

# The 65<sup>th</sup> Hague Club Business Meeting

26<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2024  
LAKE COMO, ITALY

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Programme



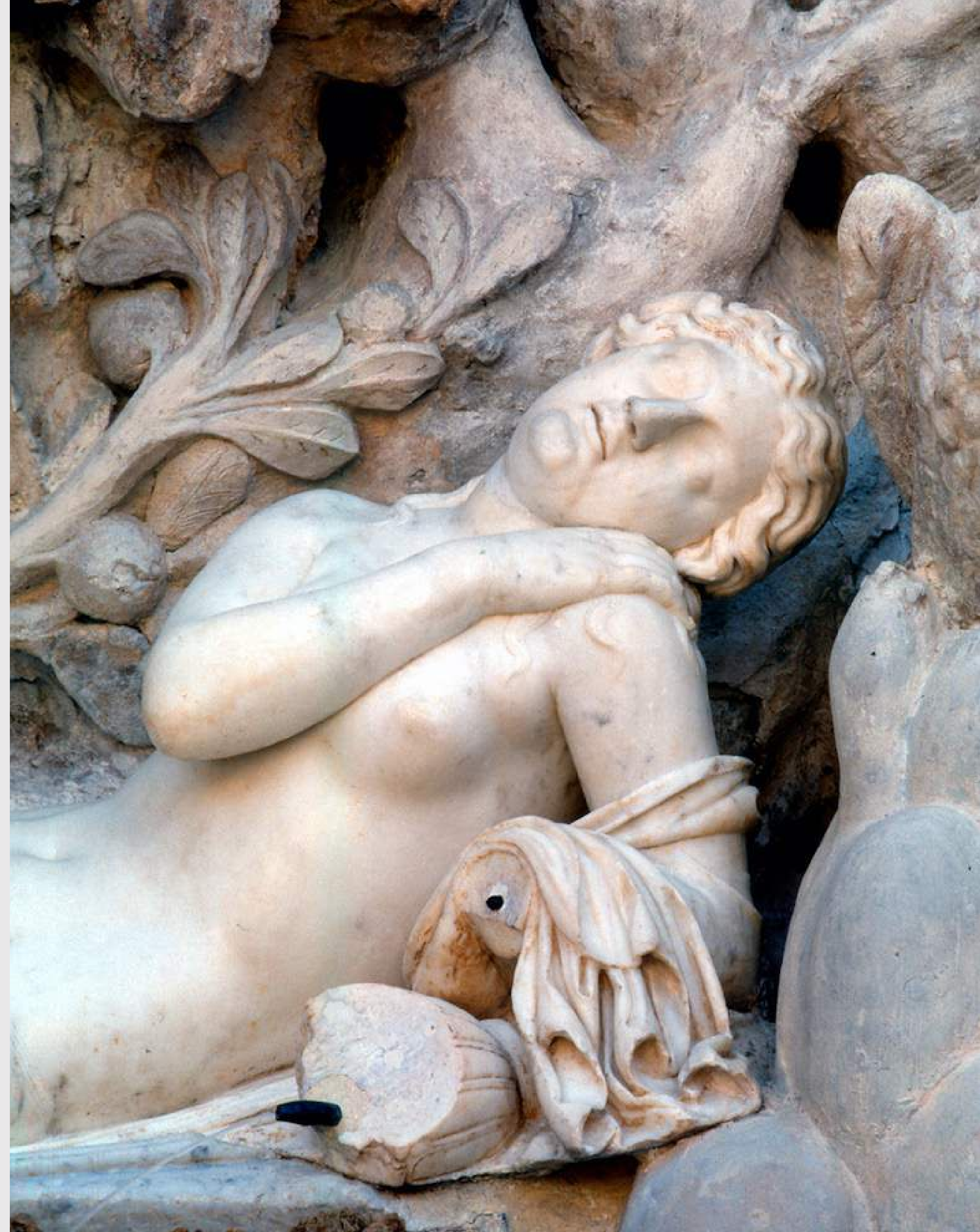




# That branch of the Lake of Como,

which turns toward the south between two unbroken chains of mountains, presenting to the eye a succession of bays and gulfs, formed by their jutting and retiring ridges, suddenly contracts itself between a headland to the right and an extended sloping bank on the left, and assumes the flow and appearance of a river. The bridge by which the two shores are here united, appears to render the transformation more apparent, and marks the point at which the lake ceases, and the Adda recommences, to resume, however, the name of Lake where the again receding banks allow the water to expand itself anew into bays and gulfs. [...]

