

Ca' Foscari's illustrious guests

Displayed objects – case 1



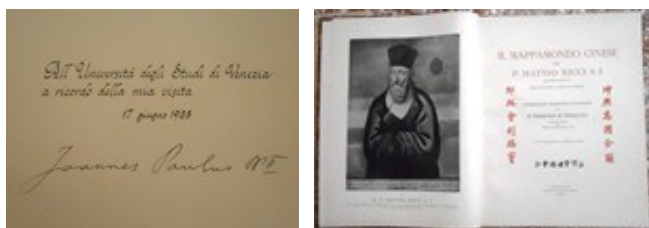
1. Pope John Paul II visiting Ca' Foscari on 17, June 1985 (photo by Felici): Presenting the Rector Giovanni Castellani with a facsimile edition of Matteo Ricci's celebrated Chinese atlas *Il mappamondo cinese*,

- a) The Pope is met by the technical administrative staff and faculty. The Rector Giovanni Castellani gives a bronze statuette by the Venetian sculptor Giovanni Arciò to the Pontiff who donates a copy of Matteo Ricci's *Chinese Atlas*, signed by himself, to the University.

- b) Meeting the university students in the courtyard of Ca' Foscari

During his speech before the students gathered in the courtyard, the Pope mentions how he will hold in his heart this meeting in this inspiring setting, describing Venice as a city whose history and monuments eloquently express the attainments of human culture.

Click [here](#) to find the whole speech in Italian.



2. Matteo Ricci, *Il mappamondo cinese* del p. Matteo Ricci S.I., Pechino, 1602 (The Chinese World Map by Father Matteo Ricci S.I., Beijing, 1602), Vatican City State 1938, and reproduction of the dedication signed by the Pope

The Jesuit priest Matteo Ricci was born in Macerata on 6 October 1552 at. Mathematician, cartographer and sinologist, he became a celebrated missionary in China where he lived from 1582 until his death, acquiring a deep knowledge of the language and of the traditional Chinese culture. His cartographic work united the contemporary knowledge of Chinese and western geography. He died on 11 May 1610 in Beijing. On 19 April 1984 Pope John Paul II declared him a Servant of God.

Displayed objects – case 2



3. Victor Emmanuel III King of Italy visiting Ca' Foscari during the 26th Congress for Scientific Progress held on 12-18 September 1937

Victor Emmanuel III, the Savoy King of Italy (1869 – 1947), visits Ca' Foscari on the occasion of the 26th Congress of the Italian Society for the Progress of Science held in Venice from 12 to 18 September 1937 .

From the article of the *Bollettino dell'Associazione Antichi Studenti*, (Issue No. 119, Jul-Aug 1937, pp. 3-8):

“The Italian Society for the Progress of Science, or SIPS, has the aim of promoting the progress, the coordination and the spread of the pure and the technical sciences, in addition to stabilizing the rapport between its scholars and developing the national scientific interests.”

From the article of the *Gazzettino di Venezia* published on 10 September 1937 :

[...] The Royal School of Commerce hosts [...] a reception in the chambers of Ca' Foscari on Wednesday, 13 September at nine thirty p.m. [...] “As known, a huge part of the Reunion's tasks will take place in the seat of Ca' Foscari, thanks to the Royal School of Commerce”.



4. Dalai Lama Tenzin Gyatzo holding a lecture at Ca' Dolfin, 24 May 1990

On the morning of 24 May 1990 the Dalai Lama holds a lecture on the Buddhist philosophical doctrines of interdependence in the Silvio Trentin auditorium. Ca' Foscari students interpret the lecture held in English and Tibetan faultlessly.



5. Report on the Dalai Lama's visit to Ca' Foscari published in Cafoscarinotizie, the university newsletter (Issue No. 5, June 1990)

The report describes the meeting between the Dalai Lama and the University's Indologists that took place in the afternoon of 23 May. The Dalai Lama, who won the Nobel Peace Prize on 10 December 1989 for his attempts to find a peaceful solution for the liberation of Tibet, encourages Ca' Foscari to uphold and promote the furtherance of the Tibetan culture.



6. François Mitterrand, President of the Republic of France receiving an Honorary Degree in Philosophy at Ca' Dolfin, on 27 April 1992

During a council meeting on 18 April 1991, the committee of the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Philosophical Studies decided to award an *Honorary Degree* to François Mitterrand. The Academic Senate agrees and approves the deliberation during its meeting on 24 April 1991 with the following comment:

“The proposal of an Honorary Degree in Philosophy for François Mitterrand, President of the Republic of France, is approved in recognition of his political activity, presented during his presidential campaign in 1981, in favour of the promotion and development of the teaching of philosophical studies [...] in French schools and society.”



7. Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, President of the Italian Republic, at the Santa Margherita Auditorium for the opening ceremony for the Academic Year 1998/1999, 16 November 1998

Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the Italian Minister of the Treasury, Budget and Economic Programming and the Chairman of the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund visiting Ca' Foscari in November 1998. He played a key role in making Italy one of the founding members of the Economic and Monetary Union through compliance with the Maastricht criteria.



8. Prince Alberto II of Monaco at Ca' Foscari on 24 April 2015:

- *Arriving at the University's water gate with the Rector Michele Bugliesi*
- *Glaciers of the Alps. A world heritage in peril lecture, in the Aula Baratto*

Prince Alberto II of Monaco has a long-standing commitment to the protection of and studies into the marine environment, and has been chairman of CIESM (The Mediterranean Science Commission) since 2001. In 2006 he started the Prince Alberto II of Monaco Foundation to research and promote sustainable development and to improve our management of natural and environmental resources. The foundation's three main goals to limit the effects of the climate change and to promote energetic efficiency; to protect biodiversity; and to help manage water resources in order to avoid desertification.