



## FÉDÉRATION AÉRONAUTIQUE INTERNATIONALE Ballooning Commission

### Hall of Fame Nomination

#### Francesco Zambeccari



Nationality: [Italy](#)

Date of Birth: [1752](#)

Year of Death: [21 September 1812](#)

The first balloon launched in England, therefore, belonged to Count Francesco Zambeccari, an Italian sailor and adventurer, who launched a hydrogen balloon on 4 November 1783, and the first manned balloon flight in England was performed by another Italian, Vincent Lunardi, on 15 September 1784. Zambeccari was the architect of Lunardi's balloons and worked on the project of a balloon with double body, Hydrogen and hot air, that actually flew a week after he sent a letter to his father talking about the project. Pilatre de Rozier died in that attempt. Many theories say that Zambeccari was the father of the Rozier balloons. Zambeccari died the 21<sup>st</sup> of September 1812, while returning to the ground his balloon got tangled in a tree, and in the confusion a spirit lamp used to give buoyancy got spilt, and the whole contraption went up in flames. Count Zambeccari jumped for his life, but the fall of 50 feet killed him.