



Firenze, 19-23 Marzo 2012

Congresso internazionale sulle cupole

### PRELIMINARY NOTES

Since its early appearances in Western European funeral buildings of the 6th and 5th millenary B. C., the dome has been widely adopted in architecture primarily for its symbolic reference to the celestial vault. Dome construction was then disseminated initially in the Eastern regions where it acquired both civil and religious significance. Later, as a result of Palladianism, they appeared in the New World and very New World (Australia), where they were built of earth or masonry, wood, steel, concrete or other materials, using a variety of building techniques from the simplest which imitated nature, to extremely sophisticated structural concepts. No other architectural element is so adept in resuming the building capability achieved by a civilization while arousing deep spatial emotions. The peculiar and various shapes of domes confer special features to a landscape which in turn give it a universally intelligible value.

### PRINCIPLES AND AIMS OF THE CONGRESS

The primary concept of "Domes in the World" is to give a substantial contribution to intercultural dialogue through an international and interdisciplinary congress aimed at highlighting the significance of domes and their symbolic value. The themes to be examined will include: the cultural and spatial significance of the ancient and contemporary domes in buildings; their architectural context in the territory and in the landscape; their construction (materials, techniques, structural system); their documentation, interpretation, conservation and restoration and their continuity in contemporary building. Thus this international congress, which unites people of various countries, with different cultural backgrounds, philosophical approaches to life and traditional knowledge, will explore the multidisciplinary themes related to domes divided into two main areas: 1) their symbolic, sociological, humanistic context and 2) their architectural context (geometry, structure and material). A high scientific profile will allow the participants to assess the present situation of domes as well as to debate, compare and elaborate their interpretations in order to define their appropriate use and the protection of the dome patrimony worldwide. The architectural conservation of domes, its material and conceptual significance will also be discussed.

The objective of the congress is to collect and compare scientific information about the past and present cultural and spatial significance of domes for men, societies and landscapes in different cultural environments, past and present, their building concepts and interpretations, their building traditions and techniques, their conservation/restoration and their contemporary building as a basis for further development of integrated heritage work (planning, education, tourism, conservation etc.).

The congress promoters wish to obtain results that will be of direct benefit to our civil society (individuals, institutions, public administrations) in its current theoretical, philosophical and real evolution.

### LANGUAGES OF THE CONGRESS

The oral presentations will be translated into English, Italian and Russian.

**The selected scientific contributions (papers and posters) come from 28 Countries of 5 Continents.**

Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Egypt, France, Georgia, Germany, Jordan, United Kingdom, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Malaysia, Morocco, Poland, Russia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, USA.

### SCHEDULED EVENTS:

- **Exhibition on Brunelleschi's Dome**  
Opera del Duomo, Centro Arte e Cultura  
(realized by R. Corazzi)
- **Exhibition on Domes in Syria**  
Palazzo Medici Riccardi (realized by S. Mecca)
- **Photography Exhibition "Domes in the World"**  
Auditorium al Duomo (realized by the Romualdo Del Bianco Foundation® - Life Beyond Tourism®)
- **Evening Concert in the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore** realized by Opera di Santa Maria del Fiore)
- **Guided tour to the Dome of the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore of Florence** (realized by R. Corazzi in collaboration with Opera di Santa Maria del Fiore)
- **Guided Tour of the Tholos of the Etruscan Tomb of Montagnola** (realized by G. Tampono)

### ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT Promo Florence Events

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<http://www.domesintheworld.com>

### PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

#### Monday, March 19

3.00 p.m. : **Opening Ceremony of the congress**  
University of Florence  
5.00 p.m. : **Welcome Cocktail**

In the morning guided tours to the Brunelleschi's Dome and to the Tomb of Montagnola are planned (hours and groups to be defined)

#### Tuesday, March 20

9.30 – 10.15 a.m. : **Explanatory Memorandum**  
10.15 – 12.30 a.m. : **Oral and Collective presentations**  
I Session: "CULTURAL IDENTITY AND SYMBOLISM"

2.00 – 7.30 p.m. : **Oral and Collective presentations**  
Session: "GENESIS AND GEOMETRIC SHAPE"

In the evening guided tours to the Tomb of Montagnola, Sesto Fiorentino, are planned (hours and groups to be defined)

#### Wednesday, March 21

9.00 – 12.30 a.m. : **Oral and Collective presentations**  
II Session: "GENESIS AND GEOMETRIC SHAPE"

**Guided Tours to Palazzo Medici Riccardi, Florence**

2.00 – 7.30 p.m. : **Oral and Collective presentations**  
Session III: "CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY:  
Costruction - Conservation"

9.00 p.m. : **Evening Concert** – in the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore

#### Thursday, March 22

9.00 – 12.30 a.m. : **Oral and Collective presentations**  
Session III: "CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY:  
Costruction - Conservation"

2.00 – 5.30 p.m. **Oral and Collective presentations**  
Session III: "CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY:  
Costruction - Conservation"

5.30-7.00 p.m. : **Discussions**

7.00: **Conclusion of the Congress**

#### Friday, March 23

Possibility to have discussion groups (in English)  
Guided Tour to the Brunelleschi's Dome and to Palazzo Medici Riccardi.

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Ministero del Turismo



Università degli studi di Firenze



Scuola Nazionale di Dottorato Scienze della Rappresentazione e del Disegno



SIPBC



ANIAI



Istituto Nazionale Studi Etruschi



Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

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- Ministero delle Infrastrutture e dei Trasporti
- Ordine degli Architetti di Firenze
- Russian Academy of Architecture and Construction Sciences



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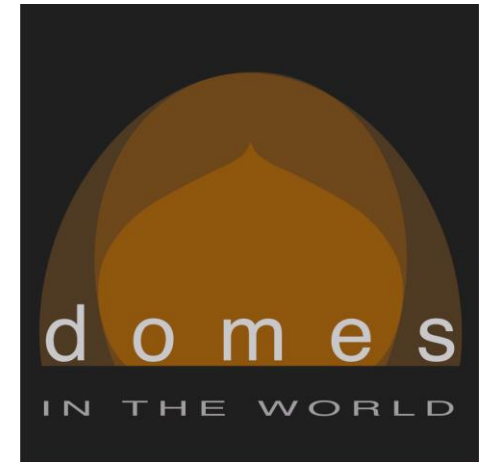


Collegio degli Ingegneri della Toscana

Promote the

## International Congress DOMES IN THE WORLD

With the High Patronage  
of the President of the Italian Republic



Florence, March 19 – 23, 2012

Auditorium al Duomo  
Via de' Cerretani, 54/r

Proud Member of

