

## Fausto's appartement

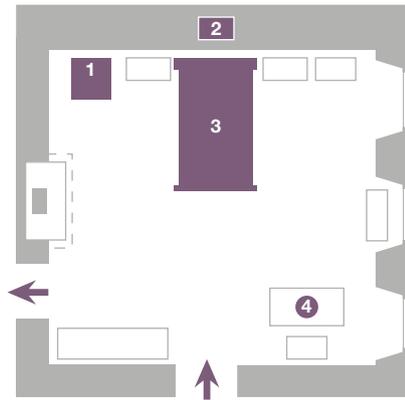
# Fausto's Bedroom known as the "Valtellinese Bedroom"

Fausto's bedroom contains some of the most important objects in the whole Bagatti Valsecchi collection. The importance of the works of art is enhanced by the setting designed by the brothers, themselves: the **flooring** simulating a fringed rug; the wood and **papier mâché ceiling** inspired by late fifteenth century models, but enriched with Fausto's name and family crests and those of related families; the **door jambs** decorated with fifteenth century style candelabra motifs and bearing Fausto's name and family crests.

The **walls** originally were covered with a silken fabric decorated with acanthus leaf motifs inspired by those typical in the Renaissance. In this room, as in all the other rooms without the original woven wall coverings, the painted finish echoes the original colors and designs, suggesting the original decorative wealth, but without using modern replacements that might unwittingly fool the visitor into thinking that they were part of the original furnishings. The room is furnished with an important **bed** that was purchased from the noble Visconti Venosta family of Valtellina; its use was one way that the Bagatti Valsecchi brothers surrounded themselves with the allure of ancient nobility, though their family's title was recent. The bed is richly decorated with carvings portraying *Christ's ascent to Calvary* (headboard) and a battle scene (footboard); the small panels depict scenes from the Old Testament.

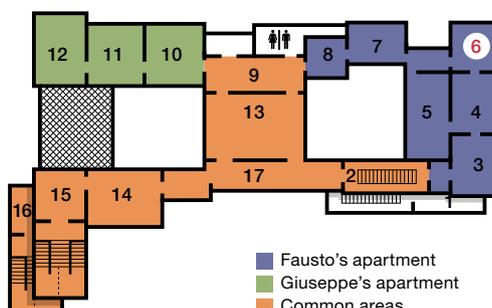
On the wall above the bed and on the opposite wall over the chest there are parts of an imposing **polyptych** by the Milanese painter Giovan Pietro Rizzoli, known as Giampietrino (Milan, ca. 1485-1549), one of Leonardo da Vinci's favorite and best pupils. The panels, enclosed in a late nineteenth century frame of the brothers' design, portray the *Madonna Enthroned with Saints and Christ the Redeemer Enthroned*.

On the left of the bed is a rare late fifteenth century **bishop's chair** from Sesto Calende. It is decorated with decoupage woodcut prints in geometrical designs to simulate costly wood inlay. The room also features a number of **skull-shaped objects**, or *memento mori*. They are reminders, typical of the period, of the fragility of earthly life.

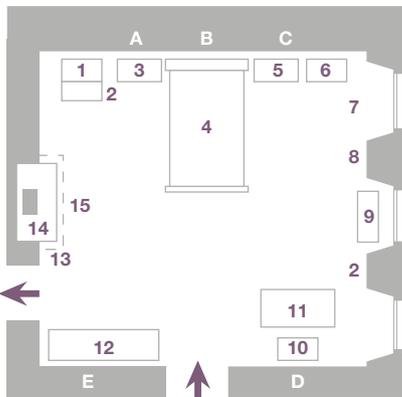


## HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 **Bishop's seat** with woodcut prints, Lombardy, second half, 15th C
- 2 **Madonna Enthroned with Saints**, panel painting, Giovan Pietro Rizzoli, known as Giampietrino (Milan, ca. 1485-1559), ca. 1535-1540, frame: 19th C (n.1010)
- 3 **Bed** with a detailed carving of Christ's Ascent to Calvary (headboard) and a battle scene (footboard), from Palazzo Visconti Venosta, Grosio, Valtellina, northern Italy, 19th C assembly of 16th and 17th C reliefs and fragments (n.51)
- 4 **Precious coffer** assembled in the 19th C using bone plaques of different origins featuring chivalric scenes; the side with the two knights carrying an eagle is attributed to the famous Embriachi workshop (end of 14th C), whereas the others are attributed to the Workshop of the Stories of Susanna and the Elders, and date to the second quarter of the 15th C  
**Cypress wood coffer** covered with ivory plaques, Cologne (Germany), second half of the 12th C.



