## LEONARDO mai visto

MILANO, Castello Sforzesco 16 maggio 2019 >12 gennaio 2020

## Leonardo a Milano

Multimedia Installation Curated by Edoardo Rossetti and Ilaria De Palma Multimedia Project Culturanuova Srl – Massimo Chimenti

Milan, Castello Sforzesco, Sala delle Armi 16<sup>th</sup> May 2019 through 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020

An ad hoc designed architecture outside the 15<sup>th</sup> century *Portale del Banco Mediceo* is the setting where Leonardo da Vinci and Cesare da Sesto interact to tell us about Milan at the time when this versatile Tuscan artist came to work here for Ludovico il Moro. Leonardo lived twenty years in Milan, during which he put all his skills at the disposal of the Sforza court, in mechanical and hydraulic engineering, military and civil architecture, painting, sculpture and the art of creating ephemeral equipment and special settings for parties. Milan was a very rich and densely populated city, ranking second in Europe after Paris for population. Also, in the last two decades of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, Milan was the leading European capital for cultural ferment. Many other artists, such as Bramante, Bramantino, Butinone, and Zenale, were drawn to Milan and got their training here. Leonardo talks with his pupil illustrating the Milan where he lived, as well as the city that Milan could have become thanks to his urban planning projects.

A multimedia path consisting of lights, sounds, and holograms lets visitors discover the places where Leonardo used to hang out: urban spaces, aristocratic mansions and churches all linked to Leonardo's work in Milan. These places include San Francesco Grande, Borgo delle Grazie, Castello di Porta Giovia, the district of the ancient Porta Vercellina with Corso Nirone and the thoroughfare of current Corso Magenta-contrada dei Meravigli-Cordusio, up to the place where he used to live, not far from the Arengo court (now Palazzo Reale). This is the place where he was working on the grand equestrian monument in honour of Francesco Sforza, Ludovico il Moro's father. This virtual city tour will show again, five centuries later, not only the peculiar social fabric of these neighbourhoods, but also their appearance, with the façades of the palaces frescoed with episodes of ancient Roman history told through bold perspective views, terracotta men of arms covered with bronze patina, huge internal gardens inside the blocks where parties and tournaments used to be held.



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The virtual visit is integrated and extended by a touch screen displaying a geo-referenced visual map of the works-of-art and artefacts from late  $15^{\rm th}$  century Milan currently kept in museums, churches and buildings in the area.



