



# FRIENDS OF FAI

*Preserving Italian Heritage*

ANNUAL PROJECT 2020

## Casa Bortoli & Negozio Olivetti



# CASA BORTOLI

*A stately historic home on the Venetian Grand Canal, Casa Bortoli offers an exceptional view of some of Venice's most beautiful landmarks, as well as a taste of the Venetian in the form of private memories - books, photographs, clothes - an echo of a life well lived.*

Casa Bortoli is one of the most recent FAI properties to be opened. The stately home turned "living museum" opened its doors in November 2019, just as alarmingly high water levels ravaged Venice.

While Venice has always managed to survive environmental and man-made obstacles, the rapidly rising water levels in the Lagoon have highlighted how important it is to prioritize the city in terms of preservation and restoration.

Bortoli represents only one of Venice's hidden treasures, living artifacts that encourage those who visit the city to take a second look and, hopefully, view the beautiful city of Venice as more than just the canals that run through it.

Casa Bortoli is home to heirlooms of 18th-century Venetian life and paints a portrait of those who lived there. Within its walls are remnants of a bygone era, personal effects surrounded by splendid architecture and luscious frescoes.





# NEGOZIO OLIVETTI

*The elegant intelligence of the great architect Carlo Scarpa lies behind this true masterpiece of 20th-century architecture; after years of neglect, the doors have re-opened to reveal once again its spaces so meticulously designed and crafted by master artisans.*

Walking under the colonnades of the Procuratie Vecchie in Venice, you come to a small corner premises that, in 1957, Adriano Olivetti identified as the ideal building for a showcase that could transmit his company's cultural values and combine modernity and innovation with the more traditional.

This challenging commission was given to Venetian architect Carlo Scarpa, who replaced the dark, narrow, original unit with an open-plan design based on a brilliant, cutting-edge reorganization of the space. Negozio Olivetti was painstakingly and lovingly restored, brought back to resplendence by FAI's generous patrons and supporters.

But the 2019 flooding in Venice caused a great deal of damage to the Negozio, and this Venetian treasure is now in need of extensive repairs. Much of the store was subject to varying levels of water damage, but perhaps most tragic is the damage done to the Nudo al sole by Alberto Viani, a recently restored gilded bronze statue found submerged in 25cm of salt water.



**Our Goal is  
to raise \$50,000 to:**

**Repair** the extensive damage caused by the 2019 flooding in Venice.

**Revitalize and restore** the metallic elements within Negozio Olivetti, all of which are susceptible to oxidation.

