

THE MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH

Palazzo Zenobio, Venice
June the 1st - August the 8th, 2011



A project by

ART
for The
World

Under the auspices of

Conseil Culturel
de
l'Union pour la Méditerranée

● marseille
● provence
● 2013
◆ capitale européenne
de la culture

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ART for The World

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PRESS RELEASE

THE MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH

Palazzo Zenobio, Venice

June the 1st – August the 8th, 2011

Press Conference : June the 2nd, 11am

Opening : June the 3rd, 7pm-10pm



Under the auspices of the Cultural Council of UPM (Union pour la Méditerranée) and Marseille Provence 2013 - *Capitale Européenne de la Culture*, during the Venice Biennale 54th edition, ART *for The World* is organizing at the *piano nobile* (first floor) of the XVIIth century baroque Palazzo Zenobio (former Armenian College), located between San Basilio/Zattere and Campo Santa Margherita, an international show exploring an approach to artistic expression in the Mediterranean area today.

THE MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH is curated by Adelina von Fürstenberg, President of ART *for The World*, with Thierry Ollat, Director of the Musée d'Art Contemporain de Marseille, in collaboration with architect Uliva Velo and independent curator Anna Daneri. Artists and film-makers: Ghada Amer (Egypt), Ziad Antar (Lebanon), Faouzi Bensaïdi (Morocco), Marie Bovo (Spain), David Casini (Italy), Hüseyin Karabey (Turkey), Ange Leccia (France), Adrian Paci (Albania), Maria Papadimitriou (Greece), Khalil Rabah (Palestine), Zineb Sedira (Algeria), Gal Weinstein (Israel), Peter Wüthrich (Switzerland).

The Mediterranean area is so much more than a geographical reference. The birthplace of great civilizations, as well as an open gate between the West and the East, developing through centuries on multiple complex models, it remains a constant and yet changing crossroads of peoples and languages, a nurturing ground to growth of social and cultural awareness, a powerful source of inspiration to art. Through the work of the artists hereby selected, the show is aiming to emphasize differences as well as similarities as part of the underlying deep identity connecting all Mediterranean peoples.

THE MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH is an ART *for The World* project in collaboration with Boghossian Foundation (Brussels) and HEC Paris, with the support of La Fundación Almine y Bernard Ruiz-Picasso para el Arte (Madrid), Epson Italia, Champagne Piper-Heidsieck, Neonlaurro, Gondrand, as well as with the following Art Galleries: Kamel Mennour (Paris), Almine Rech (Brussels/Paris), Riccardo Crespi (Milan), Kaufmann Repetto (Milan), Minini (Brescia/Milan), Fumagalli (Bergamo).

ART *for The World*, a Non Governmental Organization (NGO), associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information, was founded in Geneva in 1996. Its mission is to create, through the universal language of art and cinema, a meaningful and lasting dialogue between peoples, cultures and worldviews, and to foster education and art as universal values. Past selected major shows in Venice, on San Lazzaro Island, are: Robert Rauschenberg 1996, Jannis Kounellis 2003, Joseph Kosuth 2007.

Press and PR: Laura Revelli Beaumont - lrbeaumont@gmail.com phone +33 6 70 21 29 40

TECHNICAL FILE

Title	THE MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH
Location	Palazzo Zenobio, (former Armenian College), Venice Dorsoduro 2596, (boat n.2 stop S.Basilio)
Dates	Wednesday June the 1st – Monday August the 8th, 2011
Hours and Fee	Tuesday to Sunday, 10 am – 6 pm. Fee: 4 euros
Press Conference	Thursday June the 2^d, 11 am
Opening	Friday June the 3^d, 7 pm - 10 pm
A project by	ART <i>for The World</i>, Geneva - Milan
Under the auspices of	Cultural Council of Union pour la Méditerranée (UPM) Marseille Provence 2013 - Capitale Européenne de la Culture
In collaboration with	Fondation Boghossian, Brussels HEC Paris
With the support of	Fundacion Almine y Bernard Ruiz-Picasso para el Arte, Madrid and Kamel Mennour Gallery, Paris Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels/Paris Riccardo Crespi Gallery, Milan Kaufmann Repetto Gallery, Milan Minini Gallery, Brescia/Milan Fumagalli Gallery, Bergamo
Sponsors in kind	Epson Italia Champagne Piper-Heidsieck Neon Lauro Gondrand

ARTISTS

Ghada Amer
Ziad Antar
Faouzi Bensaïdi
Marie Bovo
David Casini
Hüseyin Karabey
Ange Leccia
Adrian Paci
Maria Papadimitriou
Khalil Rabah
Zineb Sedira
Gal Weinstein
Peter Wüthrich

ORGANIZATION

Chief Curators	Adelina von Fürstenberg , President of ART <i>for The World</i> , Geneva/Milan
	Thierry Ollat , Director of Musée d'Art Contemporain [MAC], Marseille
Associated Curator	Anna Daneri
Exhibition Design and Coordination	Uliva Velo , Architect
Communication and PR	Laura Revelli Beaumont , Paris
Technical Unit	Idee in Luce , Vicenza

INTRODUCTION

The Mediterranean Sea, as the area where three continents - Africa, Asia, and Europe - meet, is a unique geopolitical system world-wide. To the West, the Strait of Gibraltar connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic Ocean. On the North-Eastern side, the Sea of Marmara, the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus are a passage to the Black Sea. The Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean to the Red Sea at South-East.

