

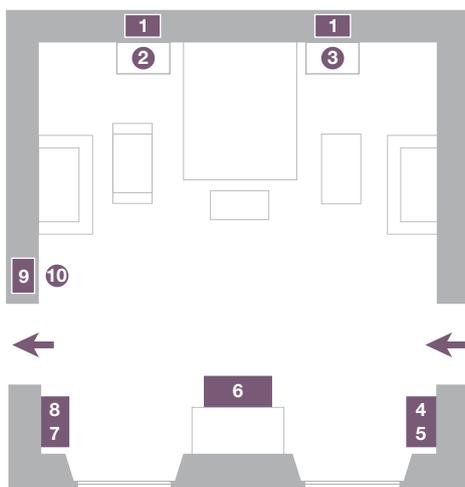
Giuseppe's appartement

Giuseppe and Carolina's bedroom knows as the "Red Bedroom"

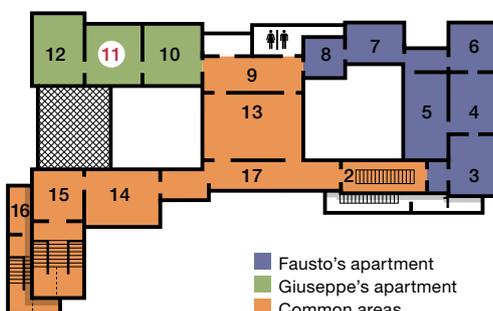
This bedroom was completed in 1882, the year of Giuseppe Bagatti Valsecchi's marriage to Carolina of the important Borromeo family. The decoration, entirely based on the motif of **lilies** from the Bagatti Valsecchi coat-of-arms combined with three interwoven **rings** from that of the Borromeo, appears throughout the room, for example on the **doors**, as well as on the **nightstands**, **armoire** and **glass-fronted cabinets**. These last three items were new kinds of furniture at the time, but were designed by the brothers in the Renaissance style, so as not to break the house's uniform presentation of the family's ancient history. All these objects bear witness to the great artistic skill of Lombard craftsmen at the end of the 19th Cen. The lily and rings decoration also had been woven into the rich wall hangings that no longer exist. Instead of reproducing the fabrics, which might have led to confusion between what is original to the house and what has been restored, the original ambiance has been suggested by the tones of the wall paint.

The bedroom was designed by the brothers to be sumptuous in both its decoration and furnishings. The former include the splendid 16th Cen carved pine **ceiling** that probably came from the Franco residence in Cremona; the **frieze** running along the walls (an original sixteenth Cen fresco integrated in the late 16th Cen with portions in tempera); and the elegant **door jambs** in black marble and sandstone. Such decorations create an appropriate setting for the exquisite early 17th Cen **Sicilian matrimonial bed** in gilded wrought iron and for the painting of **S. Giustina** by Giovanni Bellini (circa 1470).

The doors originally led to the dressing rooms, bathrooms and back stairs, which are not open to the public. The stairs led to the nanny's and children's quarters overhead, so the children could visit their mother without creating chaos in the rest of the house; such practical and socially derived divisions of household foot traffic were common.

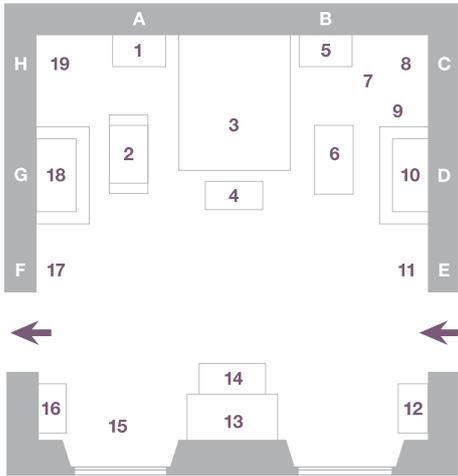


- 1 Panel paintings of **S. John the Baptist and S. Francis**, by Bernardo Zenale, 1507.
- 2 One of the two **Neo-Renaissance nightstands**, a kind of furniture that did not exist in the 16th Cen.
- 3 **Crucifix with niches for relics**; attributed to a German workshop in Augsburg of the beginning of the 17th Cen.
- 4 **Enameled copper cup and cover**, Venetian, beginning of the 16th Cen (*lower shelf*).
- 5 Two **lustreware pine cone-shaped vases** made in Deruta towards the beginning of the 16th Cen (*upper shelf*).
- 6 Three **precious coffers** in wood and gilded plaster decorated with classical and mythological scenes, north-eastern Italy, second half of the 15th Cen.
- 7 **Collection of box-wood**, bone and tortoise shell combs, France, 15th Cen.
- 8 **Processional cross in gilded copper**, Lombardy, beginning of the 14th Cen.
- 9 **S. Giustina**, panel painting, Giovanni Bellini (Venice, ca.1430-1516), ca. 1470.
- 10 **Children's furniture** made in northern Italy, from the end of the 16th to the beginning of the 17th centuries.



