



CEDAC was found in 2003 by ANSAC (National Association For the Development of Circus Arts), with the aim to fill in a gap in the study of itinerant shows, and to guarantee the preservation and development of the documentation about Circus Arts.

As any other documentation center, CEDAC intends to be a point of reference for whoever wants to approach the study of the circus tradition, from any point of view. By cataloguing, collecting and digitalizing documents of any kind, we try to fight against the loss of an heritage which is usually highly exposed to the risk of being destroyed or damaged. Our efforts have brought to the constitution of a unique archive, that features 20 collections. One of them, Antonio Cervellati's collection, has been actually saved from being lost or exported by its purchase by ANSAC.

The absolute peculiarity and uniqueness of the center has been acknowledged by the Ministry of Cultural Assets and Activities, who supported its opening, and also by the Territorial Administration of Veneto, with the recognition of the title of Local Interest. Later on, CEDAC joined "Polo Bibliotecario Regione Veneto", which allowed us into the software SOL (Sebina Open Library), that has enabled us to catalogue our entire library archive. Further recognition came in 2011 from FMC (Federation Mondial du Cirque), that included CEDAC, as the only one Italian organization preserving the history of circus, into the ambitious project "WDL (World Digital Library)", which is promoted by the Library of Congress in Washington and aims at starting a collaboration between libraries and archives all over the world to create a cultural website in which to share the most relevant historical documents treasured around the earth.

Furthermore, agreements pledged with the several Universities allow us to offer various educational and working projects for the students, so as to make them discover the activity of a documentation center and thus giving working and studying stimulus.

CEDAC is always at disposal of any researcher that, be it for work or studying reasons, might want to widen his knowledge on the world of circus, and the vastness of our archive allows a systematic and thorough study of the subject.