



**LUISAVIAROMA AND THE ITALIAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE  
OF NEW YORK CELEBRATE DANTE WITH AN EXHIBITION  
AND READING BY JOHN TURTURRO.**

On the occasion of the 750th anniversary of his birth, LUISAVIAROMA pays homage to Dante Alighieri by contributing to an exhibition in his honor. The first of its kind to be held in the United States, the exhibition will feature an extraordinary portrait of the poet, painted by Agnolo Bronzino in the mid-16th century.

Bronzino's painting will be on display at the Italian Cultural Institute of New York from 15 December 2015 until 15 January 2016, five years after the MET devoted a solo exhibition to the celebrated Renaissance artist.

On 16 December, actor John Turturro will read an excerpt from Dante's *Inferno*, in both Italian and English. The reading of the *Divine Comedy* in different languages will be entrusted to the students of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York (daily, from 6pm to 12am).

It was not until recently that the "Allegorical Portrait of Dante" was confirmed to be the work of Agnolo Bronzino. The work belongs to a private collection and has only ever been exhibited to the public in Florence.

In the portrait the poet holds in his hands the Cantos XXV (the 25th Sphere depicted in Heaven), which he used to express his longing to end his exile and return to his beloved Florence.

Defined by the Financial Times as "A haven for directional fashion," LUISAVIAROMA.COM is the top online luxury fashion destination with 5,000,000 visitors per month.

"We have decided to support this exhibition – says Andrea Panconesi, CEO of LUISAVIAROMA - because we believe that it highlights how greatly Western culture is indebted to Dante and Renaissance art. The innovation of different forms of expressions, including art and fashion, is a direct result of this, as evidenced by the extraordinary attention Bronzino paid to the garments in his portraits."

Support for the New York exhibition adds to the company's continued promotion of Florence on an international level. Twice a year, in honor of LUISAVIAROMA's Firenze4Ever, the city plays backdrop to a series of exclusive shoots realized by the most-important media and fashion influencers in the world.

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