



## PRESENTATION

The Diffused Museum of the Resistance Movement, Deportation, War, Civil Rights and Freedom was inaugurated on 30 May 2003 in the eighteenth-century building of the Military Barracks. It is a place where research and communication come together while favouring the exchange of ideas and reflection. A Museum of ideas which, starting from the events of Turin and its surroundings between 1938 and 1948, extends its field of interest to Europe and the entire twentieth century, with particular focus on the great themes of the consolidation of civil rights and freedom.

It is an unconventional museum, which experiments with original forms of communication and exhibition languages capable of establishing an interaction with the present society.

“

I think that museums, at least, some of them, serve the purpose of strengthening, as far as their limited field of action allows, the sense of belonging (...)

FREDI DRUGMAN, *NOTES FOR A LESSON*



## TURIN 1938-1948. FROM RACIAL LAWS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The permanent exhibition at the Museum is an interactive multimedia tour that offers testimonies, images, videos, sounds and audio recordings, taking visitors on a virtual journey across Turin in the decade from 1938, when the racial laws were approved, to 1948, when the Republican Constitution was enacted and people's civil rights were restored.

During the tour, visitors can retrace the experiences of war, the Nazi-fascist occupation, the Resistance movement fighting back - with and without weapons - and the complex return to democratic life. The itinerary does not follow a linear course but rather suggests visitors to explore the local area, which reveals itself through the memory of one's own places. A symbolic underground network guides visitors through an installation that blends a huge number of documents with agile and interactive communication.

“

Ada Gobetti referred to the Constituent Assembly as 'the next step'. The insurrection and liberation represented the first steps. Then, another step had to be taken. Don't stay still. Prepare the next step, every day.

FRANCO VENTURI, 1945



“

Thinking back over history and identities (...) is beneficial when it serves today's life, enriches political choices and is not carried out within closed circles but rather with an open dialogue with the city, with interlocutors who may know nothing of antiquarian memory and generations who now participate in the celebrations without having taken part in the events evoked.

BARBARA SPINELLI, *IL SONNO DELLA MEMORIA (THE SLEEP OF MEMORY)*

## THE ACTIVITIES

The Museum regularly holds temporary exhibitions that explore the themes linked to its mission – the historical, social and cultural events that have marked the history of the twentieth century, the reflection on contemporary society as well as the values inherited from the tragic events of the Second World War and totalitarianism.

On the occasion of Holocaust Remembrance Day (27 January) and Liberation Day (25 April), the Museum holds and promotes special events in its headquarters and in the main places that evoke the memory of those events.

The Museum offers educational activities (workshops, itineraries, guided tours) related to the permanent displays and temporary exhibitions, aimed at all students and citizens.

**For information and reservations, please contact**  
**+39 011 0112078 - didattica@museodiffusotorino.it**

The Museum's website features a section dedicated to the Education Portal, a space created to network and promote the Museum's didactic production and to offer a tool that favours the sharing of experiences, ideas and teaching materials among teachers.

“

I rebel against the idea that the 25th of April becomes a purely academic celebration with the commemorative emptiness that is common to all academic holidays (...)

FRANCO ANTONICELLI, 1948



“

What I mean is, today, after these long years of voluntary forgetfulness, not only can I tell this story, but I must. I must speak in the name of what has happened, not in my own name.

JORGE SEMPRUN, *THE LONG VOYAGE*

## STOLPERSTEINE

The *Stolpersteine* (literally “stumbling stones”) are a diffused and participatory monument conceived and created by the German artist Gunter Demnig to commemorate the individual victims of the Nazi and Fascist deportation. Each year, the Museum promotes the installation of new stones in the urban area and carries out specific educational programmes for schools.

**To have a stone inscribed or to know more about the project, please contact**  
**+39 011 01120783 - pietredinciampo@museodiffusotorino.it**



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Memory, on which history draws and which it nourishes in return, seeks to save the past in order to serve the present and the future.

Let us act in such a way that collective memory may serve the liberation and not the enslavement of human beings.

