

PALAZZO LEONE DA PEREGO

From the archiepiscopal court constituted in the second half of the XIII century (Leone da Perego was archbishop of Milan from 1241 to 1257) it remains little today, the Palazzo had been subject of intensive restructuration works from year 1898.

Two are the important palaces probably risen in the remains of the Castle dei Cotta, by the will of the Milan's archbishops: the Leone da Perego and the Palazzo di Ottone Visconti. The vast archiepiscopal possessions that were crowned by these two palazzi were preferred not only to spend there the summer periods, but also as a place of refuge in case of need, as Legnano is easily reached from Milan.

The two palazzi, however, by the end of the XIX century where subjects of a necessary as radical transformation to civic use; the first, which most concerns us, named Leone da Perego, turned into a nursery school and home of cultural associations, the other (Palazzo di Otone) in conference room and today Cinema Ratti.

Today Leone da Perego, after accurate restoration works, is turned in the most privileged exposition space of the Legnanese cultural season. The monographic exhibition of William Congdon signed the first step of a fruitful path, of a cultural project centred in the human figure, questioning the rapports with the reality, meeting with life and all its facets. From 2001 to today there followed more than forty expositions dedicated to Italian painters fundamental to Italian history, such as Gianfranco Ferroni, Lucio Fontana, Alfredo Chighine, Aldo Bergolli, Leonardo Cremonini, Aligi Sassu, Carol Rama e Federica Galli, to which were followed by international exhibitions of artists such as William Congdon, Georges Rouault, Kathe Kollwitz, Francisco Goya, Sebastian Matta, Willy Varlin, James Ensor, Ypousteguy e Rodin, just to name few of most meaningful exhibits that started and opened first exhibitions place of the Castle of San Giorgio and gave life the the S.A.Le ("Spazi Arte Legnano"), that involved the activity of private galleries and exhibition spaces.