



## PRESS RELEASE

### **THE RESTORATION OF THE MONUMENT TO THE DOGE FRANCESCO MOROSINI IN THE CHURCH OF SANTO STEFANO IN VENICE HAS BEEN COMPLETED SUPPORTED BY VENETIAN HERITAGE IN COLLABORATION WITH POMELLATO**

The Venetian Heritage Foundation announces the conclusion of the restoration of the Monument to Doge Francesco Morosini, a large rectangular slab positioned in the central nave of the Church of Santo Stefano, which stands in Campo of the same name in the *sestiere* of San Marco in Venice. The monument had been heavily damaged by the exceptional high tide that hit the city during the month of November 2019.

The restoration work was made possible also by the help of Pomellato, which participated in the #supportvenice fundraising campaign launched by Venetian Heritage in the aftermath of the "Acqua Granda", in line with its mission to safeguard and protect the immense artistic legacy of Venice.

Francesco Morosini, whose memory was celebrated last 2019 on the occasion of the Celebrations of the four hundredth anniversary of his birth (1619 - 2019), distinguished himself as Capitan da Mar for his military prowess during the Candian War (1645-1669) and for the conquest of Morea in 1687, earning the appellation of the Peloponnesian. These successes revived in Venetians their pride for the glorious military exploits of yore. In 1688 Morosini was unanimously elected Doge of the Republic of Venice. His funeral monument was designed by architect Antonio Gaspari, a student of Longhena. The important monument is decorated with bronze elements depicting armigerous triumphs on the four corners, joined together by knotted ribbons. An oval band in grey veined marble surrounds another band in Carrara marble in the same guise, on which is engraved an inscription in large bronze letters and the date of death of Morosini. In the center the bronze sepulchral seal is framed by a laurel wreath modeled in relief, within which, under a canopy with a closed crown - from which the ermine curtain descends - two overlapping pillows with tassels are depicted, on which are laid the ducal horn and four Captain's staffs of the Sea, in memory of the four times Morosini served in this role in the service of the Serenissima.

The restoration work was masterfully carried out by the firms Unisve and Fucina Ervas during the months of the Covid pandemic, when all main Italian cultural sites were closed. Venetian Heritage, also thanks to Pomellato's donation, never interrupted its campaign for the preservation and promotion of the Venetian cultural heritage, thus supporting local craftsmen, workers and restorers. The project also benefited from the collaboration with the Laboratory of Restoration and Scientific Analysis of the Museum of the Gallerie dell'Accademia, which made available its expertise and equipment to conduct non-invasive investigations on the monument in order to study the stylistic, technical and material details of the decorative elements, contributing to the interpretation of the conservation history of the monument, unfortunately undocumented.

Once again Venetian Heritage demonstrated how its mission is not solely to promote and perpetuate the immense artistic heritage of Venice, but also to support its centuries-old arts and crafts.

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### **Venetian Heritage**

Venetian Heritage, an international non-profit organization with offices in Venice and New York, supports cultural projects through conservation, exhibitions, publications, conferences, academic study and research. Its aim is to increase awareness of the immense legacy of Venetian art in Italy and in those areas once part of the Republic of Venice.

[www.venetianheritage.eu](http://www.venetianheritage.eu)

### **Pomellato | The first global luxury Italian fashion fine jeweler. Unconventional, colorful. Caring for Women, the New Ethical in Precious.**

Working towards a more eco-conscious future, Pomellato has now achieved 100% responsible gold purchasing. Established in Milan in 1967, Pomellato was the first brand to introduce the prêt-à-porter vision into the world of jewelry. Crafted by the hands of expert goldsmiths, Pomellato stands out for its unique design and colorful gems which through innovative stone cutting and setting techniques have come to define an unmistakable and iconic style. Pomellato is part of Kering, a global Luxury group, managing the development of a series of renowned Houses in Fashion, Leather Goods, Jewelry, and Watches.

### **Pomellato, an environmentally-conscious approach to jewel-creation.**

Pomellato has increased Fairmined gold purchases as well to create a special collection and continues to invest in the traceability of colored stones and diamonds while exploring new materials and recycling solutions. Meanwhile, it collaborates with a Milan-based goldsmith school to safeguard consistency and craftsmanship. Through initiatives and advocacy, Pomellato continues to reinforce the importance of sustainability, an Earth-conscious community, female education and career growth, and a global well-being that promotes a healthier work-life balance.

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