

Excerpt

THE MUSEUM OF CASAL DE' PAZZI

Casal de' Pazzi (literally, Pazzi's farmstead) is not only a district of public housing; it used to be a suburb filled with shacks. It's called this because of a farmstead which belonged to the Florentine family of Pazzi. Even Pier Paolo Pasolini wrote about it in *Boys Alive* (1955) and in *A Violent Life* (1959): when he arrived in Rome from Friuli in the early 50s, Pasolini lived in a small two-story house not far from here, in Ponte Mammolo, in via Giovanni Tagliere number 5. [...]

The museum preserves an invaluable heritage. Highlights include the twenty-five intact elephant tusks, plus some fifty tusk fragments, molars and other bone portions belonging to rhinoceroses, hippopotamuses, boars and wolves. The set-up makes good use of highly impactful narrative technologies. Meanwhile, the museum offers many activities in a difficult neighbourhood, and both schools and citizens' groups see it as a point of strength, from a cultural, and especially civic, perspective.

7

