



Projet Erasmus+ Namur - Marsala

" Patrimonia "



A la découverte du patrimoine historique, architectural et culturel

Museum of the Dancing Satyr and the Episcopal Palace



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ABSTRACT

The " Dancing Satyr " is a statue of Greek and classical art. The sculpture represents half a human being and half a goat, which during the classical period was called "Satyr". The creation is about 2.5 meters high and is currently housed in the museum, located in the old church of Sant'Egidio, in Mazara del Vallo, in western Sicily, and takes its name from its most prestigious work.

The story of the discovery of the statue begins in 1997, when a fishing boat, brought back from the bottom of the Sicilian Canal, a leg of a bronze sculpture.

In March 1998 the same boat found a large part of the rest of the sculpture. The artifact has been put in a deionized freshwater tank, where it was currently exposed.

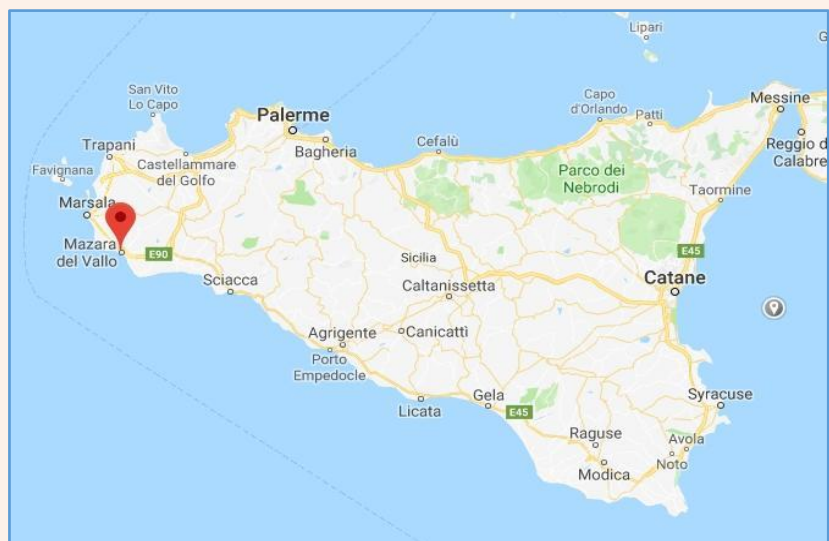


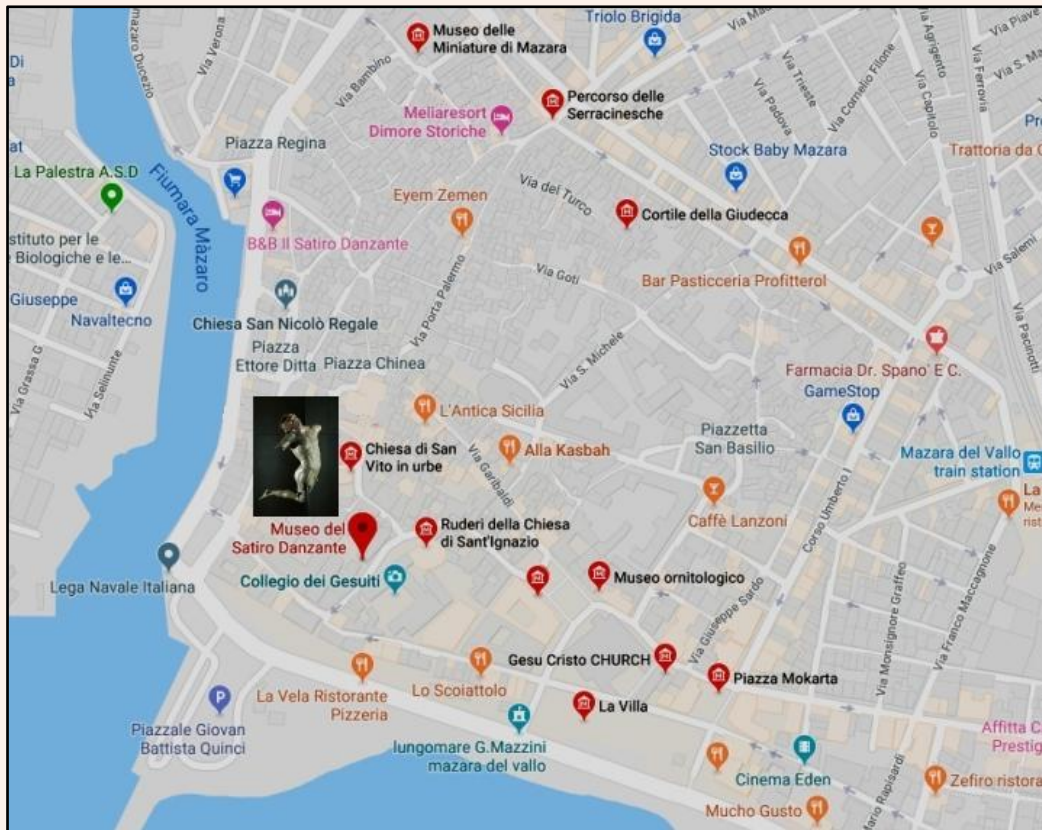
In September 1998, the Central Institute of Restoration in Rome took the two fragments of the statue to perform restoration works.

On March 31, 2003 the Dancing Satyr was exhibited at the Palazzo Montecitorio, seat of the Chamber of Deputies in Rome. The exhibition remained open until June 2, and has had a lot of success.

On July 12, 2003, the Dancing Satyr has been handed to the city authorities of Mazara del Vallo to be exhibited where it is currently located: the Sant'Egidio church, downtown, which since 2005 became the museum of the Satyr.

In 2005, the Satyr was transported to Japan for display at the Tokyo National Museum and Expo 2005. A carbon and titanium structure was made for transport. In early 2007, the statue was exhibited at the Louvre Museum in Paris for an exhibition devoted to the works of Parissitele, a famous Greek sculptor.





Mazara del Vallo is an Italian commune of the free consortium of Trapani. The historic center was formerly enclosed in Norman walls.

Mazara is crossed by two rivers, the Mazaro and the Arena. There are several torrents and artificial canals, protected areas and natural reserves.

The climate is mild, the summers are characterized by continuous ventilation, which is ideal for sports like kite and windsurfing.



The emblem of the city indicates the main works of the Normans.

On the right, we find the castle with its towers built by Count Rogeri.

On the left is the cathedral bell tower. At the top of this steeple is a cross; today, there is a statue of San Vito.

In the center is the image of Saint Salvatore, patron saint of the city.

The lower part of the coat of arms represents the Norman walls.

One of the most important architectural works is the Episcopal Palace with the contiguous square.



Plaza de la República is the most important square in the city of Mazara del Vallo, as it contains the most interesting features of the city: the Cathedral Basilica, the Episcopal Palace, the Seminary Palace and the Diocesan Museum.

The buildings give the area a Baroque appearance. In the center of the square is the statue of San Vito, the patron saint of the city, Ignazio Marabitti's eighteenth century work.

The Episcopal Palace, seat of the bishopric, is a XVI century building partly built on the Chiaramonte Palace. The front, XIX century style, has an architraved portal, with four Doric columns (of Greek architectural order), above which is the emblem of Mazara del Vallo.

Inside the Palace is a courtyard where you can admire a lodge with semicircular arches, giving access to several rooms, in one of them being a magnificent wooden coffered ceiling from the sixteenth century . To the right of the building is a XVII century lodge connecting the Episcopal Palace to the cathedral through a bridge called "Tocchetto".

