the Biblioteca e Pinacoteca Ambrosiana, opened 1609 and albeit heavily damaged during WWII, it is now restored and houses some important paintings, including da Vinci's "Portrait of a Musician and Caravaggio's Basket of Fruit." A 2009 stamp was dedicated to the library and art museum.



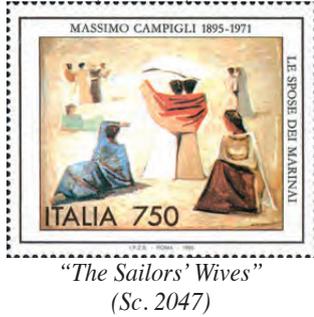
2009 Biblioteca library and art museum

In the 20th Century, Milan was the center of the Italian Futurist movement in art. One of the leaders of this movement was Carlo Carrà (1881-1966) who lived, studied and taught in Milan from 1901, where he also died. One of his paintings, "Harbor View" appeared on a 1981 stamp, also marking the centenary of his birth (Sc. 1487). The painter Mario Sironi (1885-1961) also participated in the Futurist movement for a short while, but became one of the leading figures of the Novecento Italia movement. Due to his support for Mussolini's fascism, he lost popularity after WWII, although there is a revival of interest today. His work



1981 "Harbor View" (Sc. 1487)

“Pride of the Work” was reproduced on a 1985 stamp, also marking the centenary of his birth (Sc. 1639).



The German-born painter Massimo Campigli (1895-1971) moved to Milan in 1909. He was also a journalist, and worked as a correspondent for Corriere della Sera in Paris for some years. In 1933 he returned to Milan, and had several exhibitions of his works there. His painting “The Sailors’ Wives” was produced on the 1995 stamp issued for the centenary of his birth (Sc. 2047).



The Museo del Novecento in Milan, a museum for 20th century art (opened 2010). It has on permanent display the painting “The Fourth Estate” by Giuseppe Pelizza da Volpedo (1868-1907), reproduced on a 2001 stamp (Sc. 2421).



The painter Caravaggio was born in Milan in 1571, where he also trained painting. He left Milan in 1592 for Rome. In 1606, he fled to Naples after having killed a young man, later he tried to live on Malta, then in Sicily before he went back to Naples, and in 1610, he died or was killed in Tuscany on his way from Naples to Rome. A 1960 stamp marked the 350th anniversary of his death (Sc. 811), and the 400th anniversary of his birth was celebrated with a 1973 stamp showing his painting of St. John the Baptist (Sc. 1116).



1960 Caravaggio 350th death anniversary (Sc. 811)



Also the painter Giuseppe Arcimboldi (1526-1593) was born and died in Milan. He is famous for his portrait heads made up of fruits and vegetables, an example of which is shown on the 1977 stamp, a painting entitled Winter (Sc. 1272).

The Venice-born painter Francesco Hayez (1791-1882) moved to Milan and became director of the Brera Academy in 1850, and he lived in Milan the rest of his life. His painting of a little girl was featured on a 1982 stamp for the centenary of his death (Sc. 1533).



1982 centenary of Hayez death (Sc. 1533)

Milan-born painter Pietro Annigoni (1910-88) became world-famous after having painted Queen Elizabeth II in 1956, a portrait that was used on a number of Commonwealth



Above, 1963 cinderella card for Stampex 63 showing a Hong Kong stamp and color separations; right, 2013 Great Britain stamp (for 60th anniversary of coronation of Queen Elizabeth II) showing Annigoni's portrait of the queen



A 2010 stamp from Italy showing a self-portrait marked the centenary of his birth.



2012, Sassu birth centenary

Milan's La Scala opera has seen a number of opera premieres. The bicentenary of the opera house was celebrated 1978 with a pair of stamps featuring the exterior and interior of the building (Sc. 1312-13).



1978 for bicentenary of La Scala Opera House (Sc. 1312-13)

Luchino Visconti (1906-76) was born in Milan and



directed during the 1950s several opera productions at La Scala. He directed a number of Italian films as well as opera productions at other opera houses. His birth centenary was celebrated with a 2006 stamp (Sc. 2776).

