

***SPLENDOR OF FLORENCE EVENTS  
TO BE HELD AT PACE UNIVERSITY  
New York City  
September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004***

*Admission is free to all festival events at Pace University, although tickets are required to guarantee admission. Order in advance at [www.pace.edu/culture](http://www.pace.edu/culture) or within 7 days of the event by calling (212) 346-1715, 12-4pm. Monday-Friday only. A limited number of tickets will also be available at the door.*

**LECTURE SERIES**

***The Contributions of Florence to World Culture: The Arts and Beyond***

Since the “Age of the Medici,” Florence has functioned as an international capital. Similarly, New York City has reigned as an international capital since the “Age of the Skyscraper.” New York has much to learn from the history and leadership of Florence as a center of banking and commerce, science, politics, literature, art, architecture, philanthropy and preservation.

Thursday, September 30, 11am

**Global Trade: *Made in Florence***

Multi-purpose Room, Pace University, One Pace Plaza

Luca Mantellassi, President, Florence Chamber of Commerce

During the Renaissance, the Medici family and Florence were emblematic of international banking. Today, Wall Street is the fulcrum of finance and commerce. This presentation will highlight the financial contributions of Florentine bankers - the gold florin, a banking empire with more than 200 European branches, the invention of credit banking and double-entry bookkeeping.

Thursday, September 30, 2pm

**Four Hundred Years of the Uffizi**

Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts, Pace University, 3 Spruce Street

Annamaria Petrioli Tofani, Director, Uffizi Gallery

During the nearly three centuries that the Medici dynasty ruled Florence, they commissioned and collected great amount of art works and built magnificent residences and edifices. In 1737 Anna Maria Lodovica, the last of the Medici, bequeathed the entire collection of the Medici family to the people of Florence, much of which now resides in the Uffizi Galleries.

Friday, October 1, 11am

**Cultural Conservation: Restoring and Preserving Florentine Artworks**

Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts at Pace University, 3 Spruce Street

Simonetta Brandolini, President, Friends of Florence

So that future generations may enjoy and learn from the cultural and artistic legacy of the past, Florentines have become experts in the fields of art preservation, conservation and restoration. This lecture's focus is a review of the restoration projects completed by the Friends of Florence foundation during the last five years, including the statues of the Loggia dei Lanzi in the Piazza della Signoria, paintings in the Accademia Gallery, and Michelangelo's *David*.

Tuesday, October 5, 11am

**Florence and the Origins of Western Political Thought and Practice**

Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts, Pace University, 3 Spruce Street

Dr. Beverly Kahn, Associate Provost, Pace University

Besides having a rich cultural history, Florence has also had a fascinating political history - Guelphs versus Ghibellines, the reign of Girolamo Savonarola, royal marriages of international import, and a family dynasty that lasted nearly three-hundred-years. One participant and serious observer of practical politics was Niccolo Machiavelli, who is hailed as the father of modern political science.

Tuesday, October 5, 2pm

**Dante's *Divine Comedy***

Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts, Pace University, 3 Spruce Street

Dr. Lawrence Hundersmarck, Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Pace University

Florence was home to several of the most prodigious writers of the Renaissance. Among them are the Humanist poet Petrarch, whose verse left an indelible imprint on the evolution of literature, the historical writer Francesco Guicciardini, and the tales of Giovanni Boccaccio's *Decameron*. Above all else, there is Dante Aligheri's *The Divine Comedy*. This lecture will delve into the philosophical and religious assumptions that underlie this great novel.

**Florentine Architecture**

Tuesday, October 5, 4pm

Michael Schimmel Center for the Arts, Pace University, 3 Spruce Street

Dr. Janetta Rebold Benton, Professor of Art History, Pace University

Florence's opulent beauty is defined as much by its architecture as by its painting and sculpture. Major examples of the city's magnificence include the Baptistery, "Giotto's Tower," the *Duomo*, the *Palazzo Vecchio*, and the *Palazzo Medici*. This lecture, fully illustrated with slides, examines the history, structure, and decoration of these religious and secular monuments.