Alessandro Manzoni, 1827, *The Betrothed*



# The Club's annual meeting

Dear All,

Our annual meeting is fast approaching, and we are pleased and excited to share the programme prepared under the guidance of our Steering Committee.

We trust that Como 2024 will offer engaging lectures, opportunities to exchange perspectives on various aspects of our activities, insights into the intricate challenges of our current landscape, and continued discussions about the Club's future.

Moreover, this will be a long-awaited occasion to celebrate our 50th Anniversary, a milestone that has been postponed due to the unprecedented challenges of the past few years.

As hosts of this year's edition, and on behalf of the Steering Committee of The Hague Club, we would like to thank you for honouring us with your presence.

We look forward to meeting you in Como!

Warm regards,

**Alberto Anfossi**

Secretary General  
of Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo

&

**Sergio Urbani**

Executive Director  
of Fondazione Cariplo



# Programme







# Day 1

26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2024

## Arrivals

17h45

### Steering Committee meeting

**Executive Lounge** at Sheraton Lake Como

19h00

### Cocktail & Welcome dinner

**Kincho Restaurant** at Sheraton Lake Como





# Day 2

27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2024

9h30

## THC Business Meeting

**Spazio Como** at Sheraton Lake Como

In parallel, for partners and former presidents of THC, visit to [Brunate](#).\*

12h45

## Lunch

**Kincho Restaurant** at Sheraton Lake Como





# Day 2

27<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2024

14h00

Meeting with Romano Prodi  
"Europe's future in the current geopolitical context"  
and Giuseppe Guzzetti  
"The Italian philanthropy supporting communities"

