

The Italian Cultural Institute of New York
announces

**"Vandals: the assault on the cultural heritage
of Italy"**

by
Gian Antonio Stella

in collaboration with

Friends of FAI and Save Venice



Thu Sept 29 - 6:00 pm
Italian Cultural Institute of New York
686 Park Avenue
New York, NY

Gian Antonio Stella's recent book co-authored with Sergio Rizzo, entitled "Vandali: L'assalto alle bellezze d'Italia" is a report of insufficient Italian administration and the mismanaging of funds designated to the preservation of the Italian culture. The book tells a sad story of negligence, speculation, and decline. From Apollo's temple in Selinunte surrounded by scaffolding for eleven years because no one felt like removing them to the mosaics of Pompei callously deteriorating because the last mosaic artisan retired ten years ago. Stella argues that it is not only Italy's beautiful landscape that is under threat; it is also its own legal system. The utmost riches that Italians have, the landscapes, the archeological ruins, the museums, the medieval villages, the beauty, are all under attack. A cultural nightmare and an economic anguish. With the participation of **Melissa Conn**, Associate Director of Save Venice, and **James M. Carolan**, President of the Friends of FAI.

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