

## SACBO CELEBRATES THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE APOLLO 11 MISSION

SACBO is celebrating 50 years since the Apollo 11 mission by commemorating a day of special significance: 16<sup>th</sup> July. This was the start date of the 1969 space voyage that would set the first men on the Moon and that, exactly one year later, would be noted in the airport management company's Certificate of Incorporation.

*"The Moon Adventure"* is the name of the event being promoted in partnership with the Municipality of Bergamo, which will take place on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 9pm** in the area below the Palazzo della Ragione in Piazza Vecchia, and will mark the commencement of a series of scientific and cultural initiatives as part of the "50 years on the Moon" programme, which will be active in the city of Bergamo until 21<sup>st</sup> July.

The astronaut Umberto Guidoni, the first European on board the International Space Station, will talk with science journalist Eugenio Sorrentino, reliving the feats of the Moon mission which marked the history of humanity, and looking into the future of Moon exploration which will involve the creation of an orbital base and the return of astronauts to the selenite surface.

A special evening punctuated by lucky astronomical coincidences and more. 16<sup>th</sup> July, a day of a full Moon, will also be marked by a partial lunar eclipse, with the Earth's shadow cone darkening about two thirds of our natural satellite. This phenomenon will coincide with the evening's interval, in which the Campanone bell will toll 100 times.

The Moon will actually enter the shadow at a few seconds past 10.01pm. It will create an evocative effect that, thanks to collaboration with Padua's INAF (Italian National Institute for Astrophysics) observatory, will be shown on screen with a commentary, before finishing the discussion on the importance of space programmes which launch us from the past into the future.

50 years since we set foot on the moon, SACBO and the Municipality of Bergamo have arranged for the lunar disk to be projected onto the façade of the Palazzo della Ragione from 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> July.

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