



The  
**PITTI**  
Palace  
and Boboli Gardens  
masterpieces  
and  
more

Frontispiece and p. 8: Giusto Utens (Iustus van Utens), *Palazzo Pitti and the Forte Belvedere*, c. 1599, Florence, Villa La Petraia  
 pp. 4-5: A view of Palazzo Pitti from the Boboli Gardens  
 pp. 28-29: The façade of Palazzo Pitti  
 p. 31: Pietro da Cortona, *The Medici Coat of Arms* (detail), Palatine Gallery, Mars Room, ceiling  
 p. 121: Royal Apartments, Green Room  
 p. 129: Luigi Catoni, *At the Faculty of Science*, Modern Art Gallery, Room 11  
 p. 195: Annibale Gatti, *Italy Takes her Place Among the Nations Led by the Genius of the House of Savoy* (detail), Museum of Costume and Fashion  
 p. 207: Ottavio Lorenzini, *Lorenzo Amidst the Artists* (detail), Treasury of the Grand Dukes, Room of Giovanni da San Giovanni  
 p. 229: The Boboli Gardens Amphitheatre seen from Palazzo Pitti  
 p. 245: The Palazzina del Cavaliere, home of the Porcelain Museum  
 pp. 248-249: Digital rendering of *Palais Pitti*, drawing by Philippe Benoit, lithograph by Charles Claude Bachelier, from *L'Italie monumentale et artistique*, 1845



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Reprint

Year

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**s i l l a b e**




The Pitti Palace,  
From Regal Residence to Museum 9  
*Alessandro Cecchi*

Works

Treasury of the Grand Dukes	31
Palatine Gallery	53
Royal Apartments	141
Modern Art Gallery	149
Museum of Costume and Fashion	215
Boboli Gardens	229
Porcelain Museum	245

Index 249

-  Ticket Counter
-  Information - Bookings
-  Bookshop
-  Cafe and Snack Bar
-  Coat Check
-  Lifts
-  WC
-  Accessible WC

**Palatine Gallery and Royal Apartments**

Accessible. Closed: Mondays, January 1, May 1, December 25.

**Modern Art Gallery**

Accessible. Closed: Mondays; January 1, May 1, December 25.

**Winter Suite or Apartments of the Duchess of Aosta**

Visits by appointment only.

**Museum of Costume and Fashion**

Accessible. Closed: first and last Monday of each month; January 1, May 1, December 25.

**Treasury of the Grand Dukes**

Accessible. Closed: first and last Monday of each month; January 1, May 1, December 25.

