

Category: didactic

Project: Un sindaco fuori dal Comune. Angelo Filippetti

What was the challenge?

The historical exhibition Un sindaco fuori dal Comune. Angelo Filippetti ('An out-of-the-ordinary mayor' but also, with a pun, 'Outside the town hall') tells the life and thoughts of the last mayor of Milan before fascism took power in Italy in 1922.

The exhibition was realized in collaboration with Istituto nazionale Ferruccio Parri and Fondazione Anna Kuliscioff, two institutes that preserve important historical archives and are involved in research, public history and education.

It was displayed for the first time in Casa della Memoria, an exhibition area of the Municipality of Milan, between October and November 2022.

The project was aimed at both citizens and schools. The first goal was to make Filippetti's private archive, which is crucial for the city's history, available to the citizens of Milan for the very first time. The second was to provide secondary school students with a comprehensive learning experience that allows them to come into close contact with historical documents and to discover a story not only untold in school textbooks, but also very little known by academic community.

Contact:

name: studio +fortuna
company/organisation: Istituto Parri
e-mail: comunicazione@insmli.it /
studio@piufortuna.it
website: www.reteparri.it /
www.piufortuna.it

What was the solution?

The exhibition allowed to reveal the extraordinary complexity of Angelo Filippetti's biography: a compelling storyline that the curators decided to illustrate by mixing the approach of historical research with an evocative set-up. In Filippetti's diaries, the reader encounters curious black figures: they are hand-drawn silhouettes, from which the curators drew inspiration to elaborate the graphics with which the protagonists of this story are drawn. The black silhouettes guide the visitor along the exhibition route and are gradually outlined by the historical narration.

Walking into Casa della Memoria, the visitor is led through a space designed around the peculiar life of Angelo Filippetti. Gigantographs from his archive define the space and extend it to a past world, which has a lot to tell about our present. The visionary ideals of this often-forgotten mayor encouraged the curators to tell his story through contemporary graphics. Documents, photographs and handwritten notes compose a collage of sources that seeks to restore the complexity and appeal of Angelo Filippetti, who dared to dream of a future city.





What was the effect?

The exhibition was visited by several secondary school students, who were involved in an in-depth guided tour and workshop activity based on documentary sources. First, students were introduced to the historical context and briefly to some historical documents. Then, they were divided into small groups and each group had to thoroughly analyse a single historical document.

Both teachers and students were given a questionnaire to evaluate the activity. The results, returned anonymously, were very satisfactory.

The exhibition also made it possible to experiment with a creative use of a historical archive, bringing it closer to citizens.



AVANTI! →

→ UNITEVI! →

→ RESISTETE! →

"Forward!"

"Join us!"

"Resist!"

