



# ART AND ILLUSIONS

## MASTERPIECES OF TROMPE L'ŒIL FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE PRESENT DAY

curated by Annamaria Giusti

Over 150 works of painting, sculpture and applied art from museums and private collections both in Italy and abroad, tell the intriguing and spectacular story of *trompe l'œil*.

From Classical Roman frescoes to masterpieces of European art, from the 15th century to the present day, the exhibition explores the popular theme and of illusion and of the contest between make-believe and reality as a source of enjoyment not only in painting, but also in other media such as sculpture, intarsia work, scagliola, semi-precious stonework and porcelain.

Masterpieces by Mantegna, Titian and Veronese invite the visitor to explore the ambiguous relationship between painted space and real space, while 17th century and later still lifes simulate evocative slices of life depicting furnishings, objects and interiors where a seemingly playful intent often masks an unspoken reflection on the vanity of appearances. This ancient theme takes on new irony in the work of the late 19th century masters of American *trompe l'œil* such as Peto, Harnett and Haberle, whose work will be on display in Europe for the first time.

The exhibition pays tribute to the three-dimensional with works ranging from educational-scientific waxworks, to objects of daily use and furnishings designed to deceive either in terms of the material they are made of or in terms of their appearance; and from the unsettling imitative qualities of Baroque polychrome sculpture to the hyperrealist "clones" of contemporary artists. This is an exhibition full of surprises to discover and to secrets uncover, but only in part, so that you can continue enjoying the pleasure of being deceived!

Exceptionally, in addition to exhibits that deceive the senses of touch and smell throughout the exhibition, there is also a special interactive room where visitors can experiment "hands-on" with the neuro-science that lies behind the art of deception and illusion.



### TICKET INFORMATION

**FULL PRICE** € 10.00

**CHECK YOUR DISCOUNT BEFORE PAYING!**

#### REDUCTION

Senior citizens over 65, organised groups of at least 15 people, **special concessions\***, university students, disabled persons, Florence residents, ticket holders Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana € 8.50

#### \*special concessions

Members of: ACI, FAI, TCI, holders of ATAF tickets or season tickets, national or international rail ticket, Cartaviaggio, FS employees

One adult with at least one child under 18, members of: ARCI, COOP, holders of tickets to the Museo Horne, Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino theatre or to any theatre in the Associazione Firenze dei Teatri € 8.00

Employees of companies in the Associazione Partners Palazzo Strozzi group, Banca CR Firenze and Gruppo Intesa Sanpaolo customers, teachers holding Edumusei Card € 7.50

Children aged 7 to 18, organised groups of university students and of primary and secondary school students, holders of the MaggioCard. Individual university students (on Tuesdays only) € 4.00

#### ADMISSION FREE

Children up to the age of 6, disabled persons' companions, group guides, teachers (if accompanying their class), journalists with professional ID, Florence tour guides

#### SPECIAL FAMILY TICKET

€ 20.00 (2 adults + 2 children aged 6 to 18). This ticket gives unlimited admission to the exhibition

#### BIGLIETTO PALAZZO

"Palazzo Strozzi" Ticket € 20.00 One ticket gives admission to all the exhibitions at Palazzo Strozzi (valid one year)

#### CCCS CENTRO DI CULTURA CONTEMPORANEA STROZZINA

The € 10.00 ticket includes admission to the *Manipulating Reality* exhibition (25/09/09 - 17/01/10)



#### OPENING HOURS

Every day 9.00 a.m.-8.00 p.m.  
Thursday 9.00 a.m.-11.00 p.m.  
24 and 31 December  
9.00 a.m.-8.00 p.m.  
Visitors admitted until one  
hour before closing time

#### RESERVATIONS AND ADVANCE SALE OF TICKETS

**Adult groups and individual visitors**  
Reservations are required for groups  
No booking fees apply

#### Schools

Reservations are required  
for school groups  
No booking fees apply

#### Online Booking

[www.palazzostrozzi.org](http://www.palazzostrozzi.org)  
run by *Vivaticket* by *Charta*