A political and economical crossroads between East and West as well as between North and South, the Mediterranean area, home to the three major monotheistic religions, still breeds and houses several civilizations and cultures, distinct philosophies of life and conceptions of the world. The Mediterranean is so much more than a geographical expression. The birthplace to major civilizations and the millenary gate between West and East, open to the legendary horizon of ancient trade routes as much as to constant Eastern input, the whole area developed as a complex cross-section reflecting different cultural models, languages, peoples.

ART *for The World* is promoting the exchange between cultures through art, believing art is a powerful unequalled vehicle of dialogue, development and peace. Ancient routes have become paths to knowledge and creativity, aspiration to freedom and democracy is thriving. Through the selected artists' vision, *The Mediterranean Approach* explores both differences and similarities in past and contemporary identities of the Mediterranean people.



LOCATION

- Palazzo Zenobio, Venice

Built in 1690, Palazzo Zenobio in Venice is a masterpiece of Baroque style. On the first floor, the so called *piano nobile*, the *trompe l'œil* frescos and ceilings are splendid (early Tiepolo) and the luxuriant garden among Venice's largest and loveliest. The palace housed for more than two centuries the Armenian College Murat Raphael. It recently opened its doors to scholars and guests and to art exhibitions during the Venice Biennale.



THE MEDITERRANEAN APPROACH was designed to travel and be shown in 2011-2013 in several major harbour towns in the Mediterranean area, to eventually reach Marseille in 2012, in the context of *Marseille Provence 2013, Cultural Capital of Europe*.

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ARTISTS AND WORKS

GHADA AMER

Le Salon Courbé, 2007

The Definition of the World Fear in English, 2007

ZIAD ANTAR

Beirut Bereft. Architecture of the Forsaken and Map of the Derelict, 2007-2009

FAOUZI BENZAÏDI

Le Mur, 2000

MARIE BOVO

Cours intérieures, 2008-2010

DAVID CASINI

L'illogica abitudine, 2011

HÜSEYİN KARABEY

No darkness will make us forget, 2011

ANGE LECCIA

La Mer, 2001

ADRIAN PACI

Last Gestures, 2009

MARIA PAPADIMITRIOU

Apparatus, 2011

KHALIL RABAH

The 3rd Annual Wall Zone Auction, 2004

ZINEB SEDIRA

Gardiennes d'images, 2010

GAL WEINSTEIN

Nahalal (Partly Cloudy), 2011

Petra, 2011

PETER WÜTHRICH

The Angels of Venice, 2011

GHADA AMER (EGYPT)

Born in Egypt in 1963. She lives and works in New York City.

She is represented by Minini Gallery, Milan, Cheim and Read Gallery, NYC, and Kukje Gallery in South Korea.



Le Salon Courbé, 2007

Embroidery, fabric, wallpaper, wood

Works in exhibition

The two works in exhibition, *Le Salon Courbé*, and *The Definition of the Word Fear in English*, 2007 (embroidery and gel medium on canvas) spread from the desire to confront two different realities: the Arabic world, and the Western one. The visitor is compelled to recover the slow rhythm of words, of thought and of reading as suggested by the texts in Arabic and English embroidered on the sofa and on the canvas, and printed on the wallpaper. The texts refer to the meaning of the words “terror” and “fear” in the two languages, creating a short-circuit between the cozy context of the lounge, and tensions, fears and sometimes prejudices that often characterize intercultural relationships.

Short Biography

Ghada Amer studied painting and fine arts in Nice, Boston and Paris, and has been exhibiting her works since the early 1990s. From the very beginning of her career, Amer has been engaged in an investigation of the stereotypical notions, images, and techniques of femininity, as they are played out both in visual arts and in everyday's life.

In 1997 she was the recipient of a Pollock-Krasner Foundation grant, and in 1999, she received the Unesco Award at the Venice Biennale. She has had solo exhibitions at Brooklyn Museum in New York City; San Francisco Art Institute; De Appel Foundation, Amsterdam; Indianapolis Museum of Art, Ind.; MACRO Museum, Rome.

Her work has been exhibited in group shows at such venues as Mori Art Museum, Tokyo; Deste Foundation Centre for Contemporary Art, Athens; National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C. as well as the Museum of Modern Art in New York. She also participated in the Kwangju Biennale, the Whitney Biennial and the Venice Biennale.

ZIAD ANTAR (LIBAN)

Born in Lebanon in 1978. He lives and works between Saida (Lebanon) and Paris. He is represented by Almine Rech Gallery, Paris/Brussels.



Beirut Bereft Cote d'Azur Hotel, 2007, 2007
C-print

Works in exhibition

The work *Beirut Bereft. Architecture of the Forsaken and Map of the Derelict*