

The “Leonardo and Madonna Litta” exhibition at the Poldi Pezzoli Museum



For the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci, the exhibition “Leonardo and Madonna Litta” (November 7, 2019 - February 10, 2020) at the Poldi Pezzoli museum in Milan brings back to the city after almost 30 years and Italian masterpiece preserved at the St Petersburg Hermitage Museum. The exhibition is organised with the support of Bracco Foundation as Main Partner, flanked by the Lombardy Region and the Municipality of Milan.

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La Madonna Litta is closely linked to the city: painted there in about 1490, it had remarkable fortune: in the 19th century it was the most famous worker one of the most important Milanese art collections, that of the Litta Dukes; the Hermitage purchased it in

1865.

Together with the Madonna Litta a highly selected group of about 20 paintings and drawings was presented to the public, executed by Leonardo and his closest pupils in the last two decades of the 15th century when the maestro lived in Milan at the court of Ludovico il Moro.

Bracco Foundation has always been involved in promoting relations between science and art and has carried out a series of diagnostic analyses on some of the works in the exhibition, coordinated by the CNR Institute of Bio images and Molecular Physiology in cooperation with iUniversità di Milano and Università di Milano-Bicocca. The analyses showed the different ways of creating the preparatory drawings and the paintings by the artists working with Leonardo.

The exhibition was included among the national celebrations of the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci promoted by MIBAC, and among those promoted by the Milan and Lombardy territorial committee.