

ROME'S PARCO DELLA PACE LIT BY GHIDINI ILLUMINAZIONE

Ambitious project for the redevelopment of a vast area on the outskirts of Rome

The project for the redevelopment of the Parco della Pace ("Peace Park") in Rome arose from the need to recover, and give to the city and its people, a vast area on the outskirts of the Rome, on via della Pisana, which had been disused and abandoned for some time: until not so long ago, the zone had been a huge pozzolan and aggregate quarry.



However, over the years the area's status and condition had gradually deteriorated: homes built without planning permission, fuel deposits and waste dumps had become the order of the day. In 2001, Lazio Regional Council decided to clean up, rehabilitate and redevelop what had become more or less an area of wasteland.

The area covered by the project, no less than 12 hectares of land, belongs to the Regional Council, or borders its property. The guiding concept of the entire project was that of "Land Art", with the aim of transforming and giving value to the area by using it to convey a message of great significance: that of Peace.

The theme and concept of Peace are expressed through the many symbolic portrayals of the idea placed along the various routes through the park. The symbol-material of the park is stone, used since prehistoric times and found in all places and in all periods, making it the perfect expression of Peace, a hope shared by all civilisations: the amphitheatre is lined with stone from Lazio's Coreno basin, while the sculptures and message-stones are in pink

“peperino” stone (northern Lazio), and the avenues are paved with tuffa, also from northern Lazio.

The **Artistic Director Ettore de Concilis** has created the sculpted stones carved with lines of poetry and philosophy inspired by Peace and brotherhood, and placed them along the park’s “literary avenues”: the focal point is the three sculptures which symbolise the three monotheist religions: Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

Plants have been a key factor in the project from the outset: the land has been shaped, and a thorough study has been carried out to choose and find the ideal location for species including trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, and



so on. Plants are living beings, their existence following a preset plan of natural growth, ageing and death. Similarly, Peace, once won, has to be nurtured and protected if its survival is not to be threatened.

The architect **Michele Stamegna** took charge of the park’s lighting with the collaboration of **Ghidini Illuminazione**, fundamental in choosing the lighting installations to be used and their positioning in the park to give proper emphasis to the architectural forms of the landscaping and vegetation, and the sculptures. Light is also a factor of key importance to all religions, and is the main element throughout the park’s design, to underline the concept of Peace on which it has been created.

Ghidini has supplied a variety of equipment, and every model has been specifically chosen for the area to be lit, to ensure the most striking effect: in-ground lights, bollards, and ground-level and conventional spotlights. The amphitheatre was lit with 170 **Microgeo Led** units, drive-over in-ground fixtures with ground-level light emission, with aluminium casing for installation built into paving. The “literary avenues” and access roads are lit

with the **TRET** bollard, with low-copper aluminium elements for high oxidation resistance, finished with dry-state polyester paint with anti-corrosion treatment and vandal-proof clear polyester diffuser,

in two versions: **CUTOFF** with 5 glass black painted 45° shade and anti-glare fitting, to meet the demanding regional regulations against light pollution, for the low-level installations, and **UP** for those 2.40 metres high. Trees and shrubs are floodlit with the **Daytona** ground spotlight, with 75° adjustment and 360° rotation, with optional steel cataphoresis-finished steel casing. Last but not least, the sculpted stones carrying the written messages are lit with the **Vik** spotlight, ideal for strong lighting of architectural details and facades.

“It has been an honour for Ghidini Illuminazione to be involved in such a major environmental rehabilitation project of such great architectural value, with its message of Peace,” stated Roberto Castellotti, Ghidini Illuminazione Sales Manager, and he added, “Light is a fundamental feature of any environment, and the best way of adding to its beauty. Thanks to our contribution the Parco della Pace will become a true monument, and fulfil its aim of glorifying Peace.”

Context: Parco della Pace (Rome)

Lighting Design: Michele Stamegna, Studio stamigna (toma)

System Designer:

Lighting fixtures: Microgeo Led, TRET CUTOFF and UP, Daytona and Vik

Design: Studio Ghidini Illuminazione

GHIDINI ILLUMINAZIONE is an historic brand in the outdoor lighting sector, able to draw on consolidated know-how in the use of aluminium processing and lighting engineering technologies. Founded at Lumezzane near Brescia in 1978, the company is wholly owned by the founding family, and specialises in the production of outdoor installations which prioritise carefully crafted details and fine design, concentrating above all on achieving the best outcome in terms of lighting efficiency and the enhancement of outdoor environments. Its main product lines include in-ground and wall lights, bollards, conventional post lights, spotlights and street furniture fixtures. In 2007 Ghidini became sole Italian distributor for the German brand Spittler, thus extending its product portfolio to include

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