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- 1 Nightstand**, Milan, Innocente Cattaneo, 1885 (n.65)
From left to right:
- **small trunk** in wood and brass, 17th Cen (?) (n.716)
 - **crucifix** in brass and glass paste, France, first half of the 16th Cen (n.703)
 - **candlestick** with clasp for wick, iron, folk art, Italy, 18th Cen (n.643)
 - two **brass** candlesticks with circular bases and turned stems Italy, 18th-19th Cen (nn.275,276)
- On the wall, above the nightstand, from left to right:*
- **rosary** in silver and ivory, end of 17th Cen (n.919)
 - **small altar**, wood, ivory, Tuscany (?), 19th Cen (n.690)
 - gilded copper and iron **stoup**, Trapani, end of the 17th Cen (n.306)
- 2 Crib** with a painted floral decoration, Lombardy (?), late 16th Cen (n.77)
- 3 Canopied bed** in gilded iron with floral motifs, Sicily, 17th Cen (n.67)
- 4 Trunk in wood**, iron and velvet, with coats of arms and emblems of the Borromeo and Bagatti Valsecchi families, Milan, mid 16th Cen, restored in the 19th Cen (n.72)
- 5 Nightstand**, Milan, Innocente Cattaneo, 1885 (n.64)
From left to right:
- bronze **candlestick**, Italy, 19th Cen in 17th Cen style (n.749)
 - **reliquary** in wood and gilded bronze, Augsburg, beginning of the 17th Cen (n.657)
 - **candlewick clip**, folk art, Italy, 18th Cen (n.644)
 - little chest, wood and brass, 17th Cen (n.715)
- On the wall, above the bedside table, from left to right:*
- ivory **rosary**, France or Flanders, 17th Cen (n.934)
 - ivory **rosary** terminating in a head of Christ, Germany or France, 17th Cen (n.936)
 - coral and gilded silver **crucifix**, southern Italy, 17th Cen (n.819)
 - Dominican **rosary**, end of 17th Cen (n.937)
- 6 Cradle**, Lombardy (?), 17th Cen, restored in the 19th Cen (n.68)

- 7 Spinning wheel** in turned wood with a corn cob motif, Italy, 17th Cen (n.654)
- 8 "Savonarola chair"**, Italy, 19th Cen (n.170)
- 9 Spinning wheel** in turned wood with ornamental motifs in relief, Italy, 17th Cen (?) (n.652)
- 10 Chest with "bambocci"** (chubby children), 17th Cen, restored in the 19th Cen (n.74)
From left to right:
- bronze **candlestick**, Italy, 17th Cen (n.269)
 - **small trunk** in wood, metal and velvet, Italy, 18th-19th Cen (n.247)
 - **cabinet** with "bambocci", 17th Cen, restored in the 19th Cen (n.75)
 - bronze **candlestick**, Italy, 17th Cen (n.294)
 - **small trunk** in wood, metal and velvet, Italy, 19th Cen with 17th Cen fragments (n.924)
- 11 Wooden skein-winder** with baluster decorations on the shaft, Italy, 17th Cen (n.653)
- 12 Display cabinet in walnut**, Milan, Innocente Cattaneo, 1886 (n.70)
From left to right, top shelf:
- pine cone-shaped **majolica vase** with lustreware glaze, Deruta, first half of the 16th Cen (n.661)
 - **glass box** and lid, Venice or Tuscany, 17th Cen (n.543)
 - pine cone-shaped **majolica vase** with lustreware glaze, Deruta, first half of the 16th Cen (n.660)
- From left to right, bottom shelf:*
- **table clock** in gilded brass, Augusta, Nikolaus Schmidt the Younger, first decades of the 17th Cen (n.707)
 - **little chest**, copper and enamel, Venice, end of the 16th Cen (n.822)
 - copper and enamel **cup** and cover, Venice, beginning of the 16th Cen (n.655)
 - gilded copper **pyx**, Lombardy, mid 16th Cen (n.701)
- 13 Armoire** carved with the Borromeo rings and the Bagatti Valsecchi lilies, Milan, Innocente Cattaneo, 1885 (n.69)
- 14 Table with baluster**, Italy, assembled in the 19th Cen, includes fragments from the 16th and 17th centuries (n.92)
From left to right, row on window side:
- **wooden box** with gilded plaster decorations featuring mythological scenes, north-eastern Italy, end of the 15th-beginning of the 16th (n.754)
 - **wooden box** with gilded plaster decorations featuring episodes from Roman history, north-eastern Italy, end of the 15th-beginning of the 16th Cen (n.758)
 - **wooden box** with gilded plaster decorations featuring episodes from Roman history, north-eastern Italy, last quarter of the 15th Cen (n.789)
- From left to right, middle row:*
- **copper and enamel box** with golden decorations on a blue and white background, Venice, 16th Cen (n.821)
 - **box for Host wafers**, ivory carved with relief decorations featuring religious subjects,

