



# Ecco Chamber

FORTNIGHTLY ITALIAN NEWS MADE IN  
SOUTH AFRICA

## Festa della Repubblica

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# Chamber's Note

## *Festa della Repubblica*

On the 2nd of June, 1946, Italy decided to become a Republic by means of an institutional referendum. After more than eighty years the Savoy family's reign (which also included the Fascist period) ended. On the 2nd and 3rd of June 1946, 13 million women voted for the first time alongside 12 million men and 54% of the votes went in favour of the Republic. Moreover, there was a vote for the Constituent Assembly, the body that undertook the drafting of the new Constitution, which came into force on the 1st of January 1948. Since then, every year the Italian people and its institutions celebrate Republic Day.

The term "republic" derives from the Latin *res publica*, "public thing, of everyone", and indicates a form of government that is opposed to monarchy. There are different types of republics; Italy (as stated in Article 1 of its Constitution) is a democratic republic where power is exercised by all citizens through their representatives in Parliament elected by universal suffrage. Furthermore, Italy is a parliamentary republic, since it is the Parliament that has a central role and elects the Head of State, i.e. the President of the Republic (a position distinct from that of Head of Government).

The Palazzo del Quirinale, originally the residence of the King of Italy, has been the official residence of the Head of State since the birth of the Italian Republic. The Palace was built on the hill of the same name in Rome; its name derives from that of the Roman god Quirino, whose temple once stood on this hill.

The Unknown Soldier is an Italian soldier who fell during the First World War. Buried at the Altare della Patria in the early 1920s, it has become the symbol of all the fallen and all those missing in war.

The Altare della Patria is part of the Vittoriano architectural complex, a monument dedicated to Vittorio Emanuele II of Savoy, the first king of Italy, and to the Risorgimento, i.e. that historical period which led to the unification of Italy in 1861.



*Italcham!*





# SMILE

After the huge success of the SMILE event, sponsored by Hereford Group in March, the much awaited next event for the SMILE network was back on the 25 of May, this time in the new La Ciccia room at Settebello Restaurant, at our beloved Italian Sporting Club in Johannesburg.

Organized by the Com.It.Es. Johannesburg, in collaboration with the Italian South African Chamber of Trade and Industries (ItalCham), the night was a delightful occasion for all who attended. The organisers would like to thank Mei-Shan Nel, owner of Venti Rosa, the main sponsor of the night who kindly offered the catering; Chiara Fabietti and Giuseppe Di Benedetto, owners of Ayama Wines, who organized an exclusive wine tasting for the participants, and the ever-ready Settebello who, in addition to delighting the presents with delicious food that characterizes it, contributed to the sponsorship of the Ayama tasting and provided "La Ciccia" for the event.

The success of the last two events is testament to the ability of the Italian community to make it work. As always, an openness to meeting new people ruled the night. At the end of the night, Cristian Ilari and Pamina Bohrer, ItalCham's SG and member of the Coro Giuseppe Verdi, performed playing bass guitar and singing a few songs including "Summertime" and "I've got you under my skin".

SMILE events, beyond the fun, represent an important meeting point for Italians, and an important stage for small and medium Italian enterprises (or Italian related businesses) in South Africa, allowing them to access a strong network and to expand their horizons.

**Ayama sito web:** [AYAMA WINES -South Africa - Ayama Wines - South Africa](#)  
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# APERILINK

JOHANNESBURG

AN ITALIAN APERITIVO  
& BUSINESS NETWORKING

8 JUNE 2023

17:30 FOR 18:00

VFS GLOBAL ITALIAN VISA OFFICE -  
RIVONIA VILLAGE

Tickets

R290 - ItalCham Members

R460 - Non-Members

**Dress Code**  
Smart Casual



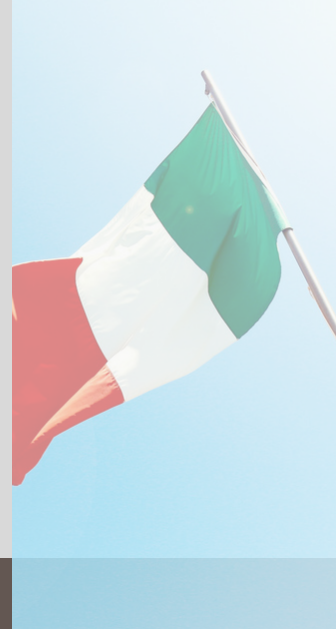
Consulate General of Italy  
Johannesburg



VFS.GLOBAL







In collaboration with the Romaeuropa Foundation, the competition-prize focuses on original works of contemporary creation developed in the disciplines of theatre, dance and music.

The fifth edition of "Vivo d'Arte" is underway, the competition-prize promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in collaboration with the Romaeuropa Foundation dedicated to young Italian artists, under 36 years of age and permanently resident abroad.

