

Musical Program

MARCIA REALE [GAMBETTI]

Inno della Casa Reale di Savoia

VILLA INFERNO [DE VIRGILIIS]

MARCIA SINFONICA

FIORE D'ARANCIO [INGO]

MARCIA CARATTERISTICA

GLORIA ALL'ARTE [PUCCI]

MARCIA SINFONICA

BRANI CARATTERISTICI NAPOLITANI

"A CANZUNCIN 'A SAN GENNA', 'A MADONNA DEL CARMINE
'O GIGLIO"

GLORIA ALLA MARINA ITALIANA [QUATRANO]

Gran Marcia Sinfonica

LA LEGGENDA DEL PIAVE [E.A. MARIO]

INNO DI GARIBALDI (OLIVIERI)

FANTASIA PATRIOTICA

MEDLEY OF ITALIAN PATRIOTIC SONGS

INNO NAZIONALE ITALIANO

FRATELLI D'ITALIA (NATIONAL ANTHEM OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC)

INNO NAZIONALE AMERICANO

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Famed for his daring intercontinental flights, Col. Francesco De Pinedo (1890-1933) was one of the world's most accomplished aeronautical trailblazers of the 1920s. His extensive aerial tour of the Western Hemisphere, which won him the distinction of being the first foreign pilot to fly to the United States, and included the first round-trip crossing of the Atlantic and the first flight over the Brazilian rain forests, was among his most widely acclaimed achievements. It was during this tour that De Pinedo and his crew visited Chicago, landing here on May 15th, 1927. This concert is given in commemoration of that historic event.

Notes on the Selections

The selected compositions, which date from the 1930s, 1920s and earlier, can be accurately described as *musica dell'epoca*, music of De Pinedo's era. Part of a distinctly Italian genre, this music, which the aviator himself would doubtless immediately recognize, may be considered an accurate representation of the Italic spirit and character of his times.

Reflecting the profound sense of patriotism that was among the principal motivating factors of De Pinedo's achievements, the program opens with **Marcia Reale**, the exuberant dynastic theme of the Italian Monarchy. *Marcia Reale* served as the official national anthem of the Kingdom of Italy from 1860 to 1946.

The heroic tone of **Villa Inferno** by Angelo De Virgiliis effectively conveys the confident perseverance by which De Pinedo unflinchingly surmounted the inevitable perils faced in each of his transcontinental flights.

The trio of **melodies in typical Neapolitan style** calls to mind the aviator's frequently demonstrated fidelity to his Neapolitan roots. The S-16 seaplane with which he flew to Tokyo in 1925, for instance, was christened the "Gennariello" in honor of San Gennaro, the Patron of his native city, and another one of his planes was christened the "Santa Lucia" in tribute to the Neapolitan district of that name in which he was born.

"**Gloria all'Arte**" reflects the love of music and art that was so much a part of the aviator's personality. Despite space limitations, for example, he still managed to find room on board his plane for a hand-cranked phonograph to provide himself with music during his epoch journeys.

Pasquale Quatrano's grand symphonic march **Gloria Alla Marina** recalls De Pinedo's years with the Royal Italian Navy, during which he participated with distinction in both the Italo-Turkish War of 1911-12 and World War I.

Among the most celebrated Italian songs of the First World War is E.A. Mario's **La Leggenda del Piave**, recounting the Royal Italian Army's heroic stand at the banks of the Piave River in 1917. The event was the most decisive episode on the Italian Front during the entire conflict, turning the tide toward ultimate victory.

Composed in 1860, the stirring **Inno di Garibaldi**, dedicated Italy's greatest national hero, remains one of the most enduring and inspirational expressions of Italian patriotism. Garibaldi's anthem is followed by a series of other patriotic songs and hymns, some dating back to the earliest years of the Risorgimento. The program concludes with the Italian and American national anthems.

A Century of Musical Tradition

Caliendo's Banda Napoletana is one of the very few remaining heirs to the Italian Symphonic Band Tradition brought to the United States by immigrant musicians in the early 20th century. Distinguished by their characteristic repertoire as well as good musicianship, these early bands were primarily heard at the many religious street festivals that filled the calendar in the "Little Italy" neighborhoods across urban America.

In Chicago, especially during the 1920s and '30s, some of these organizations, notably the Strocchia Band, The Fillachione Band, and the Quaglia Band, eventually established enough of a reputation to expand their venues beyond the Italian community. Performances were given by these ensembles at the 1933 Century of Progress World's Fair, the world famous Riverview Amusement Park, and at outdoor concerts in municipal parks where their renditions of electrifying overtures, lyrical Neapolitan songs, and melodious operatic fantasias highlighted countless summertime evenings.

The socio-cultural changes and the emergence of new entertainment forms that characterized the post-World War II decades brought the gradual decline of the bands, as veteran musicians retired but were not replaced by their American-born children. By the 1960s this once-essential component of Italian cultural heritage was facing extinction.

In 1974, however, Caliendo's Banda Napoletana was organized with the explicit intention of reviving the Italian Symphonic Band tradition in the Chicago metropolitan area. For more than a quarter century, it continues to fulfill that purpose through strict adherence and fidelity to the authentic instrumentation, repertoire, and character that so clearly distinguished its illustrious predecessors.

For more information on Caliendo's Banda Napoletana, please contact Martin Caliendo (630) 896-2926 or Don Fiore (630) 993-0025

THE JOINT CIVIC COMMITTEE OF ITALIAN AMERICANS

Vito P. Cali, President

And

The Hon. Enrico Granara, Consul General of Italy

Present

A musical tribute to the memory of the
Transatlantic Aviator

FRANCESCO DE PINEDO



On the 75th Anniversary of his flight to Chicago
Wednesday, May 15, 2002, 6:30 PM
at the Richard J. Daley Center
Chicago

Performed by

Caliendo's Banda Napoletana

Martin J. Caliendo, Director