

## **Pordenone, Piazza XX Settembre**

So it was named in 1895, 25 years after the anniversary of the breach of Porta Pia, a large square inaugurated in 1880 on an area bordered to the east by the former convent of the Dominican fathers, to the west by the so-called Roggia of the Buildings and to the south by the grounds of the *Via Regia Postale*, the city's new road artery built by the Austrians between 1815 and 1820. Initially, the town's beef market took place in the square, which continued until the first post-war period. In addition to the ex-convent of the Dominicans, at the beginning of the 1900s this space was delimited by gardens of other buildings overlooking and from 1911, in the south-west corner, by the massive Cossetti palace.

Around the twenties of the twentieth century in Pordenone there was a real building *boom* and even Piazza XX Settembre was surrounded by new buildings. The first was the Verdi theatre, designed by the Udine architect Provino Valle and inaugurated in 1922 (and demolished in 1952), a building that underwent numerous renovations over the years, until the new Verdi theatre was built in the early 2000s. In the Fascist era, starting in the 1930s, the Hotel Moderno was built, opposite the theatre, the "House of the mutilated" (1935-1937), by Cesare Scoccimarro (1897-1953) and in 1933 the monument / stele by Ado Furlan dedicated to the two "fascist martyrs" Pio Pischiutta and Arturo Salvato, destroyed on 25 July 1943 as a symbol of the dictatorship. In the period between 2000 and 2002, as part of the redevelopment of the pavement of part of the historic centre, the Municipality carried out the reconstruction from the street surface of the square. In 2005 the municipal administration entrusted the architect Francesca Storaro with the task of designing the illumination of the square to better highlight the most suggestive aspects.

Curated by: Dr. Martina Solerte and Dr. Nicoletta Rigoni  
December 2018