JACQUES LE GOFF, *MEMORY, FROM HISTORY AND MEMORY*



## THE PLACES OF MEMORY

The concept of a “diffused museum” expresses the close relationship between the local area and the heritage preserved inside museums.

Together with the virtual tour offered by the Museum, the buildings around the city that evoke the memory of the Resistance, deportation and war turn into the landmarks of a museum itinerary, with the aim of stimulating conscious, active and participatory reflection on contemporary society. Twenty locations are marked with signs that illustrate the traces of the past in the local context.

## The building

The complex of the *San Celso* and *San Daniele* military barracks was designed by Filippo Juvarra and built in the first half of the eighteenth century to accommodate the infantry troops of King Victor Amadeus II. The San Celso building is also home to the Piedmontese Institute for the History of the Resistance and Contemporary Society *Giorgio Agosti*, the National Film Archive of the Resistance, the *Primo Levi* International Research Centre and the *Polo del '900* foundation.

“

PRIMO LEVI,  
*SIGNS ON  
STONE  
FROM  
OTHER  
PEOPLE'S  
TRADES*

In various points of the city the stone slabs preserve traces of the air raids during the Second World War. The slabs shattered by the exploding bombs have been replaced, but those which were pierced by incendiary bombs have been left in place.



## The Martinetto Memorial

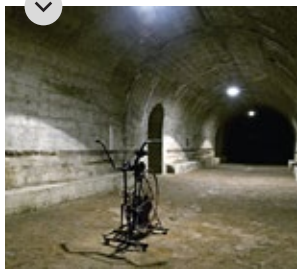
— at the corner of Corso Svizzera and Corso Appio Claudio: after 8 September 1943, the Italian Social Republic chose the shooting range of the city as a place for the execution of death sentences: where over sixty members of the Resistance movement were shot. After the war, the shooting range was dismantled while the Martinetto was listed among the places of national interest and used as a shrine in memory of the executed.



## The air-raid shelter

— in Piazza Risorgimento, is one of the largest of the 137 public shelters built by the Municipality of Turin. It is made up of three parallel tunnels about 40 metres long, located 12 metres underground.

“ Until five in the afternoon someone smiles in Turin. After that, the shops and people close up. The terror of air raids looms on the city. Those who can find shelter in the countryside, those who cannot just stop smiling. VALDO FUSI, *FIORI ROSSI AL MARTINETTO*



## The Pian del Lot

— (the Lot Plain), located on the municipal road of Revigliasco, was the setting of the bloodiest reprisal carried out by the Nazis in the city: on the morning of 2 April 1944, 27 young people were taken out of the New Prisons and shot there.

“ Only the next morning did I truly begin to become aware of reality when, passing in front of Porta Nuova in a tram I saw some German soldiers on guard, armed to the teeth, in camouflage uniform with machine guns close at hand. ADA GOBETTI, *PARTISAN DIARY*



A non-profit association for the management of the museum was established in 2006; the founding members are the Turin City Council, the Metropolitan City of Turin Council, the Piedmont Region as well as ANCR and Istoreto. In 2016, the Museum joined the *Polo del '900* cultural centre.



## Contacts

**Diffused Museum of the Resistance Movement, Deportation, War, Civil Rights and Freedom**

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Administration ph. +39 011 01120788  
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Facebook: @MuseoDiffusodellaResistenza  
Instagram: @museodiffuso  
Twitter: @diffuso2003  
Spotify: Spotify.com

## Opening hours

Tuesday to Sunday, from 10 am to 6 pm  
(last admission at 5:15 pm), closed on Mondays

## Entrance fee

Full ticket 5 euros.

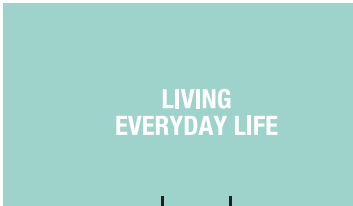
Reduced ticket 3 euros.

Visitors aged 16 to 25 and over 65, groups with a reservation (15 to 30 people), teachers, university students, members of ARCI, FAI, COOP, UISP, AICS, IGIIC and the Turin Civic Libraries.