#### Hotel Special Offer

Refund of the price of admission to  
the exhibition for guests staying at  
least one night in one of the hotels,  
for direct booking at the hotel or on  
the above hotels' websites: Classic  
Hotel, Hotel Cavour, Hilton Florence  
Metropole, Grand Hotel Baglioni,  
Hotel degli Orafi, Hotel Franchi, Hotel

River, Hotel Roma, J.K. Place Firenze,  
UNA Hotel Vittoria, UNA Poggio dei  
Medici, Villa Le Maschere, Villa Le  
Rondini

#### ACTIVITIES AT THE EXHIBITION

**Educational visits for groups  
of adults** € 92.00  
Minimum 15 maximum 25 people

**Educational visits for individual  
visitors** € 8.00  
Saturday 5.30 p.m. and 7.00 p.m.  
Sunday 10.30 a.m. and 12.00 p.m.

#### Florentine Itineraries

Personalised itineraries can be  
arranged on request, in conjunction  
with the exhibition.  
These are some of the itineraries  
that have links with the theme of  
deception and illusion.  
The itineraries, the longest of which  
lasts three hours at most,  
cost € 172.00 (excluding admission  
to museums etc. where applicable)  
The guided tours are conducted by  
authorised tour guides



#### Stroller tour

A special tour of the *Art and Illusions*  
exhibition for mums with babies  
(up to age 3)

**Monday 19 October, 2 November,  
1 December 2009, 4 January 2010,  
10.00 a.m.**

#### Reservations required for all of the above events and services

**The cost does not include the price of  
admission to the exhibition**

#### FOR SCHOOLS

#### Deceiving the Eye – Is it real or does it just look real?

##### Visit to the Exhibition

For classes primary school and  
secondary school, a tour of the  
exhibition with accompanying  
dialogue. Realism or deception?  
*Still life or trompe l'œil?*  
From antiquity to the present day,  
students can hone their observation  
skills by examining some of the  
works on display and discover the  
tricks and tools artists have been  
using down the centuries  
to deceive the eye.

Tours are customised to cater for  
each individual school year.  
Tours, for groups of no more than

25 students, cost € 50.00;  
this price does not include  
the cost of individual admission  
(€ 4.00 per student)

#### Special Offer: Exhibition + Santa Croce Monument Complex

A group ticket costing € 5.00 per  
student provides admission to the  
exhibition in Palazzo Strozzi and to  
the areas of the Basilica and Museo  
dell'Opera di Santa Croce of interest  
in connection with the theme of  
deception and artistic illusionism.  
Guided tour of exhibition and  
complex: € 112.00

#### Deception and the Magic of Illusion Visit and Workshop

A visit to the exhibition combined  
with a workshop, for primary  
school classes.

During the visit we will be  
discovering together the tools  
and techniques for deceiving the  
eye, such as volume, light, shade,  
colour... How does the artist manage  
to deceive us?

At the workshop we will be  
building our own special "Folder  
of Deception" (to take home as a  
keepsake) where we will be drawing  
special small figures in a cabinet



of curiosities, and making our mark on the exhibition. The visit and workshop, for groups of no more than 25 students, cost € 72.00; this price does not include the cost of individual admission (€ 4.00 per student)

#### ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

##### Weekend workshops for children aged 3 to 12 and accompanying adults Artists or Magicians? Visit and Workshop

When you see things that are painted yet look so lifelike you could almost touch them, you can't help wondering whether artists are really magicians. Touring the exhibition, you'll be set games and riddles that'll allow you to discover that artists aren't magicians at all; they simply know a few tricks that they use to create amazing illusions. The workshop offers everyone the chance to step into the artist's shoes and create their very own still life

The workshop is held:  
- **Saturdays:** in English **every Saturday from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m.;**  
- **Sundays:** in Italian **every Sunday from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. when Fiorentina plays at home** (25/10; 01/11; 22/11; 06/12, 20/12 2009; 10/01, 17/01 2010).

The workshop is free.

Admission to the exhibition: € 4.00 per child (free for children aged six and under).

