

P A L E R M O A R T F E S T I V A L

(JANUARY , 1977.)

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

SUNDAY 9 JANUARY

Late afternoon arrival in Palermo.
Registration and dinner at the hotel.

MONDAY 10 JANUARY

- 08.30 Breakfast.
- 09.30 Departure from the hotel, by coach.
- 10.00 Arrival at the Royal Palace (Palazzo dei Normanni) for official welcome by the President of the Sicilian Assembly, Onorevole Pancrazio De Pasquale.
This will be followed by a private visit to the former apartments of King Roger II, and the Palatine Chapel, splendidly decorated with Byzantine mosaics from the 12th century.
- 12.30 Departure from the Royal Palace, by coach.
- 13.00 Arrival at the hotel, for lunch.
- 14.30 Departure from the hotel, by coach, for private visit to the Norman churches of San Giovanni degli Eremiti and the Martorana (S. Maria dell'Ammiraglio), two of the most perfect examples of Sicilian-Norman architecture.
- 17.30 Arrive back at the hotel.
- 18.30 Departure from the hotel, by coach.
- 19.00 Arrival at Palazzo Gangi, one of the most beautiful late-Baroque buildings in Palermo, for special reception by Their Excellencies The Prince and The Princess of San Vincenzo.
- 20.30 Departure from Palazzo Gangi, by coach.

21.00 Arrive back at the hotel, for dinner.

TUESDAY 11 JANUARY

07.30 Breakfast for participants staying at the Hotel Jolly.

08.30 Breakfast for participants staying at the Villa Igiea.

09.00 Arrival at the Villa Igiea of participants from the Hotel Jolly. This will be followed by introductory lecture on Norman Art History by Professor Peter Lasko, Director of the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. Professor Lasko will deliver his lecture in the Sala Basile, at the Villa Igiea.

10.00 Lecture ends. Departure from the Villa Igiea, by coach, for visit to Palermo Cathedral - with Royal tombs which include that of Emperor Frederick II - and Monreale.

11.00 Arrival at Monreale, for visit to the famous Benedictine Cloister and the Norman Cathedral, founded by King William II in 1174, which ranks as one of the most important monuments of the Middle Ages. It is particularly well known for its beautiful mosaics.

13.00 Departure from Monreale, by coach.

13.30 Arrive back at the hotel, for lunch.

16.00 Departure from the hotel, by coach.

16.30 Arrival at the Ethnographic Museum in the Favorita Park, just outside Palermo, where participants will be received by the Director, Professor Gaetano Falzone. There will be a special exhibition of panels and other items from 19th

and 20th century Sicilian carts, in the Chinese Pavilion, from the private collection of Professor Salvatore Ventimiglia. The Pavilion was built in 1799 for King Ferdinand III and Queen Marie-Caroline of Bourbon.

- 18.00 Departure from the Ethnographic Museum, by coach.
- 18.30 Arrival at the newly inaugurated Museum of Marionettes in Piazza Marina, for a traditional Sicilian Puppet Show. The show will be introduced by Professor Antonio Pasqualino, the distinguished surgeon who is also President of the Association for the Conservation of Folklore.
- 20.00 Departure from the Museum of Marionettes, by coach.
- 20.15 Arrival at the "Fico d'India" restaurant, in the centre of Palermo, for a typical Sicilian dinner.
- 21.45 Departure from the restaurant, by coach.
- 22.00 Arrive back at the hotel.

WEDNESDAY 12 JANUARY

- 08.30 Breakfast.
- 09.30 Departure from the hotel, by coach.
- 10.00 Arrival at the typical 'Vucciria' market, in the centre of Palermo, where participants will be able to walk past all the stalls, from one end of the market to the other, seeing the infinite variety of goods offered and possibly do some shopping in the local manner. The

market is one of the few remaining ones of its kind in Europe.

