

**PROGETTO DI RESTAURO CONSERVATIVO DELLA
FACCIATA DELLA CHIESA DI SANTA MARIA DI
NAZARETH (VULGO DEGLI SCALZI) - VENEZIA:
criteri di analisi, rilievo, diagnostica e sperimentazione nel
cantiere di restauro**

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Abstract.

The facade of the Church of Santa Maria di Nazareth, entirely made of Carrara marble, is unique in the context of the city of Venice. In fact, this lithotype was rarely used in the Venetian environment because its saccharoid structure proved to be unsuitable for the aggressive lagoon climate. Furthermore, in this specific case, the location of the facade contributed to a faster degradation of marble due to dramatic thermo-hygrometric shocks resulting from solar radiation and cooling. The complexity of this restoration work (2014-2018) was to obtain an effective consolidation of the degraded stone, as well as to reduce the causes of alteration of marble linked to water, whether from condensation or weathering. The first diagnostic investigations revealed a vast degenerative phenomenon: the whole decorative apparatus appeared very degraded, characterized by degrading cohesiveness and powdering of the marble under an apparently compact cortical surface, for a depth ranging from 7 to 12 cm. As the consolidation of marble in such a dramatic state of degradation has not been reported in specialized literature, systematic experimental research on consolidants and consolidation procedures has been undertaken. The guiding line of the restoration project was oriented towards the use of traditional materials and technologies with the combination of innovative synthetic and inorganic materials widely supported by exhaustive experimentation.

Keywords: *preservative restoration, Santa Maria of Nazareth Church, consolidation, nanosilica, diagnostic investigations, in situ tests*