

BFF Bank announces

The restoration of *Grande Radiale Tondo* by Gio' Pomodoro

Work begins on the restoration of the large sculpture located in front of Casa BFF: an open restoration, which will be visible to the public throughout its duration.

The initiative follows the recent opening of BFF Gallery, dedicated to modern and contemporary art.

BFF Gallery

Viale Lodovico Scarampo 15, Milan

www.bffgallery.com

Milan, May 19, 2025 – Restoration work begins today on Gio' Pomodoro's **Grande Radiale Tondo** (1968), a monumental bronze sculpture located in the square in front of Casa BFF, the headquarters of **BFF Bank** and **BFF Gallery**, a new museum dedicated to the promotion of Italian modern and contemporary art, starting with the artworks that constitute the Bank's collection.

The restoration will be carried out on site and will therefore be a unique opportunity to observe the work of the restorers up close, discovering the techniques and challenges of contemporary art conservation.

Thanks to its location in the outdoor space of Casa BFF, which is open and barrier-free, it will be possible to watch the work in progress, in line with BFF Gallery's mission to promote the knowledge of art and culture by offering a complete, accessible program of high scientific value.

Gio' Pomodoro's *Grande Radiale Tondo* (Orciano di Pesaro, 1930 – Milan, 2002), a sculpture over 2 meters high and in diameter, is part of BFF Banking Group's contemporary art collection, which was started in the 1980s and consists of around 250 works.

The start of the restoration work is symbolically linked to the **International Museum Day 2025**, promoted by **ICOM – International Council of Museums**, of which BFF Gallery is a member, which was celebrated yesterday, Sunday 18 May, to promote the transformative role of museums in society.

The theme of the day – 'The future of museums in rapidly changing communities' – is in line with the view and intentions of BFF Gallery, which aims to create a virtuous and open system of exchange with the community. Like many other works by Gio' Pomodoro, which are located among the buildings and the houses, inside the city, *Grande Radiale Tondo* contributed to reinforce this dialogue with the local community.

The maintenance, cleaning, and restoration of the sculpture have been entrusted to **Open Care – Servizi per l'Arte**, already a partner for the conservation and maintenance of many of the works in the collection. The sculpture, which until a few months ago was located in the garden of the former headquarters of BFF

Bank in Milan, shows signs of aging: atmospheric, biological, and polluting agents have deteriorated the bronze surface over the years.

The restoration – carried out in collaboration with **Gio' Pomodoro's Archive** to ensure the philological accuracy of the work – involves careful cleaning that respects the original, followed by the application of a protective coating to prevent further damage.

The initiative is part of a wider program to enhance the collection, which has seen the recent opening of the museum within the Bank's headquarters, with the exhibition Baj+Milton "Paradiso perduto" – i paradossi della libertà, curated by Maria Alicata and Giovanni Carrada, currently on display and open to the public free of charge until October 17, 2025.

BFF Gallery is the new museum dedicated to the promotion of Italian art and culture, located within Casa BFF, the headquarters of BFF Banking Group in Milan.

Free admission upon registration here: www.bffgallery.com

Opening hours: Monday - Friday 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

***BFF Bank S.p.A.** is the largest specialized finance company and a leader in Securities Services and payment services in Italy. The Group, founded in 1985, operates in Italy, Croatia, France, Greece, Poland, Portugal, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Spain, offering factoring and lending services. Since 2017 it has been listed on the main market of the Italian Stock Exchange.*

***Casa BFF**, designed by Paolo Brescia and Tommaso Principi of OBR – Open Building Research, is part of a process of progressive renewal of the BFF Banking Group's work environments. Characterized by LEED Platinum and WELL Gold certification, it is also a broader city project, designed to contribute to the regeneration and development of the Portello, a historic district of the city. The building aims to create a strong link with the urban context: set back from the road alignment, it is designed to be the backdrop to a new square open to all, overlooked by the entrance hall, the auditorium and the BFF Gallery, dedicated to the works of contemporary art that the Bank has collected since the 1980s. The piazza is also defined by a 40-meter-high portico that supports the large energy-efficient roof, the so-called "Flying Carpet": a regular geometric figure that is perfectly recognizable from above on the city map.*

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