

THE TREASURES OF THE GARDEN OF WONDERS

2 - The Parterre

From Sunday 21 June, with immense pleasure and a touch of emotion, we have reopened the gates of the Garden of Wonders to our Visitors.

After so many days, weeks, months locked in the house, we went back to see that there is a world outside!

Every Sunday our wonderful garden offers the public the opportunity to spend a day between history, art, nature, charm, to live in complete safety.

In recent months we have told you about the treasures of the Castellazzo palace, now we will tell you about the treasures of its garden, which you can admire in person every Sunday!



A "NEW" LARGE GARDEN FOR THE SMALL VERSAILLES

When, in the mid-eighteenth century, Count Giuseppe Antonio Arconati completed the construction project of the Villa and Garden of Castellazzo, which began more than a century earlier by his great-grandfather Galeazzo Arconati, he did so with the intention of having the largest, most majestic, rich and celebrated Villa of delight in all of northern Milan. A "royal villa" that was to arouse the amazement and envy of any other Milanese patrician who had the honor of crossing the threshold of his little Versailles.

COMUNICATO STAMPA LUGLIO 2020

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Giuseppe Antonio Arconati certainly had the opportunity to see the Versailles of France, when in 1733 he was among the delegates sent from Austria to the French court for an important diplomatic mission, where however he was not received by Louis XV.

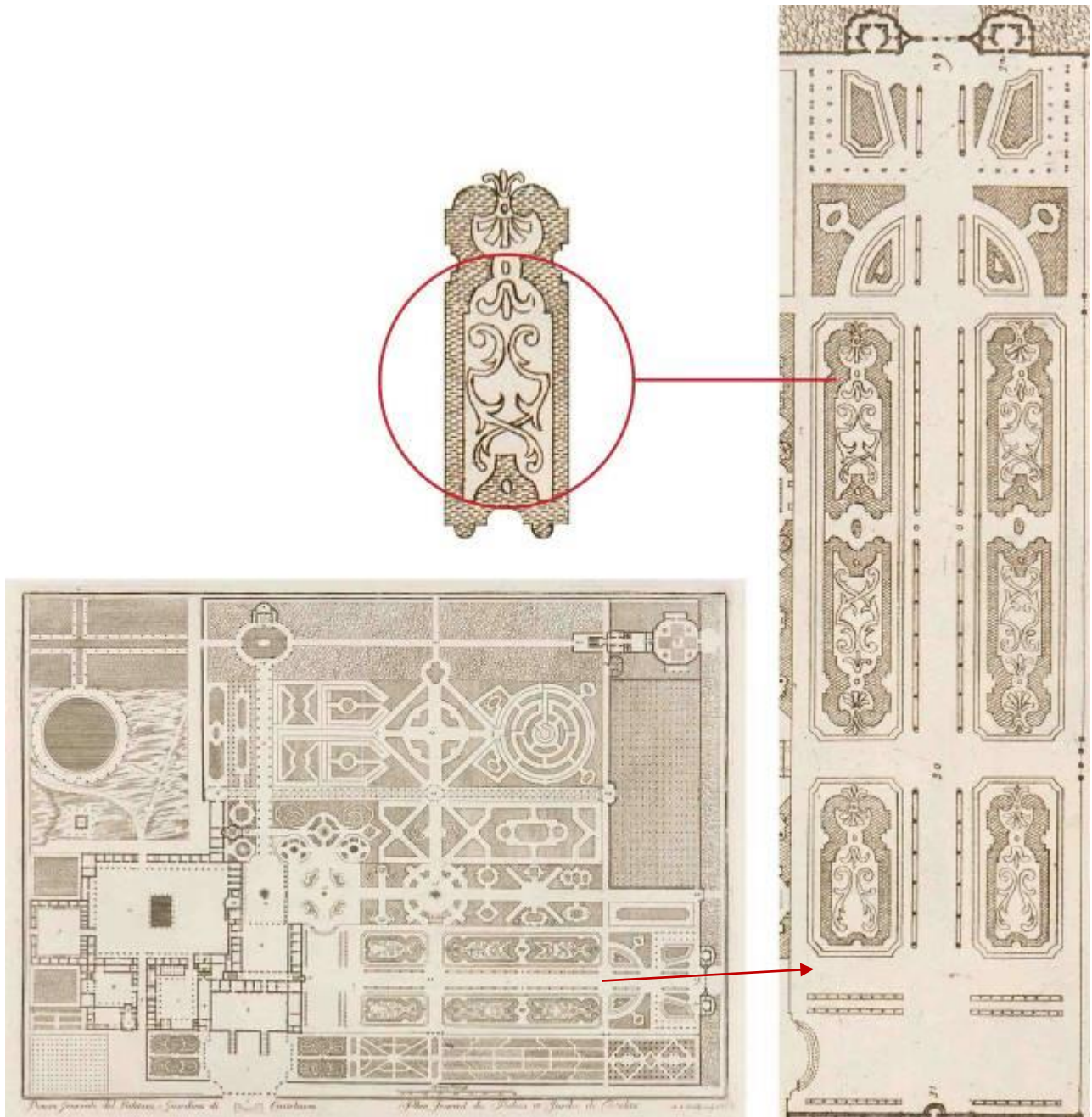


Marc'Antonio Dal Re - engraving depicting the parterre of Villa Arconati (1743)

The taste for French grandeur was all the rage at the time, and Giuseppe Antonio Arconati aimed to ensure that his villa was the means to demonstrate the prestige of the noble Arconati family to the Milanese patrician.

