

HOSTLER BURROWS

Umberto Nordio **Italian, 1891 - 1971**

Umberto Nordio was an Italian designer and architect who left behind a legacy of public spaces throughout Italy. Among his early works were the houses in Avenue Miramare (1929) and the Maritime Station of Trieste (1926-1928), as well as the Home of the Fighters and the Mausoleum of Guglielmo Oberdan (1929-1935). In the later 1930s, Nordio won a competition to design the Palazzo Littorio in Rome (1934), the Palace of Italian Civilization (1937), and the Palace of Water and Light (1938). His greatest work came from this time as well, the new university in Trieste (1938 – 1950).

Following World War II, Nordio became a mentor to architectural students in Trieste, moving Italian architecture and design forward towards a more functional, International style as was popular during the era. Starting in the early 1950s, Nordio designed the furniture for the large Italian cruise ships of the era, embracing collaborations with other artists, like Romano Boico, Aldo Cervi, and Vittorio Frandoli. These partnerships expanded to include the Ina-casa district of Chiadino (1955 – 1965) and the interior design and furniture for the Trieste Government Palace (1962 – 1963) and the seat of the Regional Council (1966).