

# LETTERE

DAL



Lino Lacedelli,  
a man's journey to the summit

"Cortina 25-7-54 My love, I just returned from the Five Towers... As this is my last day off this summer, I thought I'd try to go out and feel better, like you said. But it didn't work for me, my darling.... I've been walking around the Five Towers, imagining I would see you somewhere. But unfortunately, you are far away, surrounded by who knows how much danger...".

The recipient of these words was Lino Lacedelli. The sender was Elda Dimai, his future wife and loving partner for life. The distant and unpredictable dangers were those of K2. The letter left Cortina for the long journey to the base camp of the great and mysterious mountain on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1954.

A few days later, at 6.30 p.m. on 31<sup>st</sup> July, Lino Lacedelli and Achille Compagnoni reached the summit of the second-highest mountain in the world. They were the first men to accomplish that feat.

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With this exhibition, Cortina and the Scoiattoli group want to commemorate their fellow citizen and climbing companion Lino Lacedelli seventy years after his historic first ascent, not only by recounting his extraordinary mountaineering career but, above all, by telling his human and personal story. For the first time, some of the many letters exchanged between Lino Lacedelli and his family, friends and acquaintances have been made available to the public.

A sequence of letters sent to and from Cortina to K2, chronicling a man's quest to reach the summit and showcasing a vanished Italy. The exhibition will open in July with a preview at

the Ciasa de Ra Regoles in Cortina, before being on display in its complete version at the Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti in August. It will be a symbolic journey. The exhibition begins in the heart of Cortina with a presentation of Lino, the man and the mountaineer, through a series of photos and important artefacts, as well as a special audio-video installation showing the letters that Lino and Elda exchanged during the K2 expedition. It is a kind of family album that gives a foretaste of the great exhibition that will take place on the summit of Lagazuoi, right in front of the peaks that Lino loved so much and with which everything began. The exhibition features videos, objects, materials, photographs, letters and notes, most of which have never been published before and come from the Lacedelli family archive. It tells the story of Lino and his K2 through his memories.

## **PROGRAMME**

22<sup>nd</sup> July - 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2024

### **PREVIEW LETTERS FROM K2**

#### **Ciasa de Ra Regoles Cortina d'Ampezzo**

The journey of the young Lino Lacedelli and the waiting of those who stayed at home to await his return from Karakorum are told through the letters, thoughts and voices of the protagonists.

A symbolic journey that begins at the Ciasa de Regole in Cortina d'Ampezzo with a preview of the complete exhibition on the summit of Mount Lagazuoi.

5<sup>th</sup> August - 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### **EXHIBITION LETTERS FROM K2**

#### **Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti - Mount Lagazuoi Cortina d'Ampezzo**

In the rooms of Lagazuoi EXPO Dolomiti, the exhibition spreads out like the surrounding panorama. Images, unpublished videos with objects and materials from the Lacedelli family archives are interwoven with Lino's letters and human story, revealing the indelible mark he left on the memories of mountaineers, his fellow citizens, his Scoiattoli friends and his family.

#### **An initiative by:**

The Municipality of Cortina d'Ampezzo - Lacedelli Family - Cortina Scoiattoli Group

#### **In collaboration with:**

Lagazuoi Spa - Regole d'Ampezzo - CORTINABANCA - La Cooperativa di Cortina - Associazione Culturale Cortina in Croda

**Concept:** Roberto Casanova, Vinicio Stefanello

**Exhibition and graphic design:** Roberto Casanova

**Video installation:** D20 ART LAB