

## VareseNews

### The craftsmen of Varese make their mark in an exhibition

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Eighty works by craftsmen from Varese Province, on display. Varese's **"Artistic Craft Exhibition" is back for its ninth year, on Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 October, in Ville Ponti**, with unique and original works on display. It is an important event for the town of Varese, which, every year, attracts thousands of visitors, providing the opportunity to discover what is produced in the area. Glass, ceramics, dressmaking, iron, wood, smoking pipes and photography, but there are also decorations, textiles, leather goods, jewellery and restoration to discover, not only the techniques, but also the creativity.

"These works are a demonstration of the quality that, over time, has gone up and up," **explained Bruno Amoroso, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce in Varese**. "It is an important occasion to remind people that Italian quality craftsmanship is acknowledged throughout the world, and to give support to a sector that, like all others, is suffering the crisis."

The exhibition this year is **dedicated to the 150th anniversary of the unification of Italy** and, as Amoroso mentioned, "It is even more significant, when we remember President Giorgio Napolitano's visit to the city and to the Chamber of Commerce," with works of art on particular themes. But that's not all.

This year, the Artistic Craft Exhibition is hosting the **"ArtArt Collection", a truly permanent collection** of selected works by craftsmen, that form an exhibition that will represent the artistic craftwork of Varese throughout the world. A special tribute is going to be made to Gianni Robustelli, the ceramic artist from Cunardo, who died last year, "who had always contributed to make this exhibition happen," as Amoroso remembers.

There is a large space also for school children and for the students of the **Polytechnic of Milan, who will be taking part in the Varese exhibition with "Design and Auto-Production"**, with works in which "creativity and innovation give life to new forms and modes of production," as Riccardo Visentin of *Confartigianato Imprese* explained. The tribute, this year, is to **Roberto Baggio, an inhabitant of Varese with a passion for gnomics and for astronomy**, who is bringing a variety of sundials and the studies of projects he has realised in the Province, to the exhibition. For the children, there is the **"Giro d'Italia"**, a workshop that allows them to make boards, figures and dice for a game of snakes and ladders played among some of the most significant Italian monuments.

The Varese Artistic Craft Exhibition **leaves room for local craftsmen to make their mark**, and acknowledges the Province's excellence in a variety of sectors.

The Varese Artistic Craft Exhibition has free entry, and is open from 10 am to 10 pm, on Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 October.

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