- 11.00 Departure from the market, by coach.
- 11.15 Arrival at the late-Gothic Palazzo Abatellis, for private visit to the National Gallery of Sicily. Participants will be received by the Director, Dr. Vincenzo Scuderi. Special emphasis will be given to the world-famous painting of the "Annunziata", by Antonello da Messina, and the 15th century marble bust of Eleonora of Aragon, by Francesco Laurana.
- 12.00 Departure from the National Gallery, by coach, for the afternoon excursion to Cefalú.
- 12.30 Arrival for lunch at the "Zagarella" restaurant, at Santa Flavia. Participants will kindly be invited for coffee at the nearby mediaeval Castle of Sólanto, by The Prince and The Princess of San Vincenzo. The castle, built on a rocky promontory with a commanding view over the adjacent coastline, was at one time used as a summer residence by members of the Bourbon monarchy.
- 14.30 Departure from Sólanto, by coach.
- 15.30 Arrival at Cefalu', for special visit to the Norman Cathedral, founded by King Roger II in 1131. Particular emphasis will be given to the splendid mosaic of Christ Pantocrator, on the vault of the apse, one of the most perfect examples of Byzantine art.
- 17.00 Departure from Cefalu', by coach.
- 18.30 Arrive back at the hotel.
- 20.00 Dinner at the hotel, followed by evening at leisure.

THURSDAY 13 JANUARY

- 09.00 Breakfast.
- 10.00 Departure from the hotel, by coach.
- 10.30 Arrival at the Oratory of San Domenico, for introductory lecture in English, by Professor Giovanni Carandente, from the University of Reggio-Calabria. This will be followed by a detailed visit to this chapel, as well as the nearby Oratory of Santa Cita. Both are remarkable for their stucco-decorations by the 18th century Sicilian artist, Giacomo Serpotta.
- 12.30 Departure from the Oratory of Santa Cita, by coach.
- 13.00 Arrival at the hotel, for lunch.
- 15.30 Departure from the hotel, by coach.
- 16.00 Arrival at the National Archaeological Museum - one of the most important in Europe - where participants will be received by the Director, Professor Vincenzo Tusa. A private visit has been arranged to the Department of Greek Ceramics, on the second floor, and Metopes from Selinunte, on the ground floor.
- 17.45 Departure from the Archaeological Museum, by coach.
- 18.00 Arrival at the Palazzo Tuminelli in Piazza Sett'Angeli, for a reception given by Baron Francesco Agnello, as President of the Associazione Siciliana Amici della Musica. This will be followed by a private concert of chamber music specially organised by the Association for the participants of the festival.

20.30 Departure from Palazzo Tuminelli, by coach.

21.00 Arrive back at the hotel, for dinner.

FRIDAY 14 JANUARY

08.00 Breakfast.

09.00 Departure from the hotel, by coach, for whole day excursion into the mountains of Central Sicily, to Piazza Armerina.

12.00 Arrival at the ruins of the Roman Villa, near Piazza Armerina, for a detailed examination of the stupendous mosaics. The villa is considered by some historians to have been built for the Roman Emperor, Maximian, at the beginning of the 4th century.

13.30 Departure from the Roman Villa, by coach.

14.00 Arrival at the Hotel Jolly in Piazza Armerina, for lunch.

15.30 Departure from Piazza Armerina, by coach.

18.30 Arrive back at the hotel in Palermo.

20.00 Dinner at the hotel, followed by evening at leisure.

SATURDAY 15 JANUARY

08.00 Breakfast.

09.00 Departure from the hotel, by coach, for whole day excursion through the wine-growing hills of Western Sicily, to the ruins of the Greek Colony of Selinunte, on the island's southern coast. The colony flourished in the 5th century B.C.

- 11.00 Arrival at Selinunte, for a detailed visit to the archaeological site, under the guidance of Professor Vincenzo Tusa.
- 13.30 Departure from the archaeological site, by coach.
- 13.45 Arrival at Marinella di Selinunte, for lunch at the 'Miramare' restaurant, overlooking the sea, which is famous for its sea food.
- 15.30 Departure from Selinunte, by coach.
- 18.00 Arrive back at the hotel in Palermo.
- 19.00 Dinner at the hotel.
- 20.30 Departure from the hotel, by coach.
- 21.00 Arrival at the Politeama Theatre, for performance by leading Italian artists of Verdi's opera " Un Ballo in Maschera ".
- 24.00 Performance ends. Return to the hotel, by coach.

SUNDAY 16 JANUARY

Departure from Palermo in the morning.

N.B. It is absolutely essential that participants should turn-up on time for all departures, since it will not be possible to delay the coaches for late arrivals.

Participants who are left behind will have to try to rejoin the others independently.