The object of the competition-prize is original works of contemporary creation developed in the disciplines of theatre, dance and music, which develop the theme of contamination - encounter with the culture of the country of residence and foresee the possible involvement of local artists.

The winning project will be represented in the national première in the next edition of the Romaeuropa Festival, which will be held in Rome from 6 September to 19 November 2023. The expenses related to the creation and production of the winning show, the cachet and the hospitality, within the limits is indicated in the Regulations.

The deadline for receiving applications is 11.59 pm (Italian time) on 18 June 2023. The methods for sending applications are indicated in the Regulations available in the attachment.







# ORIGINI ITALIA

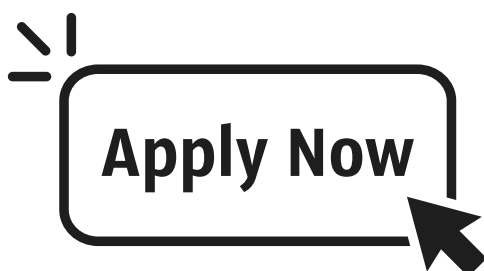
## ADMISSION OPPORTUNITY

ITA (Italian Trade Agency) and **MIB Trieste School of Management** (Trieste, Italy) promote and organize **ORIGINI ITALIA PROGRAM 2023**, an intensive Export Management and Entrepreneurial Development Course **aimed at the descendants of emigrants from Italy who are residents abroad**, in particular in extra European countries. The Course's main objective is to **promote a new and productive collaboration between those descendants and the Italian business system** (please visit the Origini Italia website for more information: [www.mib.edu/origini](http://www.mib.edu/origini)).

The Course will last from **November 6, 2023 to March 23, 2024** (five months). Classes will be held in English at MIB Trieste School of Management (Palazzo del Ferdinando, Largo Caduti di Nasirya 1, Trieste, Italy) and at ITA (Italian Trade Agency, Via Liszt 24, Rome, Italy).

The Course has not more than 20 places available (almost 7 places will be given to candidates whose family has origins from the Friuli Venezia Giulia Italian region).

Attendance to the Origini Italia Program is **free of charge**. Moreover, MIB Trieste School of Management guarantees successful applicants travel expenses (a return flight from their country of residence to Trieste) and accommodation expenses for the course duration (December Holidays included). Both during classroom lessons and the internship participants will also be guaranteed lunch on the premises. Attendance to all the classes and the internship is compulsory.



ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY

ICE - Agenzia per la promozione all'estero e l'internazionalizzazione delle imprese italiane







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## BUSINESS LOUNGE

The Premium Lounge offers additional benefits such as:

- complimentary photocopying and photo-booth services,
- printing documents, and
- courier delivery of passport and documents.

It provides personalized attention, faster submission process, a comfortable facility with professional staff, and convenient appointment booking. Refreshments are available, and there are options for online or in-person payment. SMS updates and courier return of passport are included.



# Welcoming our New Member



Gridbow Engineers and Technical Services is a highly esteemed Engineering, Procurement, and Construction Contractor (EPC) that has gained recognition for its exceptional services in the Power and Construction Infrastructure Sector throughout Southern Africa and Australia. With a broad range of expertise in Generation, Transmission, Distribution, and Civil Infrastructure Projects, Gridbow is a trusted partner for all engineering needs.

At the heart of Gridbow's success lies its commitment to engineering excellence. The company boasts a team of accomplished professionals, including Project Managers, Engineers, Technicians, Artisans, and Apprentices, all of whom possess extensive experience in various engineering disciplines. Their collective knowledge encompasses Electrical work, Civil work, Building, Structural Engineering, HVAC, Fencing, and other associated engineering fields. Gridbow takes pride in its ability to deliver bespoke engineering solutions. With a focus on quality and innovation, the company's experienced design teams create meticulous designs, ranging from concept and feasibility studies to comprehensive detail design packages. Whether it's a greenfield project or a plant modification endeavor, Gridbow's design expertise ensures exceptional outcomes.

Recognizing the importance of operational efficiency and asset maintenance, Gridbow offers comprehensive operations and maintenance services. By producing comprehensive operating and maintenance manuals, the company equips its clients with the necessary tools to protect and manage vital infrastructure assets. Additionally, Gridbow provides operations and management services, ensuring seamless operations and the preservation of valuable assets. With a track record of successful projects and a commitment to delivering exceptional results, Gridbow has established itself as a leader in the industry. The company's professionalism, attention to detail, and dedication to client satisfaction have earned them numerous accolades. Gridbow's unwavering focus on engineering excellence, coupled with its experienced and multidisciplinary team, positions them as the go-to EPC contractor for the Power and Construction Infrastructure Sector in Southern Africa and Australia.

*Welcome to Italcama!!*



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**WEBSITE**