**Boboli Gardens**

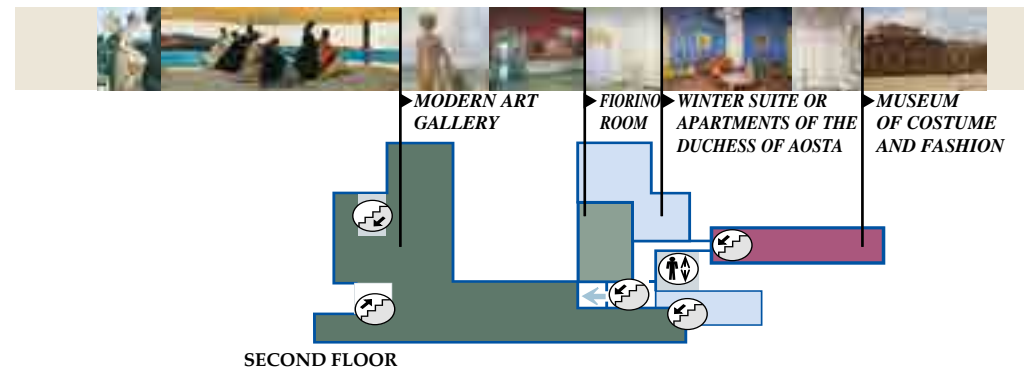
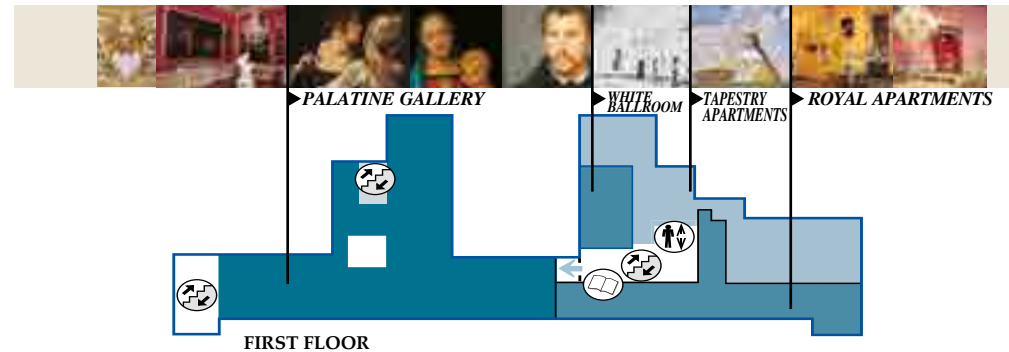
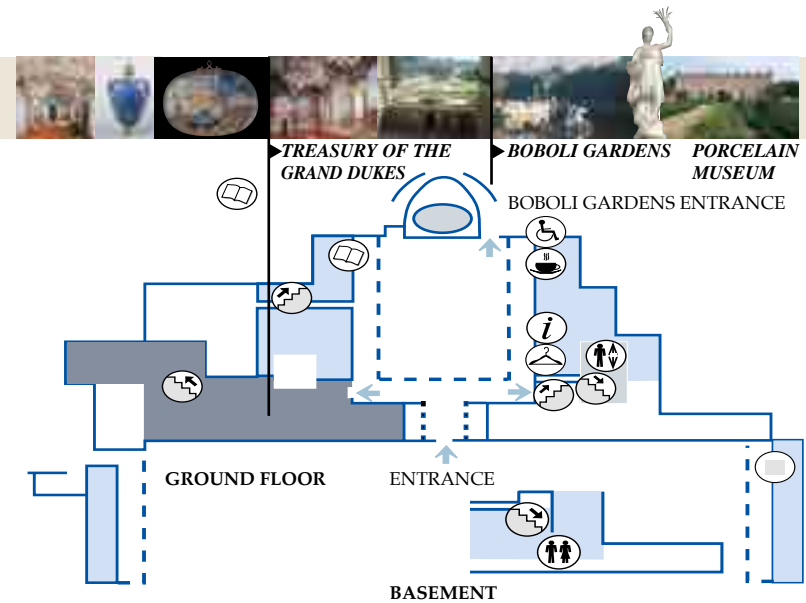
Accessible. Closed: first and last Monday of each month, January 1, May 1, December 25.

**Porcelain Museum**

Closed: first and last Monday of each month; January 1, May 1, December 25.

**For information and bookings contact Firenze Musei:**

tel. (+39) 055.294883-2654321, Monday to Friday 8.30 am-6.30 pm, Saturday 8.30 am-12.30 pm (answer phone operative at other times).



