

Preface

The publication of this “Brief Guide” to the picture gallery in the Rector’s offices of the University of Trieste marks another step in the journey undertaken by the university towards recouping and evaluating its historic-artistic heritage.

The “Guide” duly takes into account the events that led to the “Esposizione Nazionale di Pittura Italiana Contemporanea” (“National Exhibition of Contemporary Italian Painting”) in 1953 which led, in turn, to the idea of re-elaborating, retrospectively, the reasons for that initiative and bringing to the attention and for the benefit of the public the splendid body of works that was put together in two exhibitions organised in 2008 and 2009 respectively by the Civico Museo Revoltella (Civic Revoltella Museum) of Trieste and the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio (Foundation Cassa di Risparmio) of Gorizia.

After these exhibitions, which provided the oppor-

tunity for studying and restoring the heritage they dealt with, there followed the permanent organisation of the picture gallery within the Rector’s offices in conformity with the rules applying to collections laid down by the Ministero per i Beni e le Attività culturali (Ministry for Heritage and Cultural Activities). This said, it is clear that the University of Trieste has made to the city and to the whole community the gift of an important museum.

This goal, which is a legitimate reason for pride on the part of the University of Trieste which figures in a shortlist of university museums assessed by the Conference of Italian University Rectors, has, since 2004 been reached in that there is now a Sistema Museale di Ateneo - smaTs (Network of the Museums of Trieste University).

A heartfelt thanks to all those both inside and outside the university who have contributed to the realisation of these important cultural objectives.

Francesco Peroni

Rector of the University of Trieste