Spazio Como at Sheraton Lake Como

Partners and former presidents of THC are welcome to join

16h30 Free time

19h00

Gala Dinner  
at Teatro Sociale Como

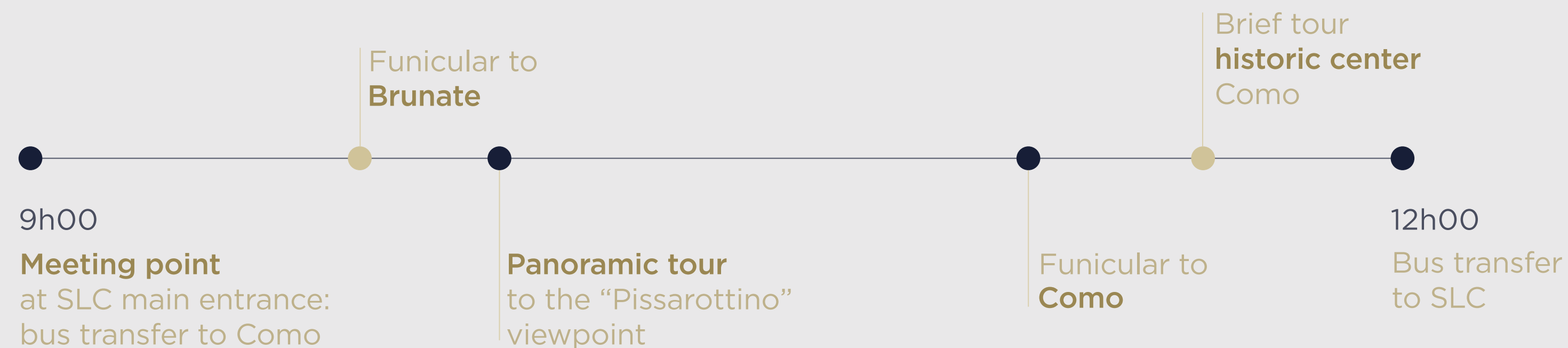
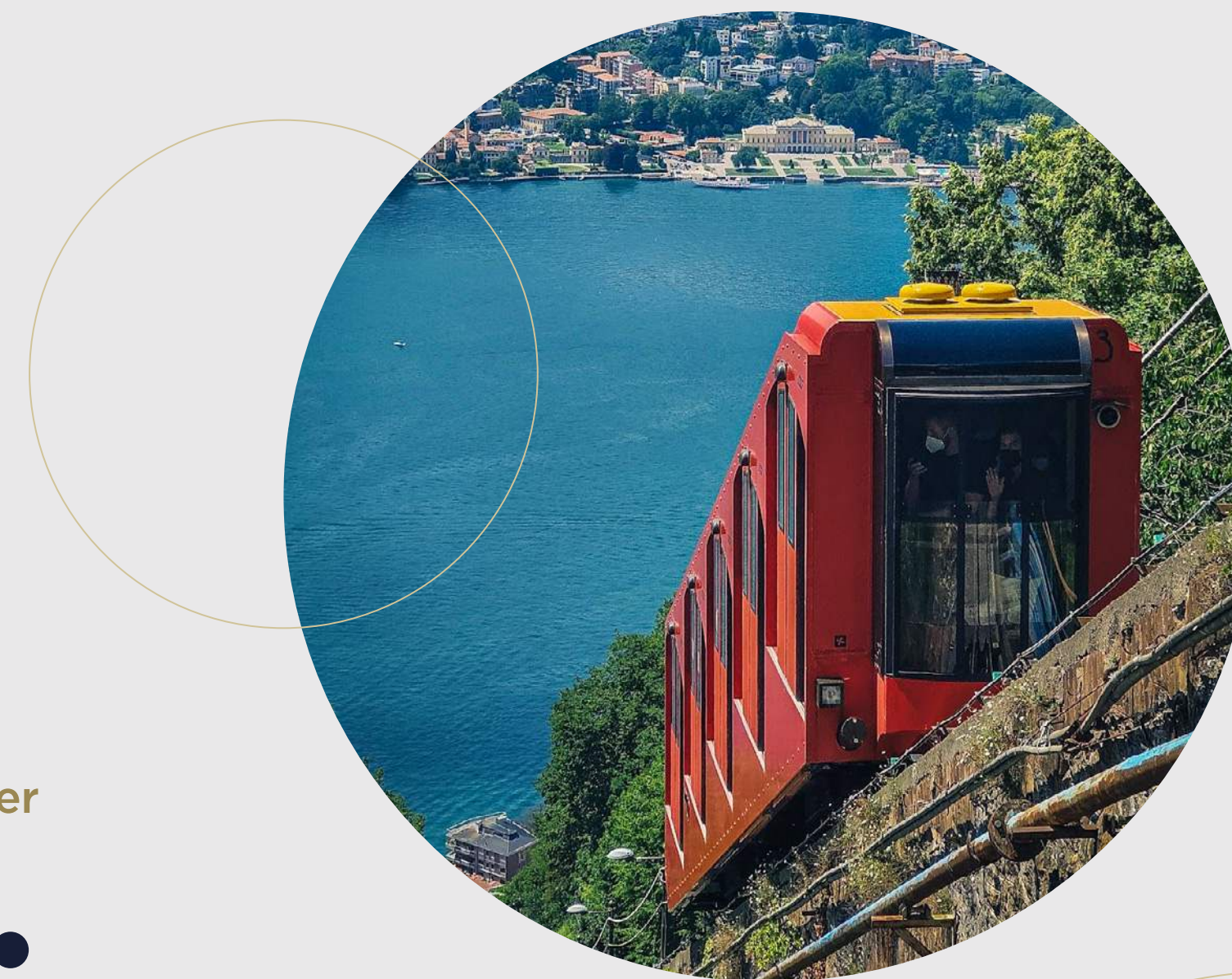




# Day 2

## Brunate, the funicular and the Volta Lighthouse

Panoramic tour for partners and former presidents of The Hague Club.







# Brunate, the funicular and the Volta Lighthouse

Beauty and history overlooking the lake

The village of Brunate dominates the city of Como from its 715-meter altitude. Thanks to its dominant position, it enjoys a splendid view of the lake, but the panorama that can be admired extends over the entire western Alpine arc and for this reason it is also called “the Balcony on the Alps”. Between the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, it became a tourist destination for wealthy Milanese families, who built numerous villas in eclectic or Art Nouveau style.