Film and opera director Luchino Visconti, birth centenary (Sc. 2776)

To be Continued

# Milan, Part Four

by Geir Sør-Reime

The music publishers Ricordi, founded 1808 in Milan, have their offices next to La Scala, and when the bicentenary of the company was celebrated with a 2008 stamp, it also showed La Scala (Sc. 2857).

Composer Vincenzo Bellini (1801-35) spent much of the years 1827-33 in Milan, and his opera *Il Pirata* was premiered there in 1827, *La Straniera* in 1829 and *La Sonnambula* and *Norma* in 1831. A set of stamps were issued 1935



1952 for 150th anniversary of Bellini's birth (Sc. 597)

on the centenary of his death (Sc. 349-54, C79-83). For the 150th anniversary of his birth, a single stamp was released 1952 (Sc. 597).



1970 centenary of Mercadante's death (Sc. 1033)



2008 bicentenary of music publishers Ricordi (Sc. 2857)



1935, scene from opera *La Sonnambula*, premiered at La Scala, Milan (Sc. C83)

Opera composer Saverio Mercadante (1795-1870) had some of his operas premiered at La Scala, including *Elisa e Claudio* (1821), *Amieto* (1822), *Il Montanaro* (1827), *Ismalia* (1832), *Il conte di Essex* (1833), *La gioventù di Enrico V* (1834), *Il giuramento* (1837), *Il bravo* (1839) and *La schiava saracena* (1848). The centenary of his death was commemorated on a

1970 stamp (Sc. 1033) showing his portrait.

Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901) also settled in Milan after having his first operas premiered at La Scala: *Oberto* (1839), *Nabucco* (1842), *I Lombardi alla prima crociata* (1843), and *Giovanna d'Arco* (1845). Also *Otello* (1887) and *Falstaff* (1893) were premiered at La Scala.



Left, 1951 for Verdi's 50th death anniversary, here with *La Scala* and *Milan Cathedral* in the background (Sc. 596); right, 1963 for 150th birth anniversary, also showing interior of *La Scala* (Sc. 886)



In 1951, three stamps marked the 50th anniversary of Verdi's death, and one of the stamps (previous column) also showed *La Scala* (Sc. 594-96). Verdi was again featured on a 1963 stamp, for the 150th anniversary of his birth (Sc. 886). This stamp (previous column) also showed the interior of *La Scala*, Milan.



Boito 50th death anniversary (Sc. 982)

from his opera *Mephistopheles* (Sc. 982).

The composer Amilcare Ponchielli (1834-1886) studied at the Milan Academy, and had some of his operas premiered at La Scala, including *I Lituani* (1874), *La Gioconda* (1876) and two later operas. A 1986 stamp for the centenary of his death (Sc. 1656) featured a scene from *La Gioconda* as well as his portrait.

The libretti of some of Verdi's operas were written by Arrigo Boito (1842-1918), including *Otello* and *Falstaff*, but he also wrote an opera himself, *Mephistopheles*, premiered at La Scala in 1868. For the 50th anniversary of his death, the Italian post issued a single 1968 stamp featuring his portrait and a scene



Ponchielli 1986 death centenary, portrait and scene from *La Gioconda* (Sc. 1656)



1954 for centenary of Catalani's birth (Sc. 654)

Alfredo Catalani (1854-1893), another Italian opera composer, had his operas *La Falce* (1875), *Dejanise* (1883), *Edmea* (1886) and *La Wally* (1892) premiered in Milan. He studied at the conservatory in Milan, and he also died in Milan from tuberculosis. In 1954, the centenary of his birth was celebrated with a stamp showing his portrait (Sc. 654). Yet another Italian opera composer was Ruggiero Leoncavallo (1857-1919), whose opera *Pagliacci* was premiered in Milan in 1892 with immediate success (conducted by Toscanini). Also his opera *I Medici* was premiered in Milan, in 1893, and *Zaza* premiered there in 1900 (also conducted by Toscanini). His birth centenary was marked with a single 1958 stamp (Sc. 745). It shows the prologue from *Pagliacci*.

