

Brera Outside Brera: The Paintings of the Brera Academy of Fine Arts on Long-Term Loan to Other Institutions

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Project Overview

The project *Brera Outside Brera: The Paintings of the Brera Academy of Fine Arts on Long-Term Loan to Other Institutions* aims to **enhance and promote the pictorial heritage of the Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera**, consisting of **223 paintings currently on loan to external institutions**, through an extensive programme of **digitisation and documentation**. The objective is to create **virtual thematic paths**, accessible internationally via web-based platforms, that allow the public and scholars to explore this significant collection.

This work provides an opportunity to **re-examine and update** this important corpus of mostly **nineteenth-century paintings**, by revising and integrating the official ministerial catalogue records, assessing the **conservation status** of each work

through the preparation of **condition reports**, acquiring **high-resolution digital images**, and promoting a **targeted campaign of multispectral diagnostics**.

The diagnostic and cataloguing activities will focus primarily on the works located off-site—the core of the project’s study and dissemination effort—but will also include paintings preserved at the **central headquarters of the Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera**, whose **SIGeCWeb catalogue records** will likewise be revised and updated.

Parallel to this effort, the project will include a **survey of comparable pictorial heritage** held in other educational institutions, both in Italy and abroad, as well as the **organization of training activities** aimed at fostering expertise in the knowledge and management of academic art collections.

The information and materials collected—previously scarce and difficult to access—will be made available for **research and public consultation** on the digital platform. This resource will foster **transdisciplinary and cross-sector dialogue** based on artistic movements, painting genres, historical context, technical and conservation data, and provenance information.

Ultimately, the platform will serve as a vital tool for both the **preservation** and the **digital communication** of a heritage that is usually inaccessible to the general public, enabling users to **explore, study, and share** the paintings of the **Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera** currently on long-term loan to other institutions.