

NATIONAL FIRE BRIGADE

Office for Sporting Activities of the Fire Brigade

National Historical Association of Fire Brigade

Firefighters Without Borders

States General of Historical Legacies

present:

# CARLO GALIMBERTI

## BETWEEN REALITY AND MYTH



THE STORY OF

THE MAN

THE FIREFIGHTER

Under the patronage of



THE ATHLETE



## Carlo Galimberti's commemorative exhibition

*On the 30th anniversary of the Galleria Storica Nazionale dei Vigili del Fuoco (the National Historical Fire Brigade Gallery), located at the Palazzo Ducale (Ducal Palace) in Mantua, it has been deemed appropriated to remember the figure of one of the most valiant members of the firefighters. For moral qualities, professional achievements, and sporting records, Carlo Galimberti can worthily represent the large number of protagonists, well-known and less well-known, for valorous acts performed up to the cost of their own lives. This exhibition celebrates the extraordinary figure of Brigadier Carlo Galimberti of the Milan Fire Brigade, who died in 1939, in consequence of an explosion, together with two other members of his team to save all the other subordinates.*

*Carlo Galimberti was also a famous Olympic champion in weightlifting: gold medal in Paris in 1924, silver medal in Amsterdam in 1928 (national flag bearer) and in Los Angeles in 1932, 7th place in Berlin in 1936. Moreover, he obtained 18 other Italian titles and the silver medal at the European Championships in Luxembourg in 1931.*

*In this extensive exhibition are presented: his Olympic, national, and international medals, as well as the various certificates awarded to him, starting with the Cross of Merit, awarded in the 1915-18 war, where he obtained his flying license and carried out various missions.*

*During the days of the "Festivaletteratura", this exclusive event dedicated to the history of the fire brigade wants to celebrate the extraordinary story of this man, rich source of inspiration for the younger generations.*



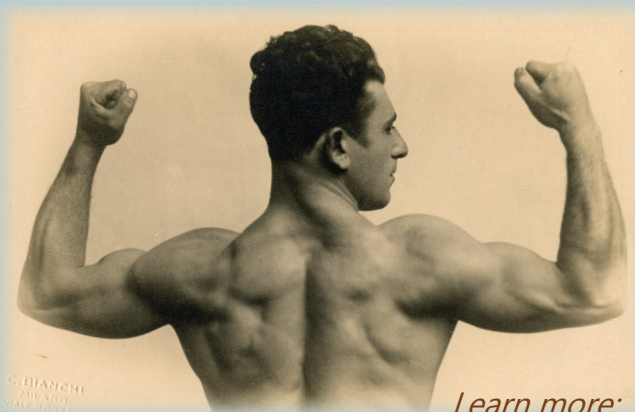


*Carlo Galimberti was born on 2 August 1894 in Rosario Santa Fe (Argentina), as a son of Italian emigrants. He returned to Italy at the age of 3 with his family. As a young man, he joined the Milan Fire Brigade, where he began his extraordinary career as a professional sportive.*

*He quickly reached the top of the world rankings in weightlifting.*

*He was a great man with a generous soul and infinite altruism. His father died when he was still a young boy, and he had to dedicate himself to farming for supporting his family.*

*Enlisted as a Bersagliere (member of an Italian special army corps) in the First World War, he was then promoted to Staff Sergeant. He took his flying license, was then shot down during a mission and survived miraculously. He returned from the war with a wound and a medal of merit.*



*Learn more:*

<https://www.vigilfuoco.it/sitispeciali/viewPage.asp?s=2&p=8081>

[https://www.impronteneltempo.org/uploads/1/2/6/0/126078511/n\\_13\\_-\\_carlo\\_galimberti.pdf](https://www.impronteneltempo.org/uploads/1/2/6/0/126078511/n_13_-_carlo_galimberti.pdf)

## A CHAMPION'S RECORD

### WEIGHTLIFTING

#### Participant in 4 Olympic games

1924 Paris *Gold Medal*

1928 Amsterdam *Silver Medal*

1932 Los Angeles *Silver Medal*

1936 Berlin *7th place (at 42 years old)*

#### European Championships



1930 Munich *6th, place*

1931 Luxemburg *Silver Medal*

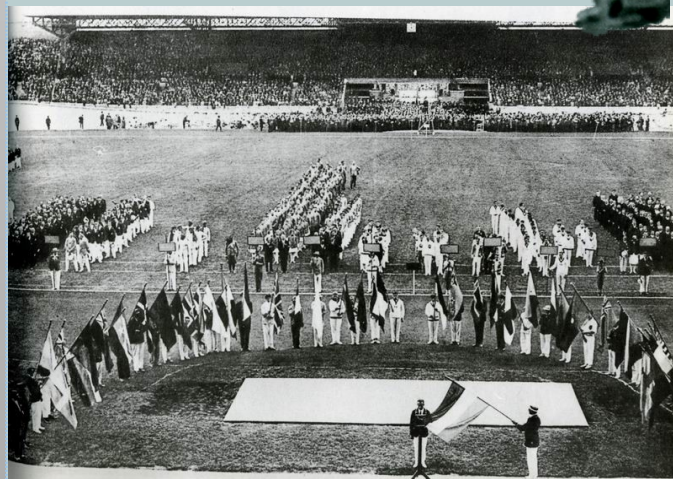
1934 Genoa *4th place*

#### 18 Italian Titles

*From 1921 to 1939*

16 Italian Records (10 in middleweight - 6 in middle-heavyweight)

Flag bearer at the Amsterdam Olympic games





## IL TRAGICO SCOPPIO IN VIA MOROZZO DELLA ROCCA A MILANO



Brigadiere Galimberti Carlo, in servizio nel Corpo dei Vigili del fuoco dal 28-4-1920



Vigile Parora Aldo, in servizio nel Corpo dei Vigili del fuoco dal 4-2-1937-XV



Vigile Pesi Anselmo, in servizio nel Corpo dei Vigili del fuoco dal 4-2-1937-XV

*In 1920 he joined the Milan Fire Brigade. He immediately distinguished himself for his strength and agility. Among the many commendations received, it stands out the one for saving a woman, trapped on the 4th floor of a building, carrying her out on his shoulders through a ladder with hooks. On 5th August 1939, during a mission in Milan, in Via Morozzo della Rocca, he entered in a boiler room, along with the other 8 members of the team he was leading, where there was a steam leak. When he realized that the explosion was imminent, he ordered the other firefighters of his team to retreat, while he advanced in the attempt to close the steam tap. Unfortunately, in the meantime, the explosion occurred involving Galimberti and other two firefighters who had not yet made it out. The two died shortly afterwards, and Carlo after 5 days of agony in hospital.*

Traduzione testo: Martina Dalolio



Exhibition of medals, photographs, historical memorabilia, objects, and documents belonging to

CARLO GALIMBERTI

from Wednesday 8th to Sunday 12th  
September 2021

at the Galleria Storica Nazionale dei Vigili del Fuoco (National Historical Fire Gallery)

Largo Vigili del Fuoco 1  
Mantova

Opening times:

from 10:00 to 12:30 and from 14:30 to 19:00

**Free entrance**

Phone: 0376 364124 Museum -  
0376 22771 VV.F. Mantua



GALLERIA STORICA NAZIONALE  
DEI VIGILI DEL FUOCO

<http://www.museovigilidelfuoco.it>



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