

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 28, 2008

THE CHARLESTON – SPOLETO FRIENDSHIP GROWS STRONGER

A delegation from Spoleto, Italy and Umbria will be present in Charleston, SC, on the occasion of an event on March 31st . 2008t, which will focus on the integrated promotion of the Spoleto territory and of Umbria.

Mayor Massimo Brunini will come from Spoleto, joined by Maestro Giorgio Ferrara, new Artistic Director and President of the Festival of Two Worlds Foundation, the Coordinator of the International Relations Dept., Gilberto Giasprini, Filippo Tomassoni, President of the Hotel Managers Association and Massimo Clementini, coordinator of the latter. The delegation will be accompanied by Regional Promotion Agency Administrator, Stefano Cimicchi, who will promote the regional territory and represent Umbria.

The promotional event will have various components, beginning with the opening of the "Spoleto Corner" at the Visitor's Center in Charleston, which represents the Tourist Office of the beautiful, elegant city in South Carolina, which is, by street furniture and architecture, the most "European" of American cities.

In the afternoon, Joseph P. Riley, Jr., Mayor of Charleston will receive the Mayor of Spoleto in newly renovated City Hall.

The meeting will cover the development of the collaboration between the two cities and the two Festivals, with the Spoleto Festival USA which has been taking place in Charleston for 32 years, founded by late Maestro Gian Carlo Menotti in 1976. Menotti chose this city for the beauty, the importance in history and the special atmosphere.

In the afternoon, there will be an operative meeting to present Spoleto to Charleston journalists and to economic and tourism operators. The meeting will be followed by a cocktail-party with Umbrian wines and specialities. The evening will end with a dinner with typical Umbrian dishes, prepared by three chefs from Spoleto. The chefs are Giovanna Tomassoni of Restaurant "San Lorenzo", Alberto Massarini of Restaurant "Il Pentagramma" and Andrea Scotacci of Restaurant "Apollinare". During the operative meeting and the dinner, videos on Umbria and Spoleto will be shown along with other presentations. The presentations will be by the Mayors, Joseph P.Riley,Jr and Massimo Brunini, by Honorary Consul Sergio Fedelini, who swung into action for the success of the initiative, by Riccardo Strano, Director of ENIT New York, by Maestro Giorgio Ferrara, recently appointed director of the Festival of Two Worlds, with the objective of re-launching and re-organizing it.

The presence of Maestro Giorgio Ferrara will be particularly significant, because the reactivation of the collaboration that in the past used to distinguish the two Spoleto Festivals is strongly wished for, for the mutual advantage and satisfaction of both Charleston and Spoleto.

According to the delegation, the town of Spoleto wishes to express her gratitude to Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr, and to all his collaborators for welcoming Spoleto and for the valuable collaboration provided for the success of this day of promotion of Spoleto and Umbria. Spoleto also extends such thanksgiving to the staff of the Visitor's Center for allowing the Spoleto Corner - which will be reciprocated with an analogue, mutual concession of a space at the Spoleto Tourist Office - to Maestro Lorenzo Ricci Muti, musician and conductor from Spoleto who has been living in Charleston for years, to ENIT - Italian Government Tourist Board New York director Riccardo Strano, to Consul General of Italy in Miami, Mario Rocca, to Honorary Consul of Italy in Charleston Sergio Fedelini, to Eric Friberg, Chairman of the

Spoletto Festival USA Board, and to Giorgio Ferrara, Artistic Director of the Festival of Two Worlds.

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