## The Pitti Palace, From Regal Residence to Museum



**Giusto Utens (Iustus van Utens)**

*Palazzo Pitti and the Forte Belvedere, c. 1599*  
Florence, Villa La Petraia

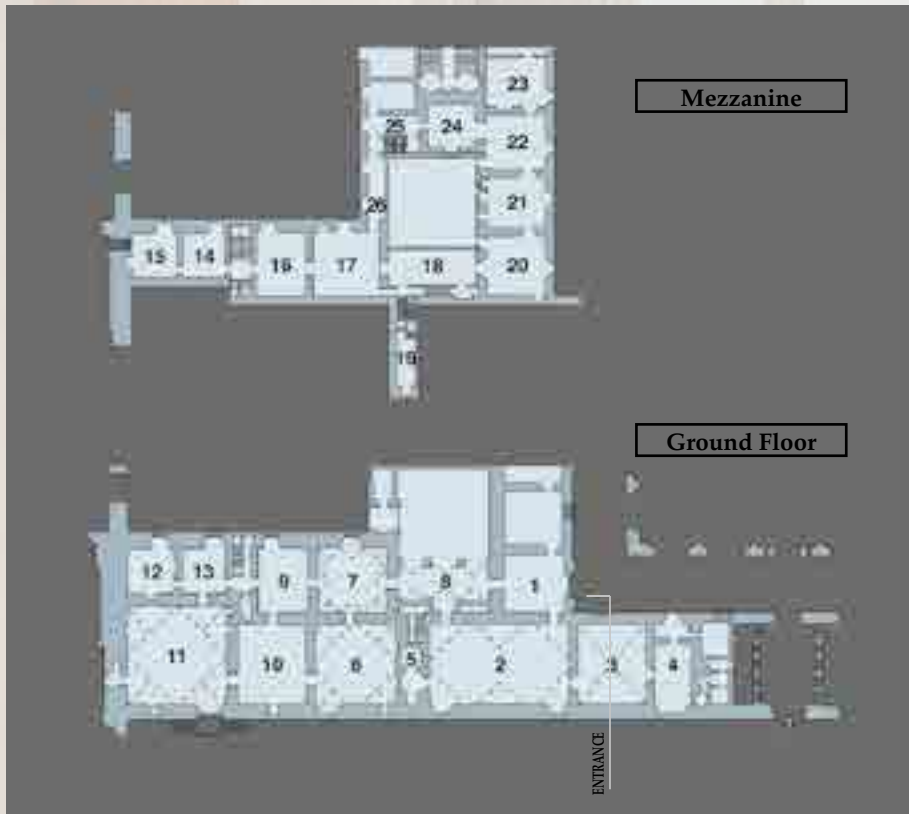
Anyone walking up the forecourt dominated by the grand building that embraces the square may find it hard to believe that the original fifteenth-century core was much smaller, with just seven windows. The lunette by the Flemish artist, Giusto Utens shows the ashlar façade the way it was in the late sixteenth-century, with the early arrangement of the Boboli Gardens and the Forte Belvedere, overlooking the gardens that was commissioned by Ferdinando I de' Medici and built by Bernardo Buontalenti in the 1490s.

An archive document tells us that the palace was built before 1461, probably by Luca Fancelli who, according to Vasari, worked to plans by Brunelleschi. It was commissioned by Luca Pitti a wealthy banker; but when his descendants ran into financial problems they sold it, and the garden, to Cosimo I de' Medici's wife, duchess Eleonora de Toledo in 1550. The Spanish lady must have felt uncomfortable and confined in Palazzo Vecchio: the old palace in the middle of the city, where the couple settled in 1540 just a year after their wedding, had no gardens.

