

Pordenone, Giuseppe Verdi Municipal Theatre

Historically the theatre has always found its ideal location in the central places of the cities. In Pordenone initially it was the Loggia, seat of the Town Hall, to host the first theatrical performances of the city at least from the second half of the sixteenth century and this function continued until the beginning of the nineteenth century. In 1831 the Concordia theatre was inaugurated, which became Social in 1845, whose neoclassical facade overlooked the main street of the Contrada Maggiore. The style of the Teatro Sociale, with its tall columns and its important tympanum, was later taken up in the construction of the Licinio Theatre in the early twentieth century. The design of the new theatre was carried out by the architect Provino Valle (1887-1955) from Udine and subsequently modified by Luigi Querini. The structure had typical features of a nineteenth-century theatre: a *foyer* with a helicoidal staircase lit from above and a circular room decorated with a series of overlapping stages.

However, starting from the second post-war period the room proved to be unsuitable for hosting the new passion of the general public: the cinema. So it was that Licinius was replaced by the Teatro-Cinema Verdi, built in the 1950s, based on a project by Nino Donadon (1924-2018, son of Tiburzio Donadon). With the passage of time also the Teatro-Cinema Verdi began an inexorable decline and was definitively closed at the end of the Nineties and demolished in 2001. The new works for the construction of the New Municipal Theatre "Giuseppe Verdi" were started in 2002 and lasted about two years. The inauguration of the theatre took place in May 2005. The new theatre is a building of contemporary beauty that is expressed through soft and dynamic forms. Its main hall contains 986 seats, of which 436 in the parterre and the remaining seats in the three galleries. It has an excellent level of acoustic reverberation which makes it suitable for performing opera, prose and musical performances. The multifunctional character of the theatre is also emphasized by the presence of a "Ridotto" room, capable of seating 150, with a small stage and a booth for directing and projections.

Curated by: Dr. Martina Solerte and Dr. Nicoletta Rigoni

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