



## Gallerie d'Italia – Piazza San Carlo

**AMD L CIRCLE project for Gallerie d'Italia is designed to celebrate the charm of hypogeal buildings and their ability to catalyse introspection and deep thinking , the ideal conditions for an exhibition space.**

“Photography is the most contemporary and effective medium to analyse reality and current events. It allows individuals to build an active memory that facilitates the understanding of where the future may take us. An environment dedicated to photography is not only a place where one can admire the work of great photography masters; it is also a forum to discuss contemporary society.”

(Michele De Lucchi, January 2020)

*Turin, 14th January 2020* – Intesa Sanpaolo has presented the new architectural project by AMDL CIRCLE and Michele De Lucchi for the new Gallerie d'Italia exhibition space, situated in Turinetti Palace, in San Carlo square, Turin, Italy. The museum of Gallerie d'Italia is part of Progetto Cultura (cultural project) of the banking group Intesa Sanpaolo. The new location Palazzo Turinetti is in addition to the other galleries of Milan, Naples and Vicenza.

The architectural project revalues all of the existing banking facilities linked to banking – conference halls, archive rooms, bank vaults – into spaces designed for exhibitions and cultural activities.

Within a rich cultural landscape that includes cultural ‘peaks’ such as Mole Antonelliana skyscraper, AMDL CIRCLE has designed a hypogeal cultural space.

Today’s society is unaccustomed to consider underground spaces as ancillary to the ones above: cellars, metro line, parking lots. The monumental role that underground structures have played in history gets often forgotten. AMDL CIRCLE project for Gallerie d'Italia is designed to celebrate the charm of hypogeal buildings and their ability to catalyse introspection and deep thinking , the ideal conditions for an exhibition space.

The relation between Art and the underground, traditionally a source of archaeological finds, is here overturned: the museum space will be dedicated primarily to photography and video art, the most contemporary tools to understand today’s society.

The museum entrance will be located in the courtyard of the existing bank headquarters. The visitors will access the museum through an extra-large staircase, carved into the current courtyard. The staircase will let natural light filter to the reception and entrance hall, which is also lit up by a skylight. The vaulted gallery under Piazza San Carlo arches will also be designated to exhibitions.

In addition to the gallery space, there will be an area dedicated to learning and to restoration work, combining two additional aspects of man and art relationship. From the Courtyard, visitors will access to the Innovation Centre, a space dedicated to research on innovation.

The exhibition path has been conceived to go through the simplicity of hypogeal spaces to then reach the main floor of Turinetti Palace, facing directly on San Carlo square: here the artwork will be position on richly adorned walls covered with garnish, stucco elements and mirrors.

AMDL CIRCLE's project includes the enlargement of the historical cafe that is accessed from San Carlo square. The café will also have a second access for the visitors to the gallery from Palazzo Turinetti's courtyard.

The hypogeal spaces of Gallerie d'Italia – Piazza San Carlo, photography and video-art will document and preserves images, events and narratives and will be the witnesses of the evolution of today's society.

### **About AMDL CIRCLE**

AMDL CIRCLE is an architecture and design studio who chose the CIRCLE as a symbol to celebrate the design heritage of Michele De Lucchi and to involve a new generation of talents. Michele De Lucchi is part of AMDL CIRCLE. AMDL CIRCLE, like number 0, cannot be divided.

### **CREDITS**

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## Exteriors



Entrances to the hypogeal galleries of Gallerie d'Italia – Piazza San Carlo. © Filippo Bolognese images.

## Exteriors



The extra large staircase as seen from the gallerie's entrance hall. © Filippo Bolognese images.

## Interiors



Hypogeal Exhibition Space. © AMDL CIRCLE.

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Hypogeal Exhibition Space. © AMDL CIRCLE.

## Interiors



The vaulted gallery under Piazza San Carlo's arches will be converted into an exhibition space. © AMDL CIRCLE.