

Architect Tito Lacchia and his Experience in Istanbul (1913-1932)

By Prof. Assoc. Dr. Luca Orlandi

This presentation at ANAMED will explore Tito Lacchia's professional and personal journey, tracing his path from his formative years in Piedmont to his significant role in early 20th-century Istanbul. Central to this narrative is his experience as an architect and professor of drawing, which placed him at the intersection of education, design, and cross-cultural exchange. In Istanbul, Lacchia not only contributed to the architectural landscape but also played a pivotal role in shaping artistic education within the Italian-Levantine community.

Through a curated selection of drawings, photographs, and archival documents, the presentation will reveal the richness of Lacchia's architectural portfolio and his engagement with Byzantine, Ottoman architectural and artistic heritage. His dual identity as both practitioner and educator underscores his importance as a cultural mediator between Italy and Turkey. Despite his historical relevance, Lacchia remains largely absent from academic literature. The recent discovery of his private archive now offers a rare opportunity to reconstruct the life and work of this Italian architect, active during a crucial transitional period between the late Ottoman Empire and the rise of the Turkish Republic.