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**1 Bishop's chair** from the abbey of S. Donato, Sesto Calende (Varese), decorated with decoupage woodcuts simulating inlay, Lombardy, second half of the 15th C (n.47)

**2 One of two seats** with lyre-shaped supports, central Italy, second half of the 16th -first half of the 17th C (n.183, 186)

**3 Walnut bedside table** with floral decorations, Italy, 19th C both in conception and construction with 15th C inlay (n.53)

*From left to right:*

- pair of **brass candlesticks** engraved with naturalistic motifs and derived in the 19th C from 16th C liturgical chalices (n.735,736)
- **Praying Madonna** in iron worked on both sides, Lombardy, beginning of the 16th C (n.658)
- iron **candlestick** with a clamp for holding candles of various sizes, Italy, 16th C (n.647)

*Above N.7:*

- gilded bronze **cross** decorated with naturalistic motifs, Milan, 19th C (n.710)

**4 Bed** with a detailed carving of Christ's Ascent to Calvary (headboard) and a battle scene (footboard), from Palazzo Visconti Venosta, Grosio, Valtellina, northern Italy, 19th C assembly of 16th and 17th C reliefs and fragments (n.51)

**5 Walnut bedside table** with floral decorations, Italy, 19th C both in conception and construction with 15th C inlay (n.1100)

*From left to right:*

- bronze **oil-lamp** shaped like a skull, Italy, 19th C (n.291)
- brass **candlestick** decorated with naturalistic motifs, Italy, beginning of the 16th C (n.290)
- **skull-shaped clock** in gilded copper, 19th C; clock face: 18th C (n.947)

*Above N.5:*

- ivory **rosary** with pierced spherical beads, Germany or France, 17th C (n.935)

**6 Chair** decorated with woven motifs, Venice (?), 16th C (n.606)

**7 Iron candlestick with tripod base**, Italy, 14th C reconstructed in the 19th C with 18th C additions (n.398)

**8 Three-legged chair** decorated with an imaginary animal on the seat, northern Italy, 16th-18th C (n.184)

**9 Wooden box** with indented base, Venetian area, 15th C (n.604)

- **small wooden box** carved with naturalistic motifs, northern Italy (?), 16th-17th C (n.606)

**10 Carved and inlaid walnut seat**, northern Italy, 19th C assembly of 16th C fragments (n.50)

**11 Small table with baluster**, Italy, 19th C assembly of 16th C fragments (n.49)

*From left to right*

*Back row:*

- **little iron strong box** with etched decorations, Germany, 16th C (n.595)
- **coffer** assembled during the 19th C using bone plaques of different provenance: the side with the two knights carrying an eagle is attributed to the Italian workshop of the Embriachi (end of the 14th C); the other elements are attributed to the Workshop of the Stories of Susanna and the Elders, second quarter 15th C (n.800)
- **alms box** faced with worked leather, Italy, 15th C (n.761)

*Middle row:*

- **ivory and wood coffer** with figures and architectural elements, attributed to the "Nailed Figure Workshop," Italy, late 14th C (n.745)
- **private devotional object** in ivory and wood portraying Christ in the Sepulcher, Workshop of the Embriachi, first quarter of the 15th C (n.795)
- **small iron trunk-chest** with brass decorations, Austria or Germany, 19th C (n.717)
- **private devotional object** in ivory and wood portraying Christ in the Sepulcher, 19th C inspired by n.795 (n.790)

- **cypress wood box** faced with ivory plaques, Cologne (Germany), second half of the 12th C (n.705)

*Front row:*

- **crucifix and two candlesticks**, ivory, for private worship while traveling, southern Germany, beginning of the 17th C (nn.805,806,804)
- **turned ivory object**, Italy, 16th C (?) (n.816)
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- **urn-shaped box** made out of walrus tusk, Italy, 16th C (n.794)
- **cylinder** in ivory carved with figures of saints, Italy, 19th C (n.802)
- **turned ivory object**, Germany, 17th C (n.814)
- **case**, boiled leather, Italy, 15th C (n.718)

**12 Walnut cabinet** assembled in the 19th C with a 16th C French front panel richly decorated with carved naturalistic and anthropomorphic motifs and a male profile (n.48)

*From left to right:*

- **wrought iron candlestick** with spiral shaft, Italy, 15th C (n.357)
- **little wooden box** with indented base and religious decorations, Piedmont, 16th C (n.308)
- **little chest** in wood, leather and cardboard with naturalistic decorations stamped in gold, Italy, 17th C (n.598)
- **wrought iron candlestick** with spiral shaft, Italy, 15th C (n.356)

**13 Wooden coat rack**, folk art, 17th C (n.102)

**14 Fireplace**

- collection of three **fire irons**, 19th C (n.331,330,329)
- pair of **iron firedogs**, Italy, 17th C (?) (n.381,382)

**15 Folding "Savonarola chair"** with a coat of arms on the back decorated with sun and fruit, Italy, 19th C (n.187)

## On the walls:

**A Saint Anthony and Saint Catherine**, panel paintings from the second half of the 15th C in 19th C frames, Lombardy, (n.1013)

**B Madonna Enthroned with Saints**, panel painting, Giovan Pietro Rizzoli, known as Giampietrino (Milan, ca. 1485-1559), ca. 1535-1540, frame: 19th C (n.1010)

**C Saint Sebastian and Saint Rocco**, panel paintings from the second half of the 15th C assembled in a 19th C frame, Lombardy (n.1014)

**D Madonna Enthroned and Child**, signed and dated "Paolo Antonio De Scazolis 1506" (Cremona, active from 1475-1506), 1506 (n.1012)

**E Christ the Redeemer Enthroned**, panel painting by Giovan Pietro Rizzoli, known as Giampietrino (Milan, ca. 1485-1559), ca. 1535-1540, frame: 19th C (n.1011)