

## Pordenone, Studiolo del Pordenone

The building known as the "studiolo del Pordenone" is a two-floors building overlooking Piazzetta San Marco, the ancient "piazza de sotto", near the Furlana gate. The facade is articulated by two axes of round arched windows plus a mezzanine with rectangular holes and a porch space on the ground floor. The building is the result of the assembly of several buildings built in different periods between the fourteenth and seventeenth century. Remodelling of various kinds then involved the internal distribution of spaces. The elements that characterize the main facade of the building refer to the 16th century renovation. In 1989 the restorer Giancarlo Magri, during an inspection, discovered in a room on the second floor a cycle of frescoes attributed by art historians to Giovanni Antonio De 'Sacchis, better known as Pordenone (1483/84-1539), and executed around 1520. The decoration measures about 10 meters and covers an almost unbroken band of the upper part of three sides. The scenes, marked by figures of winged sphinxes, present a profane cycle inspired by classical mythology, with extensive landscape references to the Pordenone of the sixteenth century, such as the representation of the ancient bridge over the Noncello. On the west wall one can admire the episode of *Hercules killing the Nemean lion* and a monochromatic sphinx facing outwards. On the north wall we find other scenes inspired by Greek mythology, such as the episode of the *Condemnation of Sisyphus* and the scene of the *Supplication of Tantalus*. In the south wall is depicted a female figure, initially identified with Andromeda and then with *Juno* surrounded by a gold chain and suspended between heaven, earth and water, punished by Jupiter. Today the small building is partly owned by a private individual and partly by the Friuli Foundation and it is the hope of many that in the future it can be opened to the public adding another piece to the city route dedicated to Pordenone.

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