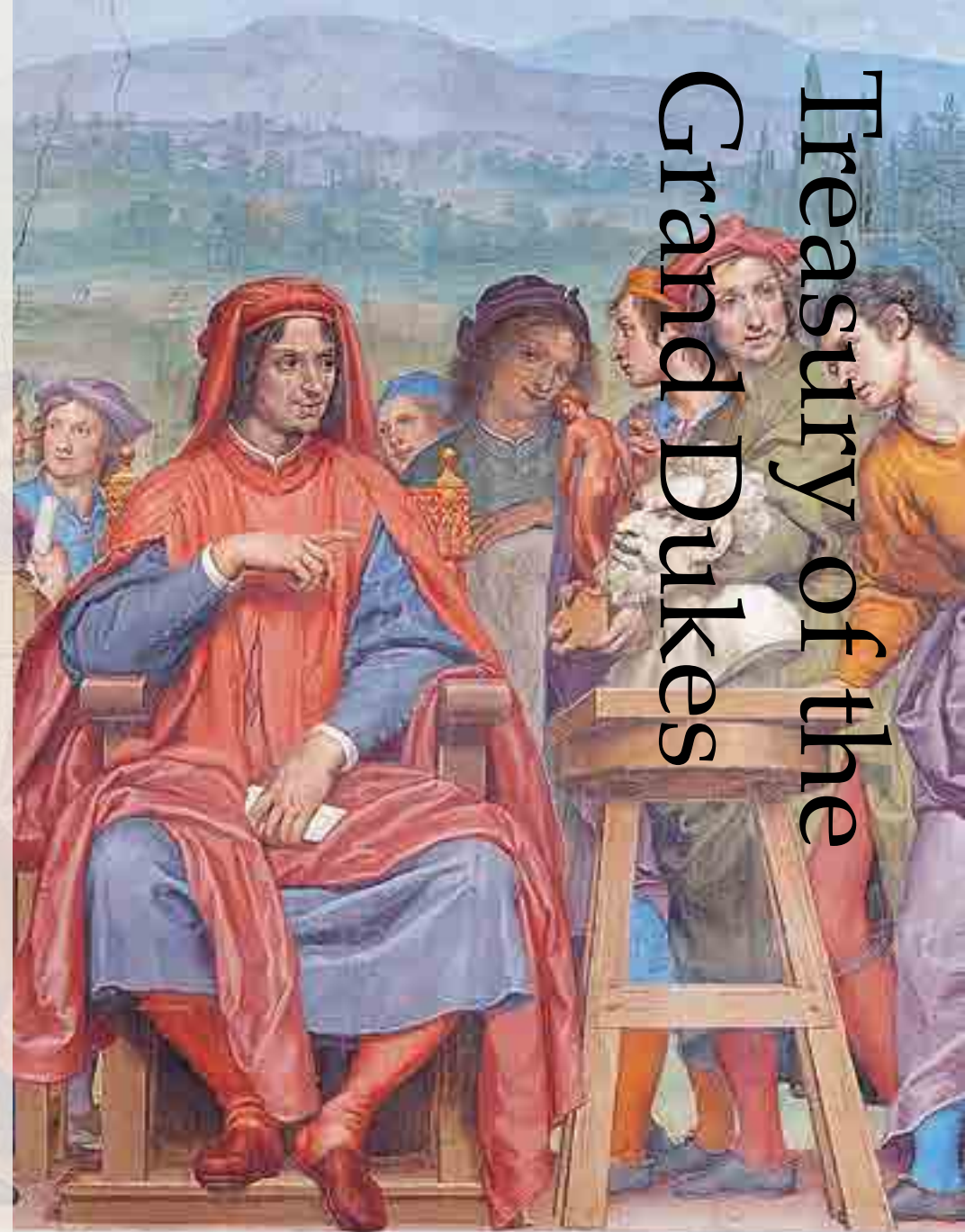
The focus of the initial works, financed by the duchess to designs by Niccolò Tribolo who died shortly after completing the drawings, was the gardens, with the construction of the *Grotticina di Madama* (Madama Grotto) (1553-1555) and a pond by Vasari, that has since been replaced by the *Grotta del Buontalenti* (Buontalenti Grotto) (1583-1593).

The first expansion work on the palazzo was begun in 1561, designed and directed by Bartolomeo Ammannati who built the majestic courtyard that opens towards the amphitheatre (inaugurated in 1637) and is named for him.

Eleonora could only see the beginnings of the work at Pitti and on the new apartment in Palazzo Vecchio meant for her, because she, and her children Giovanni and Garzia contracted malaria in Pisa and died in 1562.



- |    |   |    |   |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1  | Luca Pitti Room (Sala di Luca Pitti)                                      | 13 | Ivories and Reliquaries (Sala degli avori e dei reliquiari) |
| 2  | Room of Giovanni da San Giovanni (Sala di Giovanni da San Giovanni)       | 14 | Cameos (Sala dei cammei)                                    |
| 3  | Lorenzo de' Medici Room (Sala di Lorenzo)                                 | 15 | Jewels (Sala dei gioielli)                                  |
| 4  | Grotticina  | 16 | Treasure of Salzburg (Tesoro di Salisburgo)                 |
| 5  | Chapel (Cappellina)   | 17 | Treasure of Salzburg (Tesoro di Salisburgo)                 |
| 6  | Public Audience Room (Sala dell'Udienza Pubblica)                         | 18 | Loggia  |
| 7  | Crystals and Semiprecious Stones (Sala dei cristalli e delle pietre dure) | 19 | Small Treasures (Tesoretto)                                 |
| 8  | Ajax Courtyard (Cortile dell'Aiace)                                       | 20 | Exotic Collections (Sala esotica)                           |
| 9  | Ambers (Sala delle ambre)   | 21 | Chinese Porcelain (Sala delle porcellane cinesi)            |
| 10 | Private Audience Room (Sala dell'Udienza Pubblica)                        | 22 | Japanese Porcelain (Sala delle porcellane giapponesi)       |
| 11 | Third Audience Room (Terza Sala dell'Udienza)                             | 23 | Gifts (Sala delle donazioni)                                |
| 12 | Ivories (Sala degli avori)  | 24 | Casts (Sala dei calchi)                                     |
|    |   | 25 | Corridor of Casts (Corridoio dei calchi)                    |
|    |   | 26 | Corridor of Reliquaries (Corridoio dei reliquiari)          |



