

## P R E S S   R E L A S E

### THE EUROPEAN HERITAGE PROJECT RESTORES FACADE OF PALAZZO BELLONI BATTAGIA ON THE CANALE GRANDE

**The extensive renovation and maintenance process of the palazzo commences with extensive exterior work. Work on the facade of the historic property should be completed in November.**

**München/ Venice, 20 August 2020**

When The European Heritage Project acquired the 17th-century palazzo on the Grand Canal, it was clearly visible that extensive restoration and renovation measures were required to restore the splendour of bygone days. The building has now been completely surrounded by scaffolding to carry out work on the facade.



*Scaffolding at Palazzo Belloni Battagia on the Canale Grande – Picture Credit: THE EUROPEAN*

Measurements made in cooperation with the responsible authorities, the Soprintendenza, and the monument preservation authorities, indicated that the entire facade was unstable and was threatening to topple over. Signs of the movement of the building were also visible in cracks in the parquet in the interior of the palazzo. The aim of the restoration measures is to prevent a possible collapse of the building and to save the palazzo, from a static point of view, for coming centuries. In the course of this work, the historical building substance is to be revised and construction sins of the past removed.



*Window grilles from the 8th century  
Picture Credit: THE EUROPEAN HERITAGE PROJECT*

Ziel der Maßnahmen ist es einen möglichen Einsturz des Gebäudes zu verhindern und den Palazzo aus statischer Sicht für die nächsten Jahrhunderte zu ertüchtigen. Im Zuge dieser Arbeiten sollen in Einzelprojekten auch die historische Substanz überarbeitet und alte Bausünden beseitigt werden.

Modern window shutters attached to the facade in the past, for instance, are to be removed and replaced with new ones corresponding to the historical model. Brittle stone elements characterising the appearance of the facade, are to be extensively restored and supplemented.

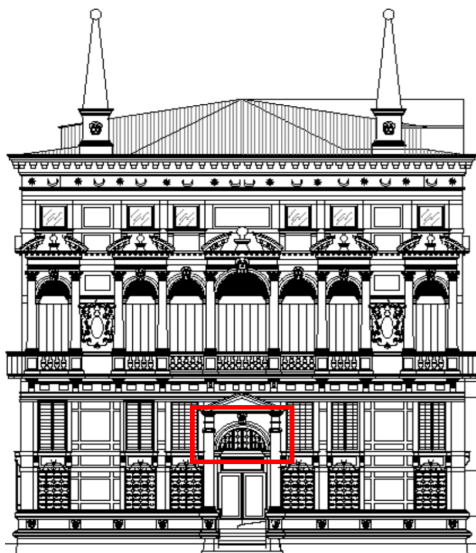
The elaborately manufactured window grates from the 18th century require extensive restoration. Decades worth of rust has damaged the material and endangers the substance and stability of the ancient cultural artefacts. Missing window grates are to be replaced.



*Current state of the façade*

*Picture Credit: THE EUROPEAN HERITAGE PROJECT*

The wooden door onto the Grand Canal, which is in poor condition due to the effects of the weather and especially the salt water, has been dismantled and taken to a restorer to ascertain to what extent the historical substance can be preserved.



*The marked area shows the position of the hidden window – Picture Credit: THE EUROPEAN HERITAGE PROJECT.*

During cleaning work in the portal, a hidden, semi-circular window was discovered, which offers a direct view of the Palazzo Vendramin Calergi which houses the Venetian casino and is considered one of the most beautiful in Venice. The window is to be restored to its original condition by inserting original lead glass.

After the completion of all restoration measures in November, the facade will be cleaned thoroughly. This will have a significant effect on the appearance of the palazzo, since the once gleaming white facade has turned black over the years due to exhaust gases and weather influences.

With the completion of all measures, The European Heritage Project hopes to have contributed to the preservation of this important World Heritage Site on the Grand Canal.