Free entry

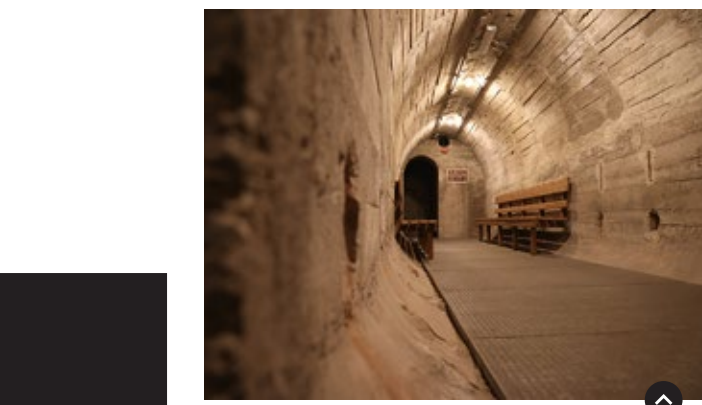
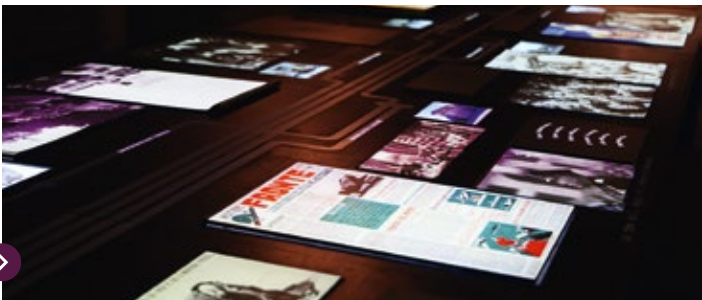
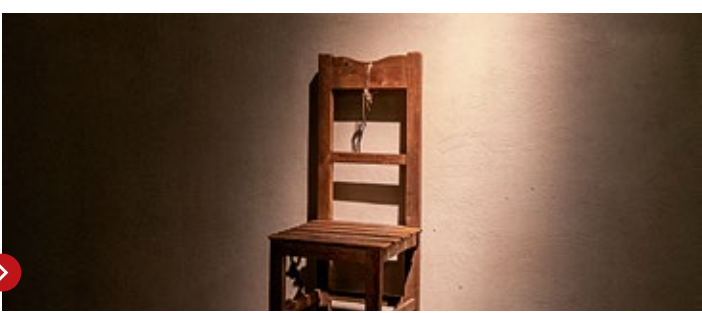
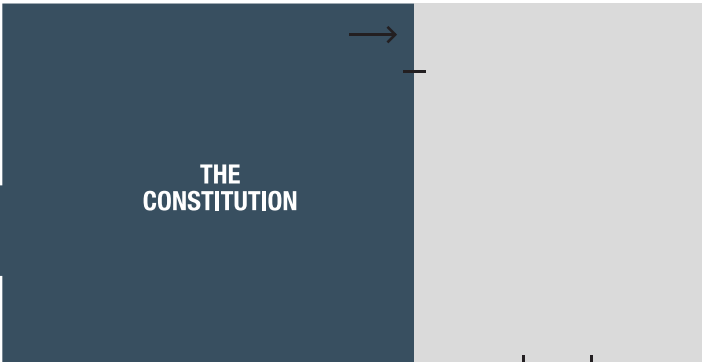
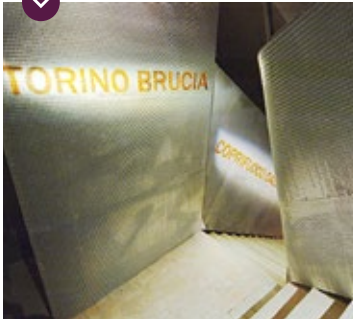
Visitors under 16, members of ICOM and PASS60, holders of the Turin and Piedmont Museums pass, people with disabilities and their caregiver, tourist guides (ID badge required), journalists (ID badge required), holders of the Polo del '900 membership card.





