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Milan celebrates Luigi Veronelli, a rare intellectual who fought for the dignity of farming work (and good wine too)

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TAG

Museum
wine
exhibition



Luigi Veronelli, Italian gourmand, wine expert and intellectual. Milan Triennale hosts an exhibition on this writer

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Who was Luigi (Gino) Veronelli? A journalist? A writer? A wine expert? A tireless anarchist? All this, and much more.

At the start of its Expo year, [Milan](#) has dedicated an exhibition at the Triennale to the Italian intellectual who championed the spread of Italian enogastronomic heritage.

This is because Veronelli (1926-2004) was at times the main author, and at times the witness, of the deep transformations the Italian society and economy underwent in the second half of the XIX century.

Which explains the numerous articles, magazines, books, documents present in the exhibition, as well as an “evocative” visit to his wine cellar, boasting as many as 70,000 bottles, mostly Italian.

Veronelli passed away 10 years ago and his work, along with that of Mario Soldati and Gianni Brera, though in a more meaningful and decisive way (the three men are captured in a beautiful photograph at the Premio Nonino, on display), is proving increasingly fundamental in understanding the importance of his role in Italian society.

During his 50-year career at the top of the main gastronomic magazines and the long period as editor of guides, Veronelli was a forerunner in the battle to safeguard diversity in agricultural and food production.

For example, he supported the creation of De.co, municipal denominations of origin, as well as supported local administrations in their battles.

The exhibition, “Camminare la Terra,” (“Walk the Earth,” which to him was a natural and distinctive feature), celebrates what he believed and fought for: the dignity of farming work, the rise of native Italian grape varieties, the peculiarity and recognizability of local products. The exhibition will then move to Bergamo from May 1 to October 31.

Wine is only a starting point to grasp Veronelli's relationship to food culture. The exhibition path highlights his “glocal” insight and social sensitivity that have become a daily political practice, as exemplified by the event Critical Wine at the Leoncavallo center, in Milan.

Every Thursday from 7 pm to 9 pm, throughout the exhibition period, it will be possible to toast on Veronelli at the Triennale Design Café during the meetings organized to get to know and taste some of the wines that marked the history of Italian enology.

(“Luigi Veronelli - camminare la terra”, Triennale di Milano fino al 22 febbraio)