Alfredo Catalani (1854-1893), another Italian opera composer, had his operas *La Falce* (1875), *Dejanise* (1883), *Edmea* (1886) and *La Wally* (1892) premiered in Milan. He studied at the conservatory in Milan, and he also died in Milan from tuberculosis. In 1954, the centenary of his birth was celebrated with a stamp showing his



1958 for Leoncavallo birth centenary (Sc. 745)

World famous opera composer Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924) also had some of his renowned operas premiered in Milan: *Edgar* (1889), *Madame Butterfly* (1904) and his last opera, *Turandot* (completed by Franco Alfano) was premiered at La Scala in 1926. His 50th death anni-

versary was commemorated with a 1974 stamp (Sc. 1158). At the 150th anniversary of his birth, a stamp was issued 2008, reproducing the poster for the premiere of *La Bohème* (which in fact took place in Turin) (Sc. 2882).



Left, 1974, Puccini 50th death anniversary (Sc. 1158); right 2008 150th birth anniversary (Sc. 2882)



Giordano 1967 birth centenary (Sc. 970)

The opera composer Umberto Giordano (1867-1948) eventually also settled in Milan, and his operas *Andrea Chénier* (1896), *Fedora* (1898), *Siberia* (1903), *Marcella* (1907), *La cenne delle beffe* (1924) and *Il re* (1929) all premiered there, either at La Scala or the Teatro Lirica. In 1967, his birth centenary was marked with a single stamp (Sc. 970), featuring a portrait and part of the score of *Andrea Chénier*.

Composer, pianist, conductor and professor Nino Rota (1911-79) was born in Milan, and received a degree in literature from the university there. He wrote a lot of film music, but also ten operas as well as other music, and his opera *La notte di un neurastenico* was performed at La Scala in 1960. One of the three 2009 Music Day stamps was dedicated to Rota.



2009 Music Day stamp (Rota 30th death anniversary)

The world-acclaimed Italian conductor Arturo Toscanini (1867-1957), who also was a cellist, participated in the premiere of Verdi's *Otello* at La Scala in 1887. In 1898, he became chief conductor at La Scala, where he stayed until 1908, but returned as Music Director 1921-29. He took the La Scala Orchestra on a tour to the U.S. during 1920-21, and he worked in the U.S. during several periods, including during WWII, where the NBC Symphony Orchestra was created for him in 1937. In 1957, a memorial stamp was issued showing him conducting (Sc. 948). The 50th anniversary of his death was commemorated with a 2007 stamp also showing him conducting (Sc. 2785).



1957 Toscanini Memorial (Sc. 948)

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2007 50th death anniversary (Sc. 2785)

Among the opera singers that have performed at La Scala, some have appeared on stamps, including Beniamino Gigli (1890-1957) who appeared on a 2007 stamp as part of a sou-



2007 Beniamino Gigli (Sc. 2840a)

Left, 2007, Maria Callas (Sc. 2840b); right, San Marino 2014 Renata Tebaldi

venir sheet (Sc. 2840) and U.S.-born Greek singer Maria Callas (1923-77), who appeared on a stamp in the same souvenir sheet. There Renata Tebaldi (1922-2004), with her career breakthrough at La Scala in 1946, saw Callas as a competitor, but in the end, the two reconciled. The 10th anniversary of Tebaldi's death was commemorated by San Marino with a 2014 stamp, showing a portrait and the La Scala opera house.



Galli 1977 birth centenary (Sc. 1309)

The Italian actress Dina Galli (1877-1951) was born in Milan. She is famous both for her comic stage roles and as a film actress. Her birth centenary was celebrated with a 1977 stamp (Sc. 1309).



Miracolo a Milano scene on 2002 stamp (Sc. 2490)

In 1951, the film "Miracle in Milan" (Miracolo a Milano), with a story set in immediate post-war Milan, premiered. A 2002 set of stamps showing scenes from famous Italian films included a scene from this film (Sc. 2490).

The Italian philosopher, economist and jurist, Gian Domenico Romagnosi (1761-1835) was at times professor at the university in Milan, where he also died. The bicentenary of his birth was marked with a 1961 stamp (Sc. 847).



