

# 500 Years Of Beauty

*The roof tiles of 'The Duomo' (Santa Maria del Fiore) in Florence are constructed of terra cotta from Impruneta, and have been in place since 1503.*

*ColleZione imports the finest Italian terra cotta containers available. Hand-made terra cotta containers from Impruneta are individual works of art. The materials, methods and craftsmanship used by artisans for five hundred years throughout central Italy are unsurpassed in the history of garden design and decoration. This tradition has resulted in urns and vases that have stood the test of time. Allow us to show you the difference in material, methods and craftsmanship.*

## *Frost Resistance*

The urns and containers in our collection are frost resistant to as low as  $-35^{\circ}\text{f}$ . They can be relied upon to withstand repeated fluctuations in temperature and moisture without cracking or disintegrating. Terra cotta from Italy has a well-deserved reputation for being the most durable and long lasting in the world. These finely crafted containers are heirlooms-in-waiting.

## *Durability*

The soil from northern and central Italy, particularly in the region of Impruneta (Tuscany), is legendary for producing highly durable terra cotta pots. The clay of the Impruneta region is known as "galestro", producing the strongest, hardest and most long-lasting containers in the world. In addition, Italians fire their terra cotta at approximately  $2000^{\circ}\text{F}$  for 5 to 7 days; this slow, "high firing" ensures that the clay is fully fused, resulting in a legendary product. High quality Italian terra cotta fired at these temperatures will "ring like a bell" and can last a lifetime. We have personally seen pots that are over 300 years of age in collections throughout Italy.

## *Beauty*

ColleZione's hand-made terra cotta containers are crafted, one piece at a time, by individual artisans. The range of shapes you will find in hand-made pots is much broader, due to the stylistic variations in each artist's temperament. Bringing these appealing variations to our clients is what we love to do. When presented with these unique artworks, a thumbprint here, a detail there, our customers invariably smile — then reach out to touch!

## ColleZione

Hand-Made Italian Terra Cotta  
3485 Edison Way  
Menlo Park, California  
650.327.1342  
[www.collezioneusa.com](http://www.collezioneusa.com)