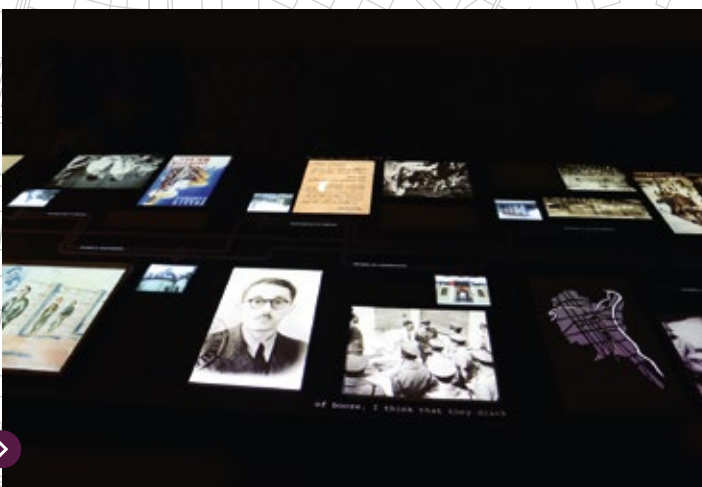
At the **ticket office**, visitors will receive headphones through which they can listen to the theme of their choice - marked by a circle on the floor - with a brief introduction by the historian Giovanni De Luna.

Along the **staircase** leading to the basement, visitors can listen to the stories of the witnesses.



In the **courtyard** there are three memorial plaques from Concerie Fiorio and FIAT Ferriere and Grandi Motori factories which commemorate partisans and opponents of the regime who lost their lives in the liberation struggle or were deported to extermination camps.

Standing in the centre of the courtyard, a triangular pink **bench**, designed in 1989 by Corrado Levi and donated to the Museum in 2013, recalls the homosexual victims of the Nazi-fascist persecutions.



Daily difficulties during the war, both at the front and in the city, through documents and the testimonies of Ennio Pistoï and Mariuccia Gaudenzi.

Hunger, cold and fear during the bombings. With videos, original documents and the testimonies of Carmen Nanotti and Emilio Jona (who was displaced in the Biella area).

The Fascist regime amidst opposition and consent. With documents and the testimonies of Giorgia Arian Levi and Mario Giacometti.

The Resistance movement in Turin in the words of Enzo Pettini, a worker, and Matilde Di Pietrantonio, one of the few women in command of armed troops in Turin. The clandestine propaganda through documents, videos and a rare pedal-powered printing press.

One of the two original items exhibited in the Museum: one of the chairs used for executions at the Martinetto shooting range.



## THE PLACES OF MEMORY

- Fiat Mirafiori
- Porta Nuova
- Carceri Nuove
- Synagogue
- Hotel Nazionale
- Campana Building
- Police Station
- Castello Square
- Church of the Virgin of the Consolation
- Turin Theatre
- Martinetto
- Shooting Range
- Concerie Fiorio

Each of the white interactive panels, when activated by touch, displays a multimedia archive with 49 key moments of the city's history. Each place offers testimonies and videos.

The air-raid shelter was mainly used by the employees of the newspaper *La Gazzetta del Popolo*, which had its offices in the building as well as many people living in the neighbourhood. It consists of four tunnels with an ogival structure, built with reinforced concrete to withstand the bombings and the shock waves. It was discovered during the renovation works of the building.

The women's suffrage, through the story told by Bianca Guidetti Serra; summary justice and purges in the testimony of Cesare Alvazzi Del Frate; the return to the political life in the words of Adriano Vitelli; the return from the concentration camps in the memories of Marisa Scala.

The last installation illustrates the attainment of civil rights, enshrined in the fundamental principles of the 1948 Constitution. The Italian Constitution is presented through some of its emblematic articles displayed on four mirrors: **Yes to Freedom, Yes to Democracy, Yes to Equality, No to Violence**. By sitting in front of each mirror, visitors activate the reading of testimonies, literary passages and news commenting on the constitutional articles.