1961 Romagnosi birth bicentenary (Sc. 847)

Romagnosi (1761-1835) was at times professor at the university in Milan, where he also died. The bicentenary of his birth was marked with a 1961 stamp (Sc. 847).

The philosopher Pietro Verri (1728-1797) was born in Milan and wrote a two volume "History of Milan". The bicentenary of his death was marked with a 1997 stamp showing a portrait of him (Sc. 2163).



Verri 1997 death bicentenary (Sc. 2163)

Luigi Maria Monti (1825-1900), founder of the Congregation of Sons of the Immaculate Conception was born near Milan. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 2003, after a process initiated by the Cardinal Bishop of Milan in 1941. The centenary of his birth was commemorated with a 2000 stamp (Sc. 2370).

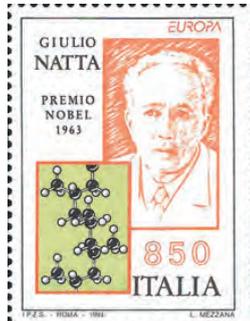


2000 Monti birth centenary (Sc. 2370)



Gnocchi birth centenary (Sc. 2520)

Ernesto T. Moneta (1833-1918), who was awarded the prize for 1907.



Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1963 (Sc. 1977)

and had his first professorate there. He was portrayed on one of Italy's 1994 Europa stamps (Sc. 1977).

The Nobel Prize for Literature 1975 went to Eugenio Montale (1896-1981) for his poetry. Montale lived in Milan from 1948 until his death. The centenary of his birth was honored with a 1996 stamp (Sc. 2109) featuring a portrait of Montale.



2010 for Schiaparelli death centenary

Although not born in Milan, Don Carlo Gnocchi (1902-56) moved with his family to Milan at a young age, and most of his life as a priest, he served in Milan. During WWII, he served as a military chaplain in Russia, and his experiences from there made him establish a foundation for mutilated children, Pro Juventute. His birth centenary was celebrated 2002 with a stamp showing Don Carlo with a child (Sc. 2520).

Milan can also boast a Nobel Prize winner,



Moneta was born in Milan, and his 150th birth anniversary was honored with a 1983 stamp (Sc. 1560).

Nobel Prize Winner in Chemistry 1963, Giulio Natta (1903-79) studied in Milan



Montale 1996 birth centenary (Sc. 2109)

The Italian astronomer Giovanni Virginio Schiaparelli (1835-1910) died in Milan. He is most known for his observations of the planet Mars, where he observed a system of channels (later misinterpreted as canals) on the planet (later proven to be optical illusions). On the centenary of his death, he was honored with a stamp showing his portrait against a background of his drawings of the channels of Mars.



Mercalli 2014 death centenary

The Italian volcanologist Giuseppe Mercalli (1850-1914) was born and lived much of his life in Milan. He developed a scale for measuring the impact of earthquakes which is still (in modified form) in use today. A 2014 stamp with his portrait honored the centenary of his death.

Milan's newspaper *Corriere della Sera* is one of the most important newspapers in Italy. The illustrator Achille Beltrame (1871-1945) illustrated their weekly illustrated magazine, *La Domenica del Corriere* for nearly 50 years. His cover for the first issue of the magazine (1899) was reproduced on the 1995 stamp issued for the 50th death anniversary of Beltrame (Sc. 2013).



1995 for 50th death anniversary of illustrator Beltrame, reproducing cover of first issue of their weekly magazine supplement, *La Domenica del Corriere* (Sc. 2013)



50th death anniversary of Eugenio Balzan (Sc. 2559)

started as an editorial assistant in the paper, and worked his way up to become a director and a partner and shareholder in the company publishing the newspaper. During fascist rule in Italy, he lived in exile in Switzerland. The 50th death anniversary was commemorated 2003 with a stamp showing newspaper pages and a portrait (Sc. 2559).