Admission to the exhibition: € 8.00 for each accompanying adult

##### Family Sundays

Workshops, games, guided tours of the exhibition

**Sunday 8 November** and **13 December 2009, 3.00 p.m.**

**Reservations required for all of the above events and services. The cost does not include the price of admission to the exhibition**



##### The Magician's Hatbox

No aspiring magician bent on deceiving the eye can afford to be without it! The box contains experiments to sharpen your eyesight, games involving your sense of smell, practical and creative activities and special in-depth exploration of the works on display, specially designed for kids of all ages (and that includes the grown-up kids among you!) who really want to turn the exhibition into a fun experience. You can book the Magician's Hatbox by calling +39 055 2645155; or ask for it directly at the ticket office

#### CATALOGUE

**Mandragora**  
€ 28.00

Catalogue available with special discount at the exhibition 10% discount for: Banca CR Firenze and Gruppo Intesa Sanpaolo customers; employees of companies in the Associazione Partners Palazzo Strozzi group, holders of ATAF tickets or season tickets; national or international rail ticket, Cartaviaggio, FS employees, ACI and TCI members; Florence tour guides

#### FACILITIES AT THE EXHIBITION

Bookshop; *Sweet Illusions* Café; *Agora*z Mandragora's new art store at Palazzo Strozzi  
Fully accessible to the disabled

#### AUDIO GUIDES

€ 5.00  
Also available for children (7-12 age) and small groups - for all options, please see our website [www.palazzostrozzi.org](http://www.palazzostrozzi.org)

#### PUBLICATIONS

##### Passport to art & illusions

If you visit *Art and Illusions. Masterpieces of trompe l'oeil from antiquity to the present day*, take part in an event tied in with the exhibition or visit one of the museums listed in the Passport, you can have your passport stamped, thus turning it into a unique personal souvenir of Florence and its "illusions". If you show your Passport with at least five stamps on it at the ticket office, you'll be given one free ticket to the exhibition

##### Amazing Illusions. The wonders of trompe l'oeil

Booklet for children: Text by James M. Bradburne, Richard Gregory and Priscilla Heard

##### Déjà vu all over again.

**The riddle of Otis Kaye's masterpiece**  
A conversation about Otis Kaye and his art with James M. Bradburne, Ron and Barbara Cordover, Mark Mitchell, Lorenzo Bini Smaghi and Lawrence Weschler

## BEYOND THE EXHIBITION COLLATERAL EVENTS

### Cinema & Illusion

Odeon Cinehall Movie Theatre  
Via degli Anselmi, 1  
In conjunction with the Fondazione  
Palazzo Strozzi and the Mediateca  
Regionale Toscana  
From 7 to 20 January 2010,  
at 3.00 p.m. Admission free

**I** Thursday 7 January  
*Good Morning Babylon*

**I** Friday 8 January  
*Rashômon*

**I** Monday 11 January  
*The Orchid Thief*

**I** Wednesday 13 January  
*La Nuit Américaine*

**I** Friday 15 January  
*The Player*

**I** Monday 18 January  
*Strategia del Ragno*

**I** Wednesday 20 January  
*Sunset Boulevard*

### Candida Höfer in Florence

Palazzo Medici Riccardi  
An exhibition of 20 monumental  
photographs by German  
photographer Candida Höfer  
illustrating some of Florence's  
most evocative interiors  
11/12/2009-24/01/2010  
Every day 9.00 a.m.-7.00 p.m.,  
closed Wednesday,  
admission free

### Special: On the Art and Illusions Trail

*Art and Illusions* ticket holders  
qualify for a discount on the price of  
admission to:  
- Museo Horne  
- *The Library on Display* exhibition at  
the Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana  
- Free guided tour. Reservations  
required; apply to Basilica di  
San Lorenzo (+39 055 210866)

### Firenze dei Teatri

*Art and Illusions* ticket holders  
qualify for a discount on the price  
of admission to a performance at  
theatres in the Associazione Firenze  
dei Teatri group:  
[www.firenzedeiteatri.it](http://www.firenzedeiteatri.it)

### Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino

*Art and Illusions* ticket holders qualify  
for a 30% discount on admission  
to performances at the Maggio  
Musicale Fiorentino theatre:  
[www.maggiofiorentino.it](http://www.maggiofiorentino.it)

### Teatro del Sale

- Deceiving the Taste Buds, and an  
Evening With Illusionist Mago Senzo.  
Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11  
November, 7.30 p.m. Reservations  
required: T +39 055 2001492.

