

# Simone Costanzi

Italian architect  
d. 1709

Architect active in Rome between the end of the century XVII and the beginning of XVIII; the relationship of kinship with the artists Costanzi, contemporary, does not result from summary research in the *states of souls*, seems to have been part of the Virtuosi al Pantheon. Around 1695 he designed a chapel in S. Croce and S. Bonaventura dei Lucchesi, dedicated first to the Conception and then to the SS. Trinity, commissioned by the Lucchese Frediano Castagnori.

The chapel, with a rectangular plan with an oval dome and gilded drawers, takes light from a lantern with windows and fluted pilasters; It is very decorated with scrolls, shells, cartouches and marbles of various colors: "he adorned it very richly and conveniently yet if we want to have regard to the depraved taste of the last century that of all orders a single order composed" .

Larger and equally rich in marble is the other chapel of Costanzi, in S. Carlo ai Catinari, decorated on commission by GB Costaguti between 1698 and 1702.

A commemorative bronze medal for the consecration of the chapel by Cardinal Costaguti was coined in 1700: first dedicated to S. Biagio, then to S. Paolo, finally to the Annunciation, it is also it has a rectangular plan, with rounded corners, an oval dome and a lantern; a rich golden frame runs on all sides and in the entrance entrances and the Corinthian capitals of the pilasters are also golden.

For S. Carlo ai Catinari Costanzi also elaborated a drawing of a high altar, in 1702; and the ciborium above it "of precious stones and golden metals was made with a design by Simone Costanzi". From 1708 to 1709 for the card. Benedetto Pamphili estimated the works of the discovery lodge and other rooms run in the Albano casino and also operated in Nettuno; for this reason, in favor of his mother, Belardina, a payment order was issued in December 1709.

Costanzi was found dead in his bed in Rome on the 28th. 1709, "young architect of expectation having been the night before, taken care of having been to hear the serenade of Prince Ruspoli". The attribution to Costanzi of the palace on the left of the vestibule of S. Maria Maggiore, built between 1721 and 1743 in similar forms to the right one (by Flaminio Ponzio) seems to fail.

by Tommaso Scalesse - Biographical Dictionary of Italians - Volume 30 (1984)

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