The Como-Brunate Funicular, which in just a few minutes allows you to overcome the almost 500 meters of altitude difference that separate Brunate from the capital of the Larian region, was inaugurated in 1894.

In Brunate, the Volta Lighthouse also stands out, built in 1927 on the occasion of the centenary of the death of Alessandro Volta, the famous chemist and physicist from Como, inventor of the electric battery. From inside the 29-meter-high octagonal tower, you can reach two spectacular panoramic balconies.



# Day 2

Meeting with

## Romano Prodi

is an Italian politician, economist and columnist. President of the European Commission from 1999 to 2004, President of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic twice (from 1996 to 1998 and from 2006 to 2008), Romano Prodi is one of the central figures of Italian politics.



## Giuseppe Guzzetti

is an Italian lawyer, politician and philanthropist. Former President of the Fondazione Cariplo (from 1997 to 2019) and former President of the Regione Lombardia (from 1979 to 1987), President of ACRI, the association that brings together all the foundations of banking origin in Italy (from 2000 to 2019), Giuseppe Guzzetti is a leading personality in the scene of Italian and international philanthropy.







# Teatro Sociale Como

An Italian Theatre from 1813,  
an educational and cultural center

The Theater, one of the oldest and most astonishing in Northern Italy, was inaugurated in 1813, the year best known to music lovers for the birth of **Richard Wagner** and **Giuseppe Verdi**. The construction work began in 1811 and the project was assigned to the architect Giuseppe Cusi.

The hall, after numerous interventions and restorations, currently has the form of a cello box with 5 orders of seats including: 3 orders, for the 72 privately owned boxes, in addition to the royal box, and 2 orders (4th and 5th) as galleries "loggione". In 1938 the Arena of the Teatro Sociale was transformed into an open-theater, with a structure that hosts up to 4000 people, still used during the Festival Como Città della Musica. Teatro Sociale is also known as "Piccola Scala", since it hosted the activities of Teatro alla Scala, after the bombing of 1943.







# Day 3

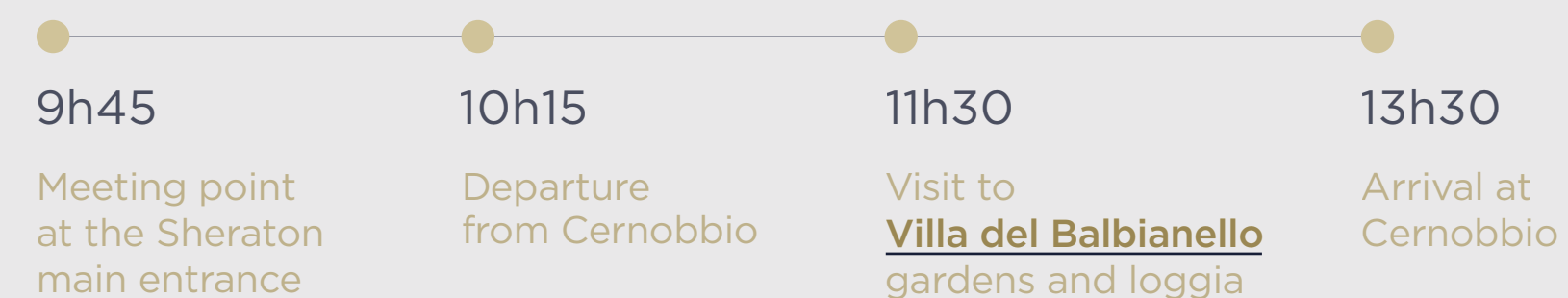
28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2024