# Treasury of the Grand Dukes





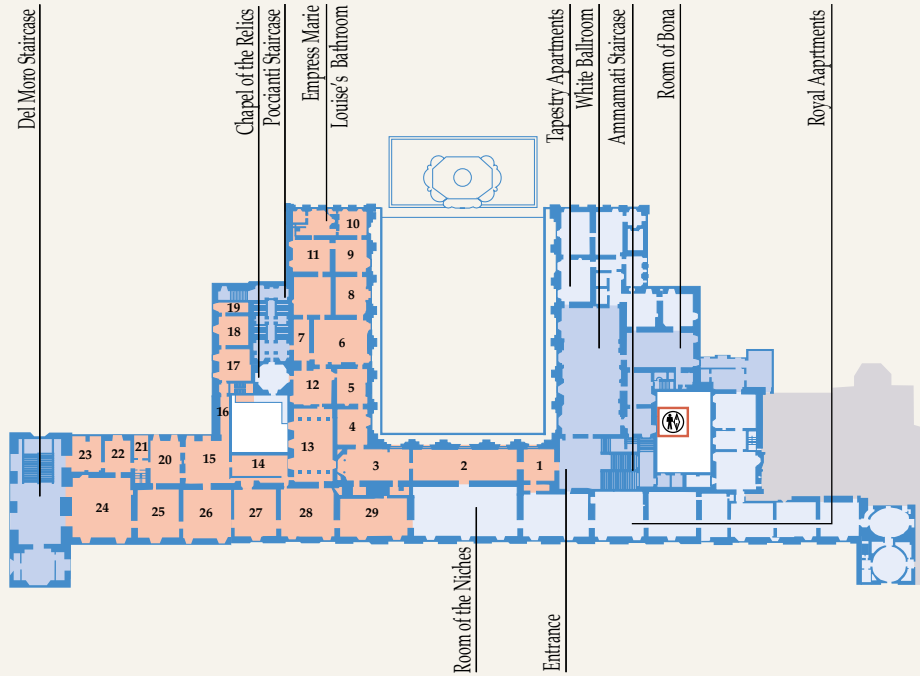
*The Medici Family Tree*, 1699  
pen and ink on paper, 152 × 136.6 cm



