

**BFF Gallery opens in Milan:
a new museum at the headquarters of BFF Bank**

By leveraging its **collection of modern and contemporary art**
the Bank focuses on the **promotion of Italian art and culture**

The first exhibition in the new museum will be dedicated
to **Enrico Baj's Paradise Lost**

From April 3rd 2025

Free entrance upon registration

BFF Gallery | viale Lodovico Scarampo 15, Milan

Milano, 13th March, 2025 - **BFF Bank** announces the opening of **BFF Gallery**, the new museum inside **Casa BFF**, the Group's headquarters in Milan, which opened last November.

Aiming to promote knowledge of Italian art and culture through the sharing of works from the Bank's collection, BFF Gallery has been created in response to a sense of responsibility towards society and Italian cultural heritage, with the desire to give back part of the value that the Group generates, in line with other initiatives already launched in previous years.

The museum will have free entrance and has the aim - through exhibitions and events - to raise a new appreciation for art as a stimulus for innovation and change, and a virtuous and open system of exchange and sharing of knowledge, fostering dialogue and offering to the public a comprehensive, accessible perspective of high scientific value.

"BFF Gallery was created not only to find a place for the Bank's collection, but mostly for the desire to create, inside Casa BFF, a place to promote connection between people and to share knowledge" says **Massimiliano Belingheri**, Group CEO of **BFF Banking Group** - *"We decided to do this through a museum, knowing that art can be a unique tool for dialogue, for stimulating creativity and growth, both for companies and society. We hope that it can truly be a place accessible for everyone, for the promotion of Italian culture and art and for sharing the values of our Group with the whole community"*.

BFF Gallery is the result of a reflection on the limitations of space and the possibility of turning these limits into an opportunity for development. Throughout the design and construction of the building, work has always been focused on the fact that urban regeneration is first and foremost about people: so the museum has also been designed to break down barriers and encourage dialogue. That is why, like the rest of the building, it is transparent, perfectly visible from the outside, while at the same

time protecting the artworks inside. Part of this space is, in fact, underground and allows the works to be protected from direct light.

The contemporary art collection of BFF Banking Group was assembled by the Bank since the 1980s and includes about 250 works as of today. Artists featured include Valerio Adami, Franco Angeli, Enrico Baj, Alberto Burri, Lucio Del Pezzo, Lucio Fontana, Gianfranco Pardi, Arnaldo Pomodoro, Giò Pomodoro, Mario Schifano, Emilio Tadini and many others.

Since 2019, the Collection was the subject of a process of census, reconditioning and digitization and the *Art Factor* project was created, to enhance the Collection and to promote Italian art, also abroad. Since 2021, the artworks have been the protagonist of a traveling exhibition in Europe and in the United States and of two volumes produced under the patronage of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Ministry of Culture.

BFF Gallery will open with the exhibition **Baj + Milton “Paradise Lost” the paradoxes of freedom**. Until October 17th, the museum will showcase the series of forty etchings created by Enrico Baj in 1987 and inspired by John Milton’s *Paradise Lost*, which, in its more than 10,000 verses, recounts the origins of Humanity from the creation of Adam to the expulsion from Eden. The poet’s work has been a source of inspiration for artists of all ages who have found in it answers and keys to understanding their own personal existence. The aim of the exhibition is to present some of the central themes of the poem through the contemplative imagination of Enrico Baj. It will give visitors the opportunity to reflect on crucial aspects of the human condition.

BFF Bank is the largest independent specialty finance provider and a leading player in Italy in Securities Services and banking and corporate payments. The Group, founded in 1985, operates in Italy, Croatia, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain, in Europe, offering Factoring and Lending services. Since 2017 it is listed on the Italian stock exchange.

Casa BFF - Designed by Paolo Brescia and Tommaso Principi of OBR – Open Building Research, Casa BFF is an integral part of an ongoing project to overhaul the BFF Banking Group facilities and will benefit from LEED Platinum and WELL Gold certifications. It also constitutes a more wide-ranging city project, contributing to the regeneration and development of a neglected space in a time-honoured district within the city: the Portello area. Indeed, the building aims to foster strong links with the local area: set back from the street, the building will provide the backdrop to a new city square, an urban space for everyone, a city garden overlooked by the atrium, the auditorium and the museum of Casa BFF, which showcases the works of Italian contemporary artists that the bank has been collecting since the 1980s. The square will also be defined by a 40-metre-high portico holding aloft the building’s massive “energy roof” – the so-called “Flying Carpet” – a regular geometric shape that is fast becoming a recognizable feature of aerial views of the city.

BFF Gallery

viale Lodovico Scarampo 15, Milano

Monday – Friday | closed on Saturday and Sunday

Extraordinary Opening on April 5th and 6th on the occasion of Artweek Milan

Free entrance upon registration: www.bffgallery.com

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