He had built an entire wing of the building on the south-west, so as to complete its architectural structure, while on the south front he had the modern French garden which - unlike the larger Italian portion characterized by greenery wings and the culminating perspectives with theaters, fountains and water features built on the Leonardo model - showed the Guests a large open space in which their gaze captured the elegant grandeur of the Arconati property.

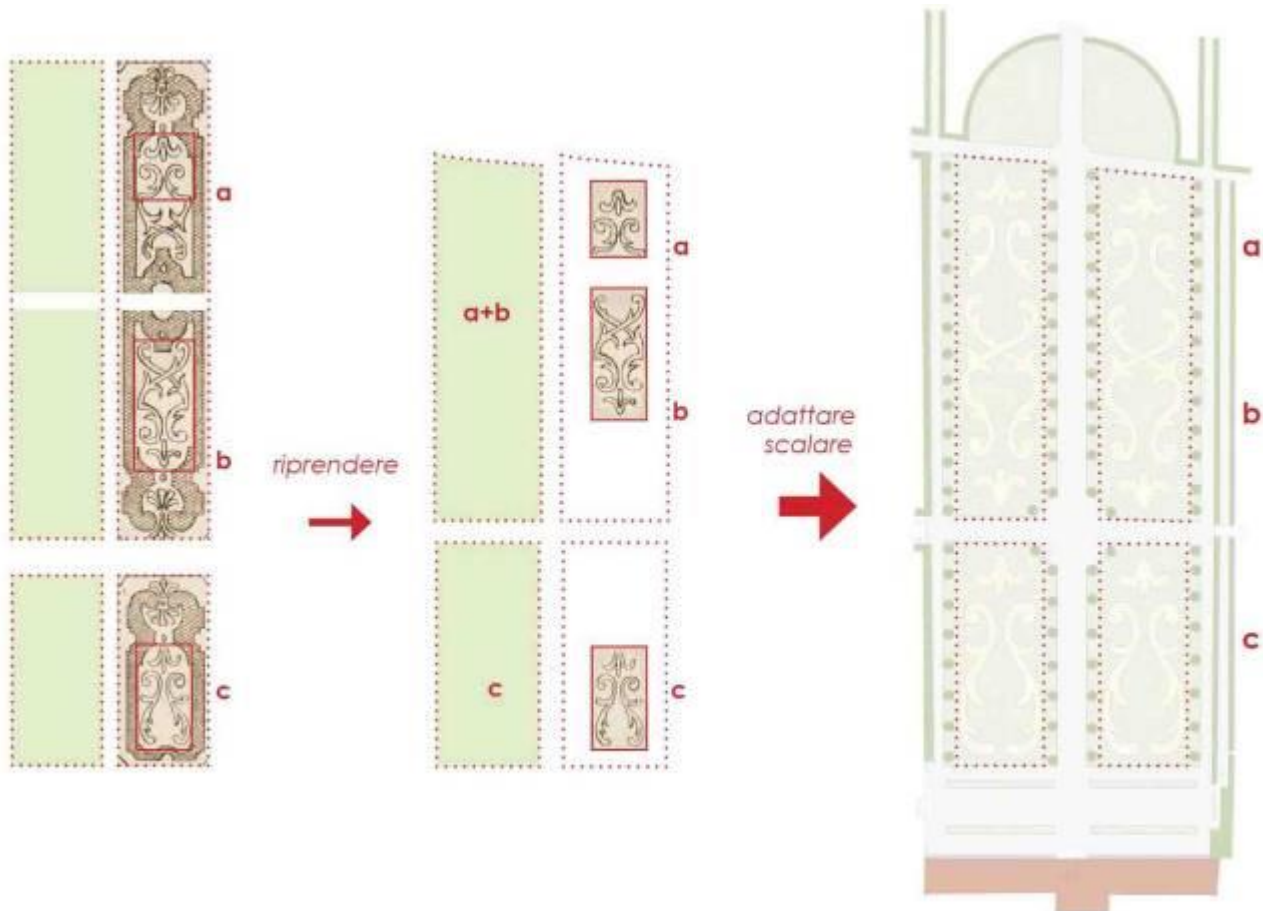
THE RESTORATION PROJECT



In 1743 the engraver Marc'Antonio Dal Re made a series of engravings that portrayed the gardens of the most important patrician's delight residences, to be included in the volume "Delightful villas or country palaces of the State of Milan". Twenty-four engravings were made of our Villa, which are still a very interesting testimony of the design of the garden by Giuseppe Antonio Arconati. Was the garden of the royal villa really like that in the eighteenth century? We have no answer to this question, however the engravings by Dal Re are a testimony of what the garden of Castellazzo at least aspired to be at that time, which was undoubtedly the moment of maximum splendor of

the residence. It is, therefore, from the precious engravings of Dal Re that we wanted to leave to carry out the restoration of our parterre.