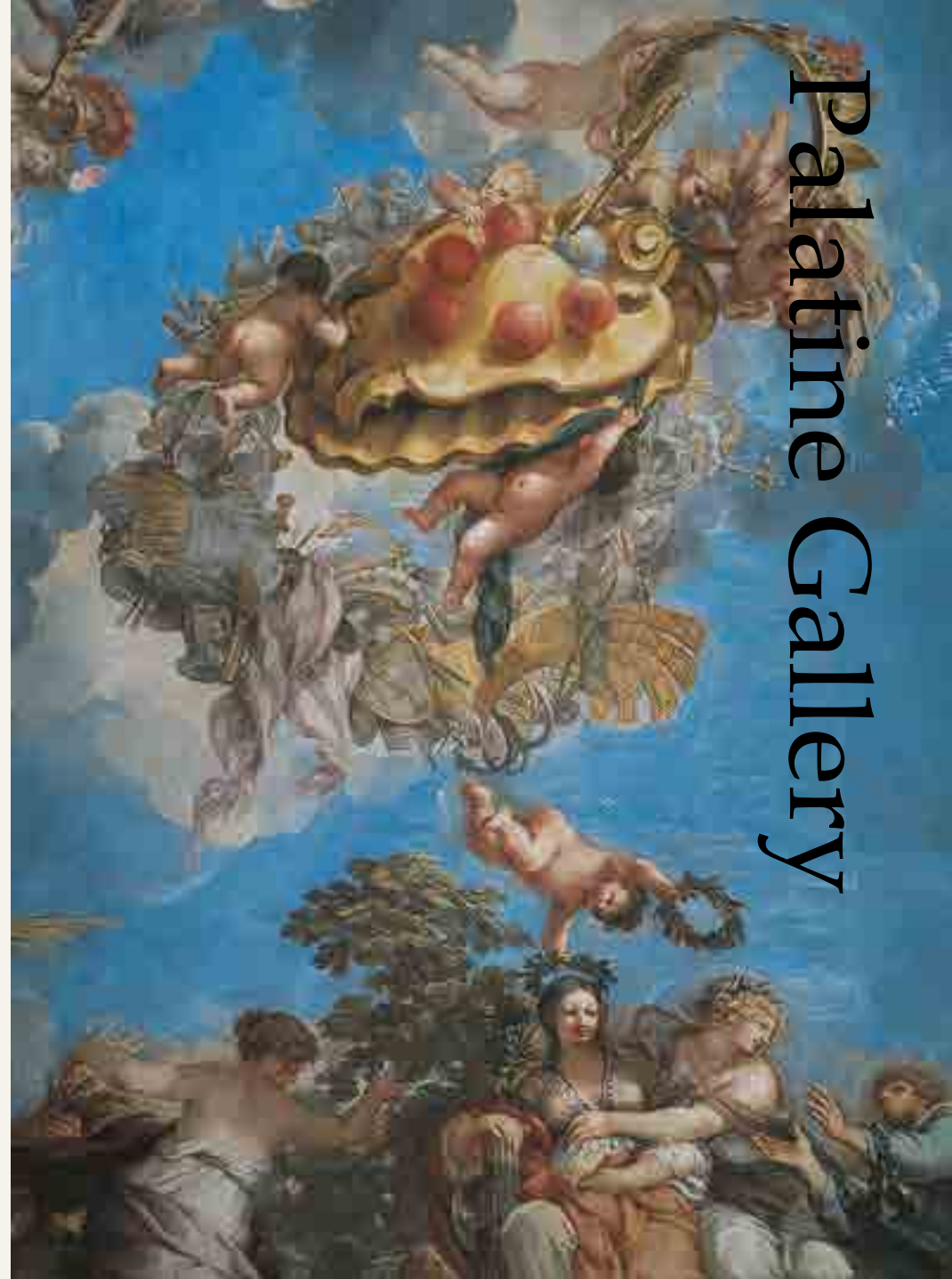
**Venetian Manufacture and Florentine Silver-and-Gold Work (Giusto da Firenze)**  
*Vase*, 13<sup>th</sup> century; *mount*, 15<sup>th</sup> century  
red jasper, gilded and enamelled silver mount, ht. 27 cm, engraving: "Laur. Med."



## First Floor



- |    |   |    |  |
|----|---|----|--|
| 1  | Footmen's Antechamber<br>(Anticamera degli Staffieri) | 16 | Corridor of the Columns<br>(Corridoio delle Colonne)         |
| 2  | Gallery of the Statues (Galleria delle Statue)        | 17 | Room of Justice (Sala della Giustizia)                       |
| 3  | Castagnoli Room (Sala Castagnoli)                     | 18 | Flora Room (Sala di Flora)                                   |
| 4  | Room of the Allegories (Sala delle Allegorie)         | 19 | Room of the Cupids (Sala dei Putti)                          |
| 5  | Room of the Fine Arts (Sala delle Belle Arti)         | 20 | Ulysses Room (Sala di Ulisse)                                |
| 6  | Hercules Room (Sala di Ercole)                        | 21 | Napoleon's Bathroom (Bagno di Napoleone)                     |
| 7  | Vitrine Room (Sala delle Vetrine)                     | 22 | Education of Jupiter Room<br>(Sala dell'Educazione di Giove) |
| 8  | Aurora Room (Sala dell'Aurora)                        | 23 | Heating Room (Sala della Stufa)                              |
| 9  | Berenice Room (Sala di Berenice)                      | 24 | Iliad Room (Sala dell'Iliade)                                |
| 10 | Psyche Room (Sala di Psiche)                          | 25 | Saturn Room (Sala di Saturno)                                |
| 11 | Room of Fame (Sala della Fama)                        | 26 | Jupiter Room (Sala di Giove)                                 |
| 12 | Room of the Ark (Sala dell'Arca)                      | 27 | Mars Room (Sala di Marte)                                    |
| 13 | Music Room (Sala della Musica)                        | 28 | Apollo Room (Sala di Apollo)                                 |
| 14 | Pocetti Corridor (Corridoio del Pocetti)              | 29 | Venus Room (Sala di Venere)                                  |
| 15 | Prometheus Room (Sala di Prometeo)                    |    |  |



