



MUSEO
ITALO AMERICANO

**NEWS
LETTER**

APRIL • JUNE 2024

Earth AND *Soul*

Paintings by
Elena Civoli Brittain
Sculptures by
Tricia Grame

Opens April 23, 2024

Preserving Our Italian Heritage & Culture

MUSEO ITALO AMERICANO
2 Marina Blvd.
Fort Mason Center, Building C
San Francisco, CA 94123

MUSEO FUTURE HOME
940 Battery St.
San Francisco, CA 94111
By appointment: 11AM - 2PM Wed. - Fri.

HOURS: Tue. - Sat. 12 - 4 | Sun. 10 - 2
info@sfmuseo.org | 415.673.2200
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 For more info, please contact **Sandra Bagnatori** at sandrabagnatori@gmail.com
Let's make a difference together!

The Museo Italo Americano mourns the passing of one its most ardent supporters and board members, **Sheila Wishek**.

Sheila was drawn to the Museo because she was extremely proud of her Italian heritage. She quietly and generously supported the Museo for decades. After the Estate of Jerome L. Cocuzza donated the building at 940 Battery Street, the Board of Directors decided to pursue a plan to make a portion of the building the Museo's permanent home. Sheila generously donated the seed money to start the project. Recently, Sheila added to her original contribution in order to help complete the project.

Regrettably, she will not be able to see how her contributions made it possible for the dream to be realized. However, we are pleased to report that a section of the art exhibit level will be dedicated to her. Sheila also served on the Art Committee of the Museo and was instrumental in increasing the Museo's permanent art collection with personal purchases of several pieces including two Bufanos.

Sheila was born in Lodi, California where she grew up surrounded by her Italian relatives who were a very important part of her life. She attended local elementary and high schools. Her education continued at Dominican College in San Rafael and the University of California Berkeley. During the sixties, Sheila traveled and also worked at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid, Spain. Ultimately she decided to make San Francisco her permanent home. Sheila enjoyed all the city had to offer including the San Francisco Opera and the San Francisco Art Museums which she donated to as well. Sheila was always game for new adventures. She had a quiet, strong calm about her.

Sheila is sorely missed by her many friends at the Museo.

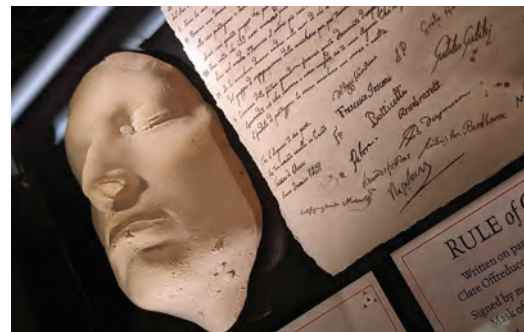
Rest In Peace Sheila.



Larry Brucia Exhibit



↑ Artist Lorenzo (Larry Brucia) at the January opening of the exhibit *S. Francis of Assisi - Emotions of the Man*



↑ Components of the game "The Mask Trilogy"

The exhibit **Saint Francis of Assisi - Emotions of the Man** by artist **Lorenzo (Larry Brucia)** made its US premiere in January at the future home of the Museo Italo Americano at 940 Battery Street.

It was a grand success! During the course of 4 days the show attracted over 200 visitors who enjoyed private tours of the exhibit by Lorenzo himself.

The exhibit is available to view by appointment. Group tours guided by Lorenzo for organizations are available as well. These are subject to the artist's availability. Please contact the Museo at 415-673-2200 or email info@sfmuseo.org.

Earth and Soul: Elena Civoli Brittain and Tricia Game

The Museo Italo Americano is delighted to present the exhibition “**Earth and Soul**,” featuring the artworks of two distinguished Bay Area artists: painter **Elena Civoli Brittain** and sculptor **Tricia Game**. This compelling exhibition offers a seamless blend of two distinct artistic mediums, showcasing the unique creations of two artists driven by a soulful passion for their craft.

Elena’s journey as an artist has been shaped by contrasting environments: the timeless beauty of Florence’s piazzas and pietra serena palaces, where Medieval and Renaissance art surrounded her during her upbringing, and the stark verticality of America’s urban landscape, which defines her adult life. Rather than attempting to reconcile this dichotomy, she has embraced it in her art. While vibrant colors come naturally to her, she challenges herself by incorporating subtle shades and employing intricate layering techniques - adding, subtracting, and mixing directly on the canvas until the artwork resonates with her vision. Additionally, her inspiration is drawn from the expansive concept of landscapes, influenced by the warm Mediterranean hues of her native Tuscany and the unique light of her adopted city, San Francisco.



↑ Elena Civoli Brittain, detail, acrylic on wood

Tricia’s passion for ancient, sculpted symbols led her on a journey to Italy and then Malta, where she encountered hundreds of sculptures depicting the female form. These figures, celebrated as the creators of life, ignited her artistic inspiration. In her sculptures, she seamlessly blends various materials, each laden with significance echoing prehistoric symbols. Marble, slate, copper, colored glass fragments, metal, terracotta, and crushed rocks converge, resembling fragments of nature itself. Her aim is to infuse her creations with the appearance of etched stone and raw earth, as though the passage of time has bestowed upon them a profound sense of beauty.

On view from **April 23rd through September 8th, 2024**.
Opening reception: Sunday, April 21, 2024, 4:30 PM



↑ Elena Civoli Brittain, detail, acrylic on wood

Gioventù: the New Museo Youth Group



Let’s introduce ourselves:

We are **Gioventù**, the Museo’s youth group sector, and we’re planning a variety of fun, cultural events for the upcoming year aimed at people aged **20-39**.

Our mission is to share our rich Italian heritage with others in our city, while bringing together like-minded, energetic members for events and meetings.

Our goal is to establish the Museo as the forerunner in Italian-themed events in San Francisco. We hope to educate others about the beauty of Italy in a light-hearted and social manner.

If you’re interested in being part of this enthusiastic and lively group please contact the Museo at info@sfmuseo.org. This is a wonderful opportunity to be part of this young and enthusiastic group.

And save the date for our first event:
April 27th from 1-3 PM at Tony Nik’s in North Beach.

The Museo extends a heartfelt GRAZIE to our incredibly generous members!

The list on this page includes donations received before **December 30, 2023**, and are exclusive of donations made to the Capital Campaign. Our sincere apologies if any names were inadvertently omitted.

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