The project was entrusted to the interdisciplinary group made up of PRR Architetti, architects Sara Pivetta and Stefania Restelli (collaborators Anna Banfi architect and Luigi Serio landscape architect), by dr. agronomist Paolo Alleva and Architect Ilaria Lelii (historical research and project consultancy). Within a larger park redevelopment project, the working group has interpreted the historical iconography (in particular, the drawings of Marc'Antonio Dal Re) by proposing a solution that combines the design of the historical park with the needs of contemporary representation, without forgetting the aspects of management and maintenance.



The restoration project, carried out with the authorization of the Superintendency of Archeology, fine arts and landscape for the metropolitan city of Milan, saw an intense design work followed by the implementation of metal profiles and gravel colored Siena, which after two hundred years return to show the public the grandeur of the French garden of the Arconati, one of the very few that is still preserved in all of Lombardy.

Together with the large flowerbeds of the parterre, it was added the planting of new hornbeams which integrated the so-called "ballerinas", that is the plants placed around the flowerbeds, which

are periodically topped in order to simulate the silhouette of graceful dancers with a tutu of leaves that seems to dance in the summer breeze.

The Augusto Rancilio Foundation also wishes to thank the gardeners FAR, Giardini Bontempi, SAEM-SMC and Palladium Group for their valuable contribution in carrying out the restoration.

EVERY SUNDAY COME TO VISIT THE WONDER GARDEN

To ensure the safety of our visitors, we have prepared some simple rules that will allow everyone to better enjoy their visit.

- Tickets purchased online: entrance tickets to the Garden can be purchased exclusively online on our website <https://www.villaarconati-far.it/ita/visita-la-villa/stagione-opening.aspx>. This will guarantee our audience to secure their entrance ticket from the comfort of their home, without waiting at the ticket office. Given the vastness of the site, we have the possibility to guarantee a large number of tickets every Sunday, which will be available for purchase until the day of the chosen entrance.
- Contingent entrances: entrances will be guaranteed every 30 minutes, to avoid queues and gatherings. We ask our Visitors to show up at the entrance on time or up to 5 minutes in advance.
- Temperature measurement: before entering the Villa, the visitors will be measured the temperature. In compliance with current legislation, access to the site will not be allowed in the event of temperatures equal to or greater than 37.5 °.
- Hand sanitization: FAR makes hand sanitizing solutions available to its public, to guarantee correct and constant hand sanitization.
- Use of masks: entry is allowed only by wearing the mask, which must always cover the nose and mouth. For the protection of all, access with masks with a filter valve is not allowed.
- Distance: we ask our kind Visitors to always keep the interpersonal distance of at least 1 meter.
- Duration of the visit: the average visit time of our Garden is about 2 hours. To ensure the safety of all our visitors, only in the event of a risk of gatherings could the public be asked to leave the site after the 2-hour visit. (The entry time indicated on the ticket will prevail)

FAR staff and volunteers will always be available to visitors to answer any questions, meet any need and ensure a peaceful visit, in complete safety and in compliance with current regulations.

GOLDONI COFFEE

What "delightful villa" would our little Versailles be, without a moment to indulge in even the delights of the palate?

Our Caffè Goldoni moves in the magnificent setting of the Corte Nobile to give a break of taste before and after the walk in the garden with coffee, ice cream, snacks and sweet and savory delicacies.

It will also be possible to have lunch with toast, freshly prepared fresh sandwiches and cold dishes. As usual, in compliance with current hygiene and health standards, it is not possible to access the villa with food brought from outside.

THE BOOKSHOP FAR

The FAR Bookshop is open for you with new Italian artisan products, made exclusively for you. To bring home a memory of your day spent among the wonders of the enchanted Garden.

Villa Arconati-FAR

Garden open to the public 2020
every Sunday from 11.00 to 19.00

Tickets can be purchased exclusively online:

<https://www.villaarconati-far.it/ita/visita-la-villa/stagione-apertura.aspx>

Dogs are allowed on a leash

Rates:

. Whole entrance

€ 5.00 + presale rights

. Reduced admission: children aged 11 to 18 and people with disabilities

€ 3.00 + presale rights

. Free admission: children up to 10 years and companion of disabled people