### The British Institute in Florence

- Lecture: James Bradburne,  
*The pleasures of seduction*  
Wednesday 18 November, 6.00 p.m.

### Museo di Casa Martelli, Via Zannetti, 8

- Book launch: *Déjà vu all over again.*  
*The riddle of Otis Kaye's masterpiece*  
Friday 23 October, 5.00 p.m.  
- *Discovering the Tricks and*  
*Techniques of Trompe l'œil,*  
with painters Gianni Miglietta  
and Stella Battaglia  
Friday 6 November, 5.00 p.m.  
- Presentation of the  
*Art and Illusions* exhibition  
with Annamaria Giusti  
Friday 13 November, 5.00 p.m.



Sponsor



Main Sponsor



SOTTO L'ALTO PATRONATO  
DEL PRESIDENTE  
DELLA REPUBBLICA  
ITALIANA

CON IL PATROCINIO DI  
MINISTERO PER I BENI  
E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI  
MINISTERO DEGLI  
AFFARI ESTERI  
CONSOLATO GENERALE  
DEGLI STATI D'AMERICA  
A FIRENZE

PROMOSSA E ORGANIZZATA DA  
FONDAZIONE PALAZZO STROZZI  
MINISTERO PER I BENI  
E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI  
SORINTENDENZA PSAE E PER  
IL POLO MUSEALE DELLA  
CITTÀ DI FIRENZE  
OPIFICIO DELLE PIETRE  
DURE DI FIRENZE

CON IL SOSTEGNO DI  
PROVINCIA DI FIRENZE  
COMUNE DI FIRENZE  
CAMERA DI COMMERCIO  
DI FIRENZE  
ASSOCIAZIONE PARTNERS  
PALAZZO STROZZI

INFO  
T +39 055 2645155

**PRENOTAZIONI  
RESERVATIONS**  
SIGMA CSC  
DAL LUNEDÌ AL VENERDÌ  
FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
9.00-13.00/14.00-18.00  
T +39 055 2469600  
F +39 055 244145  
[prenotazioni@cscsigma.it](mailto:prenotazioni@cscsigma.it)

[www.palazzostrozzi.org](http://www.palazzostrozzi.org)



SOTTO L'ALTO PATRONATO  
DEL PRESIDENTE  
DELLA REPUBBLICA  
ITALIANA

CON IL PATROCINIO DI  
MINISTERO PER I BENI  
E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI  
MINISTERO DEGLI  
AFFARI ESTERI  
CONSOLATO GENERALE  
DEGLI STATI UNITI D'AMERICA  
A FIRENZE

PROMOSSA E ORGANIZZATA DA  
FONDAZIONE PALAZZO STROZZI  
MINISTERO PER I BENI  
E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI  
SORINTENDENZA PSAE E PER  
IL POLO MUSEALE DELLA  
CITTÀ DI FIRENZE  
OPIFICIO DELLE PIETRE  
DURE DI FIRENZE

CON IL SOSTEGNO DI  
PROVINCIA DI FIRENZE  
COMUNE DI FIRENZE  
CAMERA DI COMMERCIO  
DI FIRENZE  
ASSOCIAZIONE PARTNERS  
PALAZZO STROZZI

Sponsor



Main Sponsor



PALAZZO  
STROZZI



# INGANNI AD ARTE

MERAVIGLIE  
DEL TROMPE-L'ŒIL  
DALL'ANTICHITÀ  
AL CONTEMPORANEO

# ART AND ILLUSIONS

MASTERPIECES  
OF TROMPE L'ŒIL  
FROM ANTIQUITY  
TO THE PRESENT DAY

Firenze  
Palazzo Strozzi

16 ottobre | October 2009  
24 gennaio | January 2010

INFO  
T +39 055 2645155

PRENOTAZIONI  
RESERVATIONS  
SIGMA CSC  
DAL LUNEDÌ AL VENERDÌ  
FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
9.00-13.00/14.00-18.00  
T +39 055 2469600  
F +39 055 244145  
prenotazioni@cscsigma.it

[www.palazzostrozzi.org](http://www.palazzostrozzi.org)