



BRAVO PALLADIO Gala Dinner

We are here to celebrate the architect Palladio, mid-sixteenth century designer of churches, palazzos, and perhaps most endearingly, villas, which often doubled as farmhouses. His timing was perfect: Venice was developing the Veneto as its breadbasket because its mercantile ambitions had been reigned in earlier in the century by the League of Cambrai. Venetian aristocrats were clamoring for a Palladio-designed, country get-away with refined classical details, elegant dovecotes, even frescoed walls.

It has been our custom to start with a song, so ex-president, Chippy Irvine has borrowed from a Cole Porter one written in 1941 with which she will transport you back to Palladio's day. It's called "Farming."

FARMING

Here's a ditty that is nitty- gritty
Proving Mother Nature still has charm
Take a gander at I quatro libri
The Veneto is perfect for your farm
Acres of unclaimed land now is tamed land
Rustic grandeur for our top who's who
So if it's OK for il conte e contessa
What say that we go hayseed too

For Farming, that's the fashion
Farming, that's the passion
Of our swell celebrities of today
Palladio is doing villas
With impressive temple pillars
We sure hope that they are here to stay (what's the betting?)
Cruising, up the Brenta Viewing La Malcontenta
Getting down to earth along the way
Come and look at La Rotonda
It's a brilliant four-way wonder -
Farming is so charming they all say.