# Palatine Gallery



**Roman Art**

*Aphrodite of Knidos*, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D.  
marble, ht. 199 cm



**Roman Art**

*Aesculapius*, 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D.  
marble, ht. 201 cm



**Roman Art**

*Athlete*, 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D.  
marble, ht. 66 cm



**Roman Art**

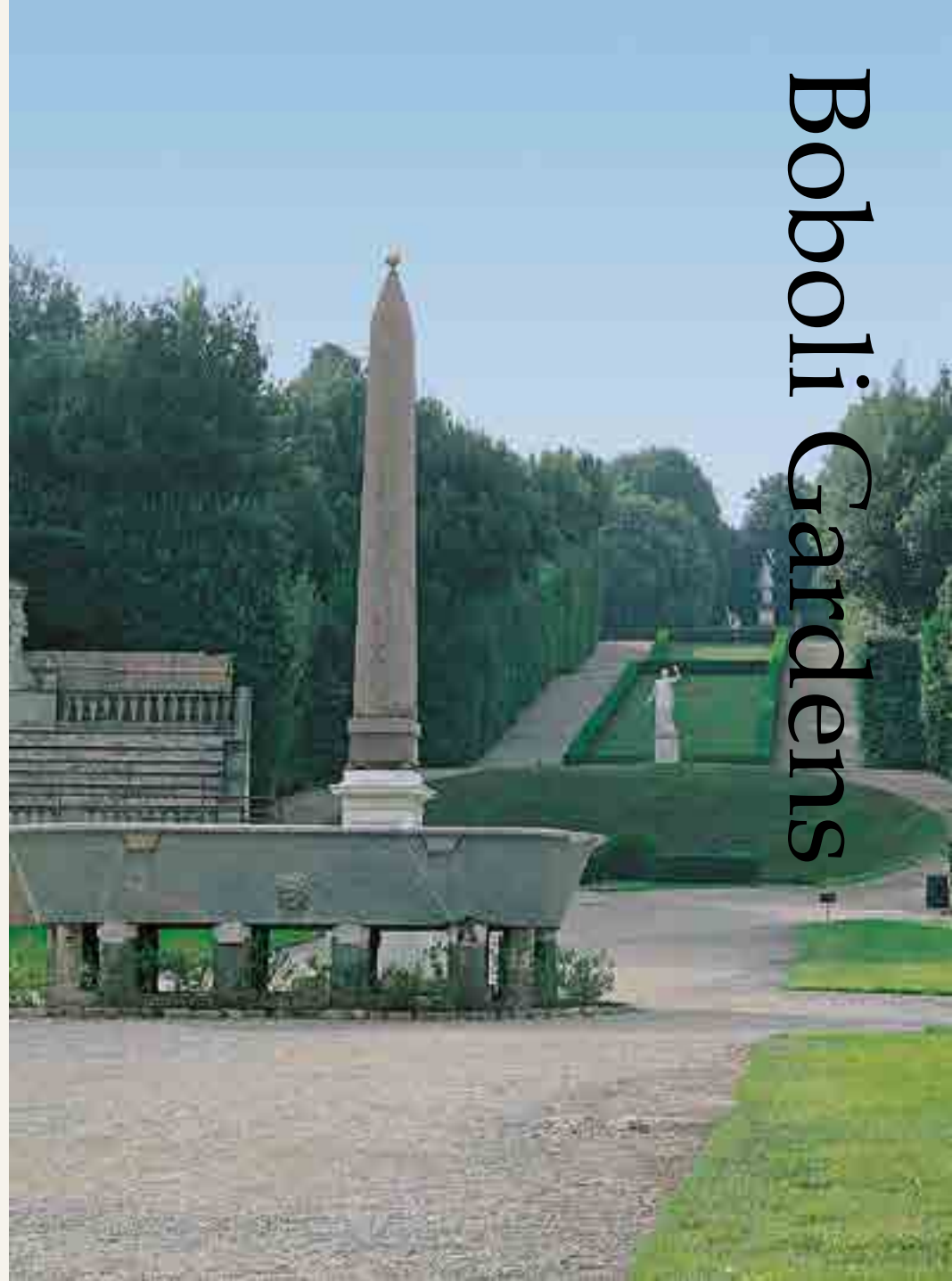
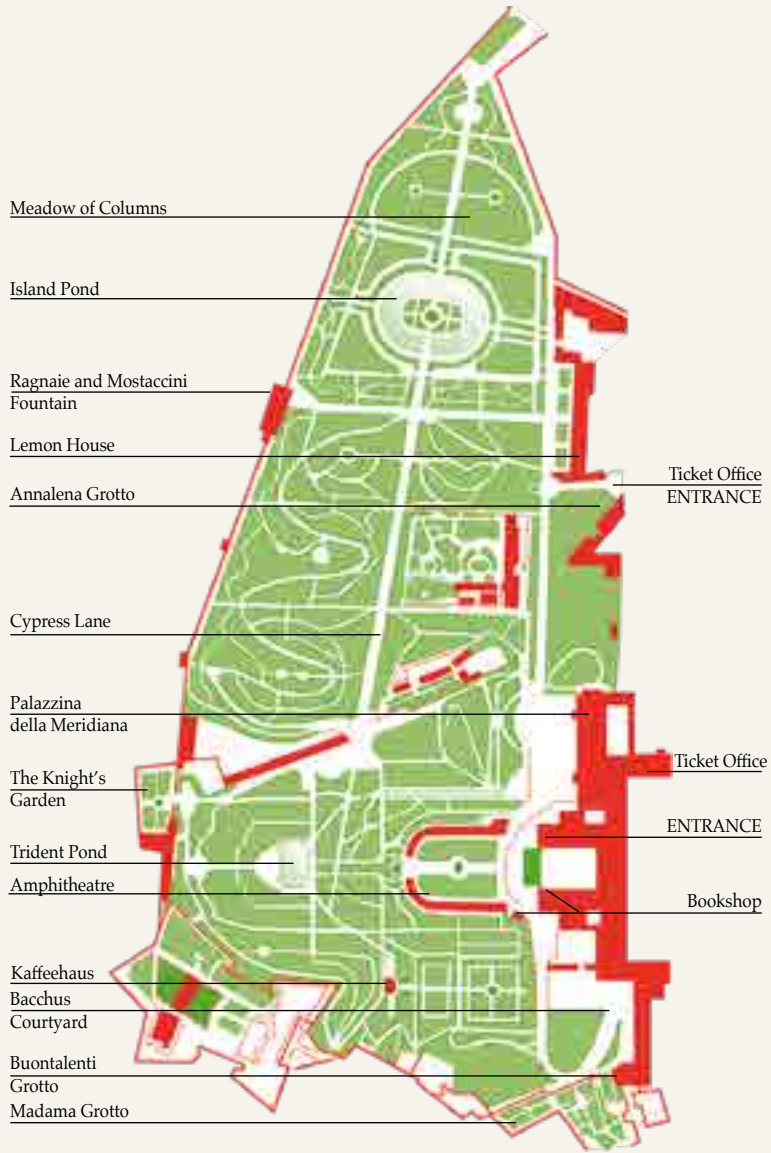
*Hygieia*, 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D.  
marble, ht. 202 cm



**Baldassare Franceschini, called Volterranno**  
*One of Parson Arlotto's Tricks*, c. 1640  
canvas, 107 × 150 cm



**Emilio Zocchi**  
*The Young Michelangelo Sculpting the Head of a Faun*, 1861  
marble, ht. 60 cm



# Boboli Gardens



**Giambologna**  
**Pietro Tacca**  
**Sebastiano Salvini da Settignano**  
*Abundance*, 1608, 1636-1637  
white marble (bronze stalks), ht. 400 cm



**Stoldo Lorenzi**  
*Neptune Fountain with Naiads and Tritons*, 1565-1568  
bronze, white marble