Birth centenary of Dino Buzzati, artist and journalist at *Corriere della Sera* (Sc. 2777)

The novelist, painter and poet Dino Buzzati (1906-72) also worked as a journalist for *Corriere della Sera* from he was 22 till his death in Milan. His birth centenary was celebrated with a 2006 stamp showing him with a typewriter (Sc. 2777). Also the author and literary



2009 Birth centenary of Indro Montanelli

critic Tommaso Landolfi (1908-79) worked



2008 Birth centenary of Tommaso Landolfi, contributor to *Corriere della Sera* (Sc. 2886)

for *Corriere della Sera*. He was honored with a 2008 stamp on the centenary of his birth (Sc. 2886). The journalist Indro Montanelli (1909-2001) worked for *Corriere della Sera* for decades from 1938 (during WWII as a war correspondent) until he was sacked in

1973, when he founded his own newspaper, *Il Giornale*. The centenary of his birth was marked with a 2009 stamp.



150: Centenary of publishing house Mondadori (Sc. 2842)

Also based in Milan, is the publishing house Mondadori, the centenary of which was celebrated with a 2007 stamp (Sc. 2842).

Milan is home to two top soccer teams: A.C. Milan and F.C. Internazionale Milano (Inter for short), both of which have been Italian champions several times.



Left to right: A.C. Milan champions 1988 (Sc. 1743); 2004 (Sc. 2609); and 2011

2004 (Sc. 2609), and 2011.



Inter Milan champions 1989 (Sc. 1782); and 2011

F.C. Inter, as Italian Champions, was first honored on a 1989 stamp (Sc. 1782), 2007 (Sc. 2818), 2008 (Sc. 2883), 2009, and 2010. In addition, a stamp was issued 2011 to celebrate Inter's victory in the Italian soccer cup.

Cycling is also a popular sport in Italy, and in 1951, the World Bicycle Championship Races were organized in Milan and one stamp was issued for the event (Sc. 584). The Touring Club of Italy (Touring Club Italiano) was originally founded as the Touring Club Ciclistico Italiano in 1894, and is now the major tourism organization in Italy. Its headquarters are in Milan. The 60th anniversary of the founding was marked with a single 1954 stamp showing an automobile and cyclists (Sc. 657). The centenary of the Touring Club was marked 1994 with a single



34: 1954 60th anniversary of TCI (Sc. 657)

stamp (Sc. 2006).



1951 World Bicycle Championship Races, Milan (Sc. 584)

stamp (Sc. 657). The centenary of the Touring Club was marked 1994 with a single



142: 2005 for 50th death anniversary (Sc. 2684)

The Italian racing car driver Alberto Ascari (1918-55) was born in Milan, and he was honored 2005 with a stamp (Sc. 2684).



1973 centenary of Manzoni's death (Sc. 1105)

Italian author Alessandro Manzoni (1785-1873) was both born and died in Milan. His most famous novel is *The Betrothed* (1840), which contributed to the Italian re-unification process and also to the development of a unified Italian language. The 50th anniversary of his death was marked with a 1923 set of six stamps, one showed his home in Milan, whereas four of them



1923 Manzoni's Milan home (Sc. 169)

1923 scene from Manzoni's *The Betrothed* (Sc. 167)

showed scenes from *The Betrothed* (Sc. 165-170). On the centenary of his death, a stamp bearing his portrait was issued 1973 (Sc. 1105). The 17th Century plague in Milan plays an important role in *The Betrothed*, and the plague is the theme of one of the stamps issued 1985 by San Marino for the bicentenary of his birth (Sc. 1094-96).



San Marino 1985 Plague of Milan (Sc. 1096)



1850 1st issue (Sc. 1)

The first stamps of the Kingdom of Lombardy and Venetia were Austrian stamps in Italian currency and were released June 1, 1850. They displayed the Austrian arms and bore the inscription "K.K. POST-STEMPEL" (Imperial and Royal Postage Stamp). A year prior to Lombardy being annexed to Sardinia, stamps in a new design and with values in the Florin currency were issued from November 1, 1858 onwards. They showed an embossed silhouette portrait of Emperor Francis Joseph I in an oval frame in the center, surrounded by frames showing the value, now in Soldi.

The 150th anniversary of the first Lombardy-Venetia stamps was commemorated 2001 with a stamp reproducing the first stamp (Sc. 2392).



2001 for 150th anniversary of 1st issue (Sc. 2392)

After the Sardinian annexation, stamps of Sardinia were used in Lombardy.