



JATTA'S PRIVATE HOUSE TOUR

The Jatta's Palace was built between 1842 and 1844 by Luigi Castellucci the Architect from Bitonto (a town near Ruvo di Puglia) and it was wanted by Giovanni Jatta The Senior (1767 – 1844) and his sister in law Giulia Viesti to host the private archaeological collection. Giovanni Jatta The Junior (1832 – 1895) lived here with his huge family.

Nowadays the building is divided in four parts and two of these, the ones that are on the main staircase, are still owned by the family.

The apartment you can visit is the most representative part in which is saved the original old fashioned furniture, the original floors and the old paintings.

THE ENTRANCE

The original wallpapers has the same colour of the decorations of the ceiling, made with the *trompe l'oeil* technique.

Two paintings have the subject of “A Neapolitan man who bring the water” on the left, and of “The bitter glass of the life” on the right, probably made by Francesco Netti or Domenico Morelli in the second half of the 19th century.

THE CHAPEL

This room was used for religious ceremonies, in fact you can see the Holy Spirit in the middle of the ceiling. The original wallpapers and the original floor (made in venetian style) are saved. This altar, which is not the original, was made in the beginning of the 20th century by Ettore Bernich the Architect of the Jatta's private Chapel in the cemetery. Two paintings on table made in the second half of the 17th century and two pieces of furniture in the corners with two items inside, coming from the Jatta's private collection.

LIVING ROOM

In this room the furniture, the wooden doors and the *boiserie* were made in the second half of the 19th century by Neapolitan labours. On the ceiling there are the original decorations with countryside's views. The big painting has the subject from The Bible “Lot and his daughters”, then there is a “Holy Family” on table while above the desk, made in the 18th century, there is the portrait of Giovanni Jatta The Senior (1767 – 1844), who was an important lawyer and the founder of the archaeological collection, together with his brother Giulio.



THE BEDROOM FOR GUESTS

In this room there is furniture made in the first years of the 20th century, there aren't wallpapers but the walls are painted with a roller. There are flowers decorated on the ceiling while the floor is made in "*cotto*". On the walls, from right to left, there is a "Virgin Mary with the Baby", the portrait of Angela Cappelluti from Molfetta (she was the wife of Giovanni Jatta the Junior and mother of 9 sons and 4 daughters), the portrait of one of her daughter, Lucia Jatta, and one of her sons, Giuseppe Jatta (1860 – 1903). The carriage for babies was made in the twenties of the 20th century.

THE LIBRARY

In this room there are books from the second half of the 19th century about Latin and Greek classics and law, which some of those nine sons of Giovanni Jatta The Junior studied on. Then there are botanic books owned by Antonio Jatta (1853 – 1912), who was a very important botanic man, and medicine books, owned by Mauro Jatta (1867 - 1918), who was a doctor that worked with the Nobel Prize Camillo Golgi in Pavia's University. The floor is still in Venetian style and the ceiling is decorated with the *trompe l'oeil* technique.

THE DINING ROOM

Originally this was another living room but until 2001 when we decided to open this apartment to the public it was used, as the chapel and the big saloon, like a store. Here we have paintings from the Neapolitan school of the 18th century, the one above the *abat jour* is signed by De Caro. Here there is the original wallpapers and the floor is still in Venetian style, while the ceiling is decorated with the *trompe l'oeil* technique.

THE DANCING ROOM

Here the furniture is not the original: the two chests of drawers are made in the 18th century as the two *consolles* and they were owned by the Bonelli's, a family of Marquises from Barletta (a city in the north of Bari) that got married with the Jatta's family in 1930. The paintings are made in the 18th century probably by the Neapolitan school of Caravaggio: those two on the left and on the right of the door were probably made by the northern school of Mathias Stomer; above the two chests of drawers there are two paintings with the subject of "Lucrezia", the best one probably made by Massimo Stanzione; between the two *consolles* there is a painting probably made by Vaccaro with the subject of "The Eve's creation"; then there is the portrait of two ancestors of the Bonelli's family, Cesare and Scipione Bonelli; the last is a



subject of “S. Pieter”, with the cock on the right side. In the middle of the room there is the signs of the English Army’s occupation during the Second World War: they set a wall to divide the dancing room in two parts. The floor is still in Venetian style, while the ceiling is decorated with the *trompe l’oeil* technique with some golden *stuccos*.

THE GALLERY OF THE ANCESTORS

Here we have the bust of Mauro Jatta (1867 - 1918), who was a doctor that worked with the Nobel Prize Camillo Golgi in Pavia’s University. The portrait of Antonio Jatta (1853 – 1912), who was not only a very important botanic man, but he was also an important archaeologist and senator to the Italian Parliament. The portrait of Giuseppe Jatta (1860 – 1903), who was a biologist (he discovered the *Sepiola Aurantiaca Jatta*, a little cuttlefish from the Gulf of Naples). The portrait of the father of all these people: Giovanni Jatta The Junior (1832 – 1895), archaeologist, who set the vases of the collection in the way you can see yet downstairs in the Museum; he wrote the catalogue of the archaeological collection, published in 1869.