



Palazzo Pretorio
Piazza Campello, 1 - Sondrio

LE CATTEDRALI DELL'ENERGIA

Architettura, industria e paesaggio nelle immagini di Francesco Radino e degli Archivi Storici Aem

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THE CATHEDRALS OF ENERGY

Architecture, industry and landscape in the images by Francesco Radino and the Aem Historical Archives

curated by Francesco Radino and Fabrizio Trisoglio

13 - 30 September 2017

opening Tuesday 12 September, 6pm

press release, 28.07.17

In the historical venue of **Palazzo Pretorio** in Sondrio the evocative exhibition "Le cattedrali dell'energia. Architettura, industria e paesaggio nelle immagini di Francesco Radino e degli Archivi Storici Aem/The cathedrals of energy. Architecture, industry and landscape in the images by Francesco Radino and the Aem Historical Archives" opens up. From 13 to 30 September, with a careful selection of photographs by **Francesco Radino**, the exhibition illustrates the buildings, places and architecture of A2A Group, which were engaged in the production of energy from the North to the South of Italy.

The display has been devised and promoted by the Aem Foundation - A2A Group, and curated by Francesco Radino and Fabrizio Trisoglio. During the past year, the exhibition - which is at its last stop in Valtellina - has been successfully welcomed at the Casa dell'Energia e dell'Ambiente (House of Energy and Environment) in Milan, Milan Urban Centre, Banca Popolare of Sondrio in Bormio, and at Palazzo Foppoli in Tirano.

The **gallery of colour photographs**, made by **Francesco Radino** in 2016, marks a long journey, a precious testimony of contemporaneity made by using images of modern and historical structures, which widely differ in their appearance. They combine the useful with the aesthetic and create new balances with the surrounding natural environment. For example, **the first Aem hydroelectric plant, which was built in Valtellina in 1910, in Grosotto**, still operative today, with its monumental structure, impressive for its size and which is characterized by a classic-like architectural style. It celebrates progress and civic virtues. Then, the hydroelectric plant of **Raosco**, that reminds the viewer of a medieval castle, designed by the well-known architect Piero Portaluppi and launched in 1922. The plant of **Fraele**, located at 1300m above sea level, Neo-Renaissance and Neo-romantic in style, which was launched in 1928 and, presently, has been turned into a venue for cultural events. Also, the most recent plants, the one in **Grosio** that has been operative since 1960, and the one in **Premadio**, operative since 1956. A more modern aspect characterizes them, which are a very important archaeological-industrial heritage.

The display ranges from the plants of Valtellina to those from the Milanese and Brescia territory, to those from the Friuli Region up to the splendid reservoirs from the Calabria Region.

The exhibition is accompanied by a precious **volume** of more than **150 images** of great historical and artistic value; they thoroughly examine the above-mentioned theme. In the book,

curated by Francesco Radino and Fabrizio Trisoglio, we can also find formal introductions by Alberto Martinelli, president of the Aem Foundation - A2A Group, and Giovanni Valotti, A2A president, as well as important critical texts by *Roberto Mutti*, *Francesco Radino*, *Ornella Selvafolta* and *Fabrizio Trisoglio*. General coordination is by Luisa Toeschi, board member of the Aem Foundation.

Exhibition details

Title LE CATTEDRALI DELL'ENERGIA. Architettura, industria e paesaggio nelle immagini di Francesco Radino e degli Archivi Storici Aem/ THE CATHEDRALS OF ENERGY. Architecture, industry and landscape in the images by Francesco Radino and the Aem Historical Archives

Curated by Francesco Radino and Fabrizio Trisoglio

Venue Palazzo Pretorio, piazza Campello 1 - Sondrio

Dates 13 - 30 September 2017

Opening Tuesday 12 September, 6pm

Opening Hours Monday - Sunday, from 9.30am to 7pm

Catalogue curated by Francesco Radino and Fabrizio Trisoglio

General coordination Luisa Toeschi

Entrance free

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