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Before N.S.I.D. tour, at New York bon-voyage party given by Robert Lowell, president of Venini, Inc.: Wynn Shaffer of California and Charles Bobb of Texas. The famous Venini glass factory in Murano was later visited on the tour.



In Venice at the Palazzo Gozzi during a dinner given for the N.S.I.D. by Countess Elsie Lee Gozzi, owner of Fortuny Inc.: Duchess Pini di San Miniato, former N.S.I.D. president Michael Greer, Mrs. Bruno Paglai (Merle Oberon).



Duke Arturo Pini di San Miniato presents Contessa Anna Maria Foscari with an inscribed Gorham silver tray thanking her for her hospitality to the N.S.I.D.



Margaret Hakes, now a senior at Los Angeles' Art Center College, and national N.S.I.D. Educational Foundation scholarship winner, being serenaded at the Palazzo Gozzi.



Below: Duke and Duchess Pini di San Miniato before the N.S.I.D. Thomas Jefferson Award dinner at the Palazzo Ca Rezzonico in Venice (pictured in the Rosollo Carriere drawing room).

Below: The Archbishop of Sienna blesses a portrait of the Madonna, the work of Luciano Guarnieri, which has been printed on a banner donated by Duke Arturo Pini di San Miniato to the blood donors of the Venerable and Ancient Charitable Foundation of San Miniato, now celebrating its 250th anniversary.

Below: In Vicenza, at Palladio's Olympic Theater, N.S.I.D. members hear a recital of the theater's 380-year history.



N.S.I.D.

National Conference / tour in Italy masterminded by Arturo Pini di San Miniato winds up as giant goodwill mission

In May, INTERIORS previewed the N.S.I.D.'s Fourth National Conference in Venice (June 9-15) and Post-Conference Tour in Italy (June 16-30), outlining the program and highlighting places of exceptional artistic importance that the N.S.I.D. tour members would inspect. In June INTERIORS reproduced a Conference talk made by newly-elected national vice president Louis Malamud on the most important subject discussed at the conference, the campaign to promote the licensing of interior designers. In July INTERIORS gave the results of the national N.S.I.D. elections. Here are brief social notes on the N.S.I.D.'s travels and triumphs in Italy: Within a month after Duke Arturo Pini di San Miniato, a former president of the National Society of Interior Designers, had invited N.S.I.D. members to his native Italy for their 1967 National Conference and Post-Conference Tour, more than 150 of them had plunked down their initial payments. By June the maximum quota of 275 (dictated by the capacity of hotels and other services) had been over-filled, leaving a long waiting list. The places of the five signed-up members who were unable to go because of last-minute emergencies were taken by people on this waiting list. A few members arrived from other parts of Europe, but the majority, from the U.S.A., were deposited by TWA and Alitalia airlines at Marco Polo Airport in Venice on June 10. Duke Arturo, who had won the co-operator of prominent Italians owning historic residences or in the forefront of the arts and decorative industries, was on

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Luciano Guarnieri (left) at dedication of his frescoes for church in San Miniato.



Only N.S.I.D. tour breakdown is quickly repaired on road to Florence.



Giancarlo Menotti, Spoleto Festival Director, with Duchess Pini di San Miniato.



Spoleto Festival preview in Spoleto Opera House, Composer/Festival Director Menotti entertained the N.S.I.D. and the cast.



Ted Materna, Duke Arturo, and Prince del Drago, Mayor of Bolsena, who helped arrange a crafts exhibition in Rome, and entertained the N.S.I.D. in Bolsena.



Dr. Giovanni Giorgino (right) receives N.S.I.D. thank you tray from Duke Arturo.

Pope Paul VI receives Ausby Lee (partly hidden) William Gulden, Princess del Drago, and Duke Arturo di San Miniato at a private audience at the Vatican.



Surprise guest Franco Scalamandrè (right) at N.S.I.D. dinner, Villa La Massa.



hand at the airport accompanied by the first of several blue-blooded reception committees who opened their palaces and gardens to the N.S.I.D. By motor launch the party proceeded to the Hotel Excelsior Lido, where the N.S.I.D., the only group in the hotel, was the recipient of unbelievably lavish service and culinary rarities. But the Lido's dining room was dwarfed by the baroque Ca Rezzonico Palace, where the Thomas Jefferson Award dinner was attended by U. S. Ambassador Frederick Reinhardt, U.S. Minister Malloy, and U.S. Consul General Fuess. Ambassador Reinhardt spent three days with the N.S.I.D.

The program was interrupted by unscheduled detours. At the Guerini Stam Palia Museum, where a photographic exhibition of N.S.I.D. work entitled "Interiors U.S.A." was shown, and where the N.S.I.D.'s Honor List for Distinguished Decoration was announced (July INTERIORS), Contessa Giuliana Olcese impulsively invited the N.S.I.D. to her villa near Padua, which she is restoring. The Contessa, a young and beautiful swinger, served wine from her own vineyards.

In San Miniato, N.S.I.D. attended the dedication of artist Luciano Guarnieri's frescoes for the church of Santa Maria al Fortino, and they donated \$500 toward the restoration of frescoes in the City Hall.

In Bolsena, after a candlelight tour of the Prince del Drago's palace, they dined in the torchlit piazza to the music of the town band and an Italian mod combo, passing wine and sweets to the townpeople at the piazza walls. According to rumor, the U.S. Ambassador declared that the N.S.I.D. did more for Italian-American relations that night than had been accomplished in the preceding decade.

At a dinner at Rome's Castel Sant' Angelo, the N.S.I.D. presented tokens of appreciation to Princess del Drago, Chairman of the Rome Hospitality Committee, and later a gift and standing ovation to Duke Arturo.

Following are some of the Italian hosts: Coordinator of the tour: Contessa Elisabetta Savelli (Siena); Chairman of the Venice Committee: Contessa Elisa da Mosto; Chairman of the Florence Committee: Giovanni Battista Giorgini.

Hosts in Venice included Contessa Anna Maria Foscari; The Honorable Giovanni Favaretto Fisco, Mayor of Venice; Sandro Favaretto of Rubelli Silks.

Hosts in Florence included Principessa Elena Corsini; Contessa Sofia Bossi-Pucci Serri-stori. Hosts in San Miniato included The Honorable Giovanni Lotti; Mayor Nello Baldinotti; Marchesa Lili Gerini. And among the hosts in Rome was Hon. Giuli Andreotti, Minister of Industry and Commerce.