



**Important exhibition opens at National Museum:
“Bernini’s School and the Roman Baroque. Masterpieces from Palazzo Chigi in Ariccia”**

A very important Italian exhibition titled **“Bernini’s School and the Roman Baroque. Masterpieces from Palazzo Chigi in Ariccia”** opened at the National Museum and will be open to visitors until May 26. The exhibition was opened by **H.E. Carlo Lo Cascio**, Ambassador of the Republic of Italy to Serbia, **Vladan Vukosavljević**, Minister of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia, **Gabriele Pace**, Deputy President of the Executive Board of Banca Intesa, **Bojana Borić Brešković**, Acting Director of the National Museum in Belgrade, and the exhibition was presented by its author, **Francesco Petrucci**, conservator of Palazzo Chigi in Ariccia, who held a presentation titled “Roman Baroque art” during the afternoon. The official programme also included a performance by harpsichord player Svetlana Stojanović, who played Baroque Roman music.

“Bernini’s School and the Roman Baroque. Masterpieces from Palazzo Chigi in Ariccia” features 55 important works from Palazzo Chigi in Ariccia, a city close to Rome, and was organized in the year of significant anniversaries: 140 years from the establishment of diplomatic relations between Italy and Serbia, 10 years from the establishing of a strategic partnership between Rome and Belgrade, and 175 years of the National Museum. The exhibition showcased the artworks of Baroque masters such as Gian Lorenzo Bernini, Pietro da Cortona, Borgognone, Salvator Rosa, Giovanni Battista Gaulli, Cavaliere d'Arpino, Giacinto Gimignani, Mattia Preti, Andrea Pozzo, as well as French and Flemish artists who were in Rome in that period.

Italian Ambassador H.E. Carlo Lo Cascio said at the opening of the exhibition: “This exhibition marks 140 years of diplomatic relations between Italy and Serbia, and it is a



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part of the rich programme and the long cooperation in the field of culture. There will also be other initiatives, with the goal to contribute to the development of joint activities.”

The exhibition was supported by Banca Intesa, and on that occasion, Gabriele Pace, Deputy President of the Executive Board of the Bank, stated: “We are very proud of the fact that over the years we have been making an active contribution not just to the development of economic relations between our two countries, but also to the promotion of Italian art and culture in Serbia. Our efforts are inspired by our Italian roots and the dedication of our parent group Intesa Sanpaolo to the preservation of cultural and historic heritage of Italy and cultural exchange with other countries.”

The exhibition was organized by the Glocal Project, in cooperation with the Italian Institute of Culture in Belgrade and the National Museum in Belgrade, with the patronage of the Embassy of the Republic of Italy in Belgrade and the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Serbia, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy and the Ariccia Municipality Administration.