

# **TRIESTE, WHERE MANY RELIGIONS FIND THEIR ROLE BETWEEN PAST AND PRESENT**

\* The **Free Port** and its trade and business attracted many people from every part of the Austrian Empire: Greece, Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Ungarn... and each group asked for having one's own religious building

# THE RELIGIOUS HISTORY OF TRIESTE BEGINS FAR FAR AWAY

•From the Roman period, that left to us the **Capitoline Temple** on the hill of San Giusto and the **Roman Theatre**



# UPON TO THE SAN GIUSTO CATHEDRAL

•Following the legend, in which San Giusto is the saint patron of Trieste was thrown into the sea, but his belief cannot be drowned



# UPON TO THE St. MARY THE MAJOR CHURCH

- Built in the XVII century, it became the church of the Jesuits
- During the World Wars its underground became a politic prison



# THE XVIII CENTURY AND THE BIRTH OF THE FREE PORT

- Already in **1315** Trieste chose to belong to the Austrian Empire, but some centuries passed, before Austria remembered this town
- Everything began with the visit of **Leopold the Second:** Trieste was a small village of fisher and saltmen, but ...
- ... **the prisoners**, who would have built the port of Trieste would have had **the opportunity to be free**
- This was the beginning of the richness of Trieste in the under the austrian government

# AN IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE SEVERAL COMMUNITIES IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY

- Many **seafaring activities** and **insurance companies** remember the names of **Serbian families** as Gopcevic, Popovich, Opuich, Skuljevich
- The same important role belong to the **Hebrew**:
  - a) Giuseppe Lazzaro Morpurgo was the founder of the **General Insurance Company**, that is working even nowadays
  - b) Teodoro Mayer was the founder of “**Il Piccolo**”, the most important newspaper of Trieste
  - c) there were around the city the famous “**eruw hazerot**”, electric cables built by the hebrew community and taken off only some years ago

# PONTEROSSO SHIP-CANAL: PAST AND PRESENT

- \* The catholic church of St. Antony the New, well visible from the sea
- \* The Serbian-Orthodoxe Church of St. Spiridion on the right, almost hidden between the houses



# **... WHERE THE PROTOSLAVISH LANGUAGE SURVIVES IN THE LITURGIC CELEBRATIONS**





# **...AND THE GREEK-ORTODOXE CHURCH OF St. Nikolas IN FRONT OF THE SEA**



**..AND THEIR GILT INSIDE, WHEN THE  
PRAYER-TIME FORGET THE DAILY LIFE  
TIME AND THE ICONS GUIDE THE PRAYER**



**...WHERE THE ICONOSTASIS DEVIDES THE COMMON FROM THE HOLY SPACE: THE ALTAR IS VISIBLE ONLY DURING THE CELEBRATIONS, WHEN THE CENTRAL DORE IS OPEN**



# THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES, THAT FOLLOW THE REFORM OF MARTIN LUTER

- **The neogotic Evangelish-Luteran Church**, for few germanian people and for many concerts and musical and cultural events
- The old building of **St. Silvester Church**, nowadays for the **Valdese Community**, whose minister often follows even the **Methodist Community**, near Goldoni Place



**THE ISRAELITIC TEMPLE: ONE OF THE GREATEST  
IN EUROPE, BUILT BETWEEN THE END OF THE  
XIXth AND THE BEGINNING OF THE XXth CENTURY**



# BUT THE HEBREW COMMUNITY IN TRIESTE IS MORE MORE ANCIENT

- The old ghetto was in the center of the city
- With its hebrew Museum and its School



# SOME YOGA AND MARZIAL ARTS SCHOOLS AND BUDDHIST CENTERS: TO SEARCH A NEW WAY OF LIVING AND THINKING



# THE ISLAMIC CENTERS

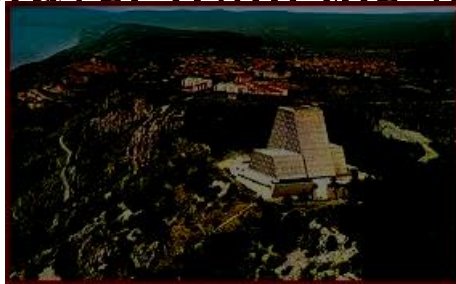
- From the first period of migration at the end of the XX century, as the center was an apartment
- Upon to Ramadan on the road, together and with all citizens in the new mosque of via della Maiolica





# BUT EVEN NEW CHURCHS ARE BUILT

- To find an answer in a difficult historic period, like the Cold War, as the world was devided into two parts and everyone seemed to have grounds to begin a war
- The **Temple of Monte Grisa**, dedicated to Maria, seemed to protege the city
- Everyone didn't understand the meaning of its form: more triangles, symbol of the Trinity, build together the letters A and M (Ave Maria, the prayer from the words of the angel)



# FINALLY ALL TOGETHER?

- This is the new way for the future, where reception and welcome cannot be devided from responsability
- New religious buildings aren't only a question of space, metres and money, but a way, where hearth and mind must go and sail together

**Religions for Peace** 

**Sezione Italiana - Regione FVG**