8h30 - 9h30

## Additional business meeting THC members

**Sala Pliniana** at Sheraton Lake Como

## Lake Como boat trip



14h00

## Lunch

at **Villa del Grumello**

15h30    Transfer to Sheraton Lake Como and free time





# Villa del Balbianello

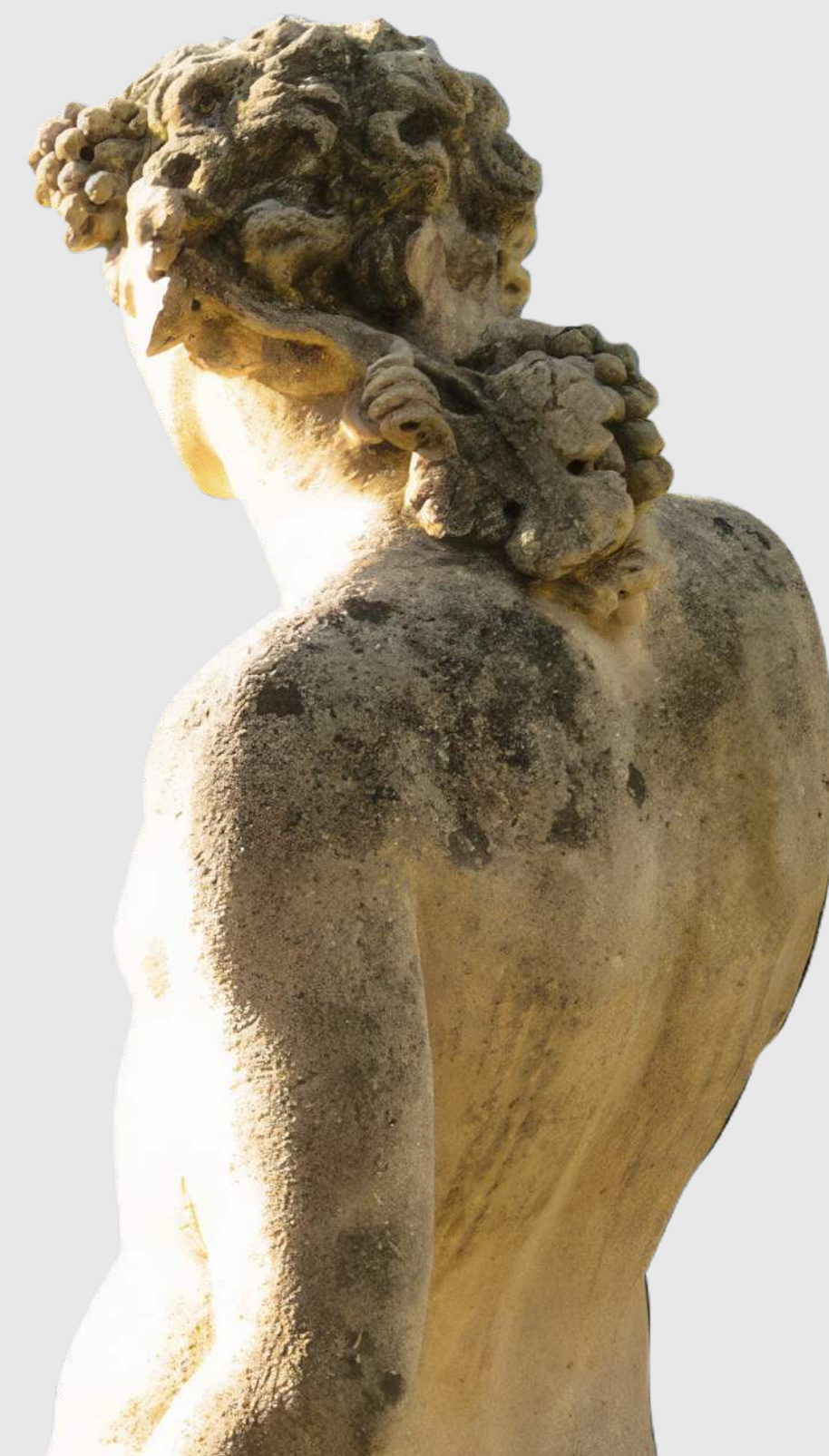
FAI – Fondo Ambiente Italiano  
(the National Trust for Italy)

Villa del Balbianello is located on a wooded promontory and is a treasure chest of memories of exploits and adventures on the western shore of Lake Como.

This elegant, romantic 18th century mansion and its **magnificent garden** have hosted writers, scholars and travelers, including Count Guido Monzino, the last owner of the Villa.

Perched on the edge of the wooded peninsula of Lavedo jutting out over the Lake Como, the Villa offers a wide panorama, which makes it one of the most spectacular estates in the area.

FAI is a non-profit foundation established in 1975, using the National Trust as a model, with the aim of protecting and enhancing Italy's historical, artistic and landscape heritage.