- **Genova**, beginning of the 16th Cen (n.823)
 - trunk-shaped **coffer**, wood faced with ivory plaques, 19th Cen (?) (n.742)
 - **gilded copper** box with floral motifs and coral insets, Trapani, 17th Cen (n.820)
- From left to right, row on bed side:*
- finely inlaid little **coffer**, wood and ivory, northern Italy, mid 15th Cen (n.744)
 - **wooden box** decorated with ivory and straw, Italy, 17th Cen (n.714)
 - **little coffer**, wood, iron, horn and bone, decorated with geometrical and naturalistic motifs, central Italy (?), end of the 16th Cen (n.740)
- 15 Folding "Savonarola chair"** with a heraldic shield on the back, Italy, 19th Cen (n.223)
- 16 Display cabinet in walnut**, Milan, Innocente Cattaneo, 1885 (n.71)
From left to right, top row at the back:
- **boxwood comb** with pierced decorations, France, end of the 15th Cen (n.796)
 - **tortoise shell comb** decorated with naturalistic motifs, France, end of the 15th Cen (n.799)
- Middle row at the back:*
- **boxwood comb** with pierced decorations, France, end of the 15th Cen (n.798)
- Bottom row, at back:*
- **ivory comb**, Flanders (?), first half of the 17th Cen (n.813)
 - **boxwood comb** with elegant pierced decorations, France, end of the 15th Cen (n.797)
 - gilded copper processional **cross**, Lombardy, 14th Cen (n.704)
- From left to right, on the shelf:*
- **reliquary** in gilded copper and glass, Lombardy, mid 16th Cen (n.696)
 - embroidered **gloves**, Italy, mid 16th Cen (n.921)
 - **Madonna and Child**, ivory, Trapani (?), 17th-18th Cen (n.803)
 - private devotional **plaque** in bronze, Venice or Lombardy, end of the 15th-beginning of the 16th Cen (n.807)
 - bronze **plaque** with the Crucifixion, "il Moderno" (northern Italy, 16th Cen), ca. 1500 (n.808)
 - **container** covered with worked and stamped leather, Italy, 19th Cen (n.763)
- 17 Collection of children's furniture:**
- **child's commode**, Italy, 19th Cen with 16th-17th Cen fragments (n.313)
 - **baby-walker**, northern Italy, 16th-17th Cen (n.314)
 - pair of **small chairs**, Italy, 16th-17th Cen (n.311,312)
- 18 Eight-drawer chest with figures of "bambocci"** (chubby children), Liguria, 17th Cen, restored 19th Cen (n.73)
From left to right:
- **small trunk** in leather, iron, wood and paper, France or Flanders, 15th Cen (n.599)
 - **cabinet** with "bambocci", Liguria, 17th Cen, restored in the 19th Cen (n.76)
 - **little coffer** in leather and iron, France or Flanders, 16th Cen (n.596)
- 19 High chair**, northern Italy (?), 17th Cen, restored in the 19th Cen (n.182)

On the walls:

- A S. Francis**, panel painting, Bernardo Zenale (Treviglio, ca. 1460-Milan 1526), portion of the left panel of polyptych of the Immaculate Conception Chapel, church of S. Francis, Cantù, 1507 (n.987)
- B S. John the Baptist**, panel painting, Bernardo Zenale (Treviglio, ca. 1460-Milan 1526), portion of left panel of the polyptych of the Immaculate Conception Chapel, church of S. Francis, Cantù, 1507 (n.988)
- C S. John the Baptist**, panel painting Baldassarre Carrari the Younger (?) (Forlì, ca. 1460-1516), early 16th Cen (n.990)
- D Madonna and Child with SS. John the Evangelist as a Boy and Francesco**, panel painting Ercangelo di Jacopo del Sellaio (Florence, ca.1477-1530), beginning of the 16th Cen (n.993)
- E S. John the Evangelist**, panel painting, Baldassarre Carrari the Younger (?) (Forlì, ca.1460-1516), early 16th Cen (n.989)
- F S. Giustina de' Borromei**, panel painting, Giovanni Bellini (Venice, ca.1430-1516), ca. 1470 (n.986)
- G Madonna and Child with SS. Catherine of Alexandria and Mary Magdalene**, panel painting, modeled on Raffaellino del Garbo (Florence, active 1479-1527), beginning of the 16th Cen (n.992)
- H S. James**, panel painting, Master of the S. Anthony Abbot Triptych at Maggianico (?) (Lombardy, first half of the 16th Cen) beginning of the 16th Cen (n.991)