

Monday
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2026

Byzantine Art & Antique Glow

The City of Mosaics

Ravenna, Italy

Issue
#10

Editor in Chief: Lori J Wolper

A Brief History of Byzantine Times.....

If you missed our first issue,
Issue #10 is a recap of the
early intro of our successful
new magazine!



Basilica di San Vitale



Mausoleum of Galla Placidia

The Journey Begins in
RAVENNA, ITALY
THE CITY OF MOSAICS

Ravenna Community Rallies

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All Photos Taken by
Lori Wolper
Editor in Chief

THE LATEST JEWEL BOX OBJECTS OF DESIRE

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RECAP ISSUE
#10

**SAVING OUR
HISTORY**

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**MODERN MOSAIC
TIMES**

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UNESCO World Heritage Sites

UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, an agency dedicated to strengthening international protection. They help with safeguarding living heritage landmarks such as the Mausoleum of Gall Placidia and the San Vitale Church of Ravenna. In December 1996, UNESCO describes the site as “the earliest and best preserved of all mosaic artistic perfect monuments.” The Opera di Religione of the Diocese of Ravenna is the body that manages the museum for tourists and custody of the UNESCO monuments of Ravenna.

[UNESCO : Building Peace through Education, Science and Culture, communication and information](#)

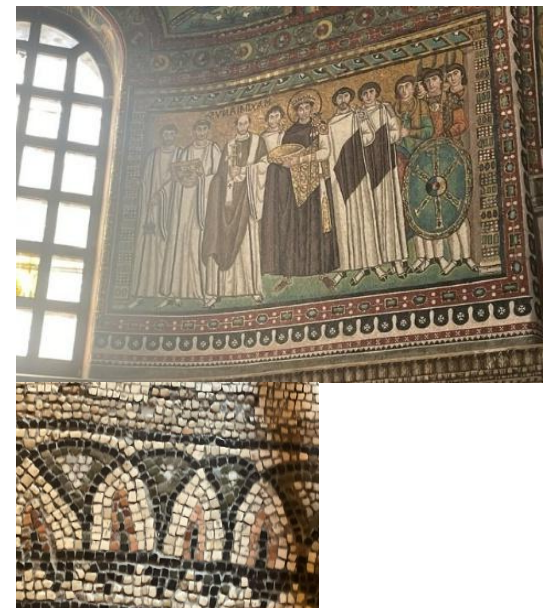
PLEASE JOIN US FOR:

EDUCATIONAL WORKSOPS OR
RAVENNA MOSAICS FOR ALL

In 476, the official fall of western Rome was defeated, but the empire still existed in the east. In 330 Emperor Constantine made Constantinople (now called Istanbul) his east capital, the “Byzantine Empire”. The pope became the representative of the Byzantine Empire in Rome. Under Justinian, Ravenna became the sister city of Constantinople, or the “Constantinople of the West.” The arrival of the Byzantines in Ravenna marks the beginning of the Golden Age or Glow in the city. As Hagia Sofia was being built in Constantinople, the beautiful Basilica of San Vitale was being built in Ravenna. They wanted to restore the Roman Empire so in 527, the last ancient Roman emperor, Justinian, was elected. The picture to the right is a mosaic masterpiece of art that hangs in the church. He started the idea of the common good, legislation of laws that we still use in our modern world today. You can see the three classes at the time which were: aristocracy, clergy and army. The mosaics describe the last Roman emperor carrying a big gold basin as a sign of offering.

In 750 the golden age was over when the Byzantines were booted out of Ravenna by the Lombards and later the Franks.

Mosaic Masterpiece of Roman Emperor Justinian



Editor in Chief: Lori J Wolper



The Mausoleum of Galla Placidia

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The architectural structure is a Latin cross plan with big thick bricks. The intersection of the four limbs is surrounding a square tower that hides the dome inside the building. The whole mosaics inside, let us believe the former purpose of the building was a funeral and then used as a private chapel to St. Lawrence Martyr. The message from the mosaic artwork was the glorious Cross is the way to Resurrection and Eternal Life. In the dark blue night sky of the dome the gold Signum Crucis is surrounded by circles of gold stars. Spread across eight early Christian monuments, Ravenna's Byzantine mosaics make up the largest surviving collection of their kind in Western Europe. Ravenna's National Museum is in the monastery of San Vitale. Exhibits include a stone tablet collection, Roman and Byzantine artifacts, and 14th century frescos.

On the four corners of the dome, we see the four-winged living beings that announce the second coming of the Saviour. The winged man, the lion, the calf, and the eagle. Over the door the so-called Christ the Good Shepherd the Redeemer keeps the glorious cross in his hand.



Ravenna Community Rallies for the Antique Mosaic Glow

The community is proud of their mosaic heritage by donating funds to help with the upkeep of the art.

You can donate: Please call 1-800-MOSAICS

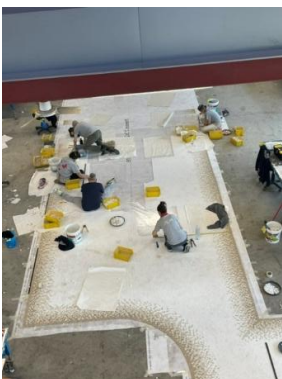
All Photos Taken by Lori Wolper
Editor in Chief

THE MODERN MOSAIC



Tesserae Mosaics

SICIS.COM



MOSAIC TILE

HOTEL SWIMMING POOL FLOOR

At SICIS’s they combine the application of fire to form tesserae mosaic tiles and link each piece to the other form to creative unique images. The tesserae bring together shades, creates transitions, builds rhythm, gives depth to most essential surfaces. SICIS transforms materials into expressive surfaces from architectural mosaics to immersive compositions. **Ravenna is the historic capital of Mosaics and SICIS has its own artists trained for years to be able to hold the design job.**



SICIS stands for the Latin phrase “Sic Immensos Clarosque Inceptos Somniavi” Means having a dream of seeing great work that everyone will recognize. Thirty years ago, Maurizio Leo Placuzzi founded SICIS. In 1988, SICIS used traditional techniques of Roman mosaic marble floors for the Saudi King. This led to high-end projects around the world. Then the first Murano glass mosaic collection was made. In 1996, the largest mosaic mall was constructed in Jeddah in the Middle East.



OBJECTS OF DESIRE

The City of Mosaics: SICIS ART MOSAIC FACTORY

Opened in 1987-Until Now

You can tour the SICIS art mosaic factory and all the separate entities they manufacture. Their products include mosaics, vetrite art glass, F, F & E’s, art, and jewels. SICIS integrates people with art, materials, and craftsmanship to create beloved surfaces. For example, mosaics tiles come in all shapes and colors that tell a story when connected. Each surface tells a story like the passion for ancient art that is so deeply rooted in Ravenna. The city boasts a rich golden glow history as once the epicenter of the Western World Byzantine Empire.