# Villa del Grumello

Cultural center and meeting place between culture, education, innovation and creativity

Built in the second half of the 16th century by the Milanese banker Tommaso d'Adda, it became one of the first suburban residences of the Como patriciate on the banks of the Lario, loved for its **enchanting view and privileged position**: surrounded by greenery and at the same time close to the urban core. In 2006, on the initiative of the Como Chamber of Commerce, the Villa del Grumello Association was established, which began the restoration of the Villa in order to give it a new place in the cultural life of the city, as a venue for cultural, entrepreneurial, scientific and of training.

The Villa del Grumello Association is chaired by Dr. Paolo De Santis and is composed of the Como Lecco Chamber of Commerce, ASST Iariana - Sant'Anna Hospital and the Alessandro Volta Foundation. It was created with the aim of spreading knowledge, culture and science and promoting the social, educational and economic-entrepreneurial growth of the province of Como.





# Day 3

28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2024

Evening in Milano

19h00

Visit to  
Gallerie d'Italia – Milan

20h00

Dinner at  
the VÒCE Restaurant





# Gallerie d'Italia – Milan

*Masterpieces within masterpieces*

Intesa Sanpaolo's Gallerie d'Italia museums are located in the centre of Milan, Naples, Turin and Vicenza. These majestic buildings, which date from between the 17th and 19th centuries and have been meticulously and ambitiously restored before opening to the public, are home to numerous collections and exhibitions. The works of art that lie within these masterpieces of architecture will leave you speechless.

Opened between 2011 and 2012, the Gallerie d'Italia museum of Milan occupies several buildings in Piazza della Scala and offers two marvellous exhibition itineraries: a rich selection of artworks from the 19th century, which also includes collections owned by Fondazione Cariplo, and works from the second half of the 20th century Italy in the Cantiere del '900 section.

In Gallerie d'Italia Milano you can admire numerous masterpieces of art, including 13 plaster bas-reliefs by Antonio Canova and works by Francesco Hayez, Giuseppe Molteni, Alighiero Boetti, Alberto Burri, Lucio Fontana.

It will be possible to visit the Turin painter Felice Carena exhibition, dedicated to one of the most important yet least known artists of the historic 20th century.





# VÒCE Restaurant

*A Voice that Dialogues with the Museum*

In the beating heart of Milan, within the architectural complex where the Gallerie d'Italia Museum is housed, **VOCE Aimo and Nadia** was born. A space-threshold, a fluid place where Art, Culture and Food meet to merge, giving rise to different experiences within what can be defined as the Salotto d'eccellenza of Milan and the Milanese.

A new landmark of Milanese gastronomic culture articulated in four different environments: the **Cafe**, the **Artisan Ice Cream Shop**, the **Pantry** and the **Gourmet Restaurant**.





# Day 4

29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
2024

Breakfast & Farewell

at Sheraton Lake Como



Como Lake



Should you need advice  
on transfer service providers  
(from/to airports - Sheraton Lake Como)  
or support to your transfers' booking  
you may contact:

**JENNY COLASBERNA**

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Torino



Lugano

St.Moritz



Como



Orio  
al Serio

Bergamo



Monza



Malpensa



Linate

Milano





# Event details & Recommendations

## Day 2

### Visit to Brunate

Suggested attire: comfortable clothing and walking shoes

Bus transfer to Como: 9h00, main entrance SLC

On-time departure from Sheraton is crucial for the scheduled Funicular to Brunate.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Bus transfer from Como to Sheraton Lake Como: 12h00

### Gala Dinner

Dress code: black tie

Bus transfer to Teatro Sociale Como: 18h30, main entrance SLC

Bus transfer to Sheraton Lake Como: 23h00, main entrance Teatro Sociale Como

## Day 3

### Boat trip

Bus transfer to Cernobbio: 9h45, main entrance SLC

On-time departure from Sheraton is crucial for the scheduled start time of the boat trip.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Bus transfer from Cernobbio to Villa del Grumello: 13h30

Bus transfer from Villa del Grumello to Sheraton Lake Como: 15.30

### Visit to Milan

Bus transfer to Milan: 17h45, main entrance SLC

Bus transfer to Sheraton Lake Como: at various times, to be announced



For any questions or assistance  
during your stay

you may contact

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or find them at the THC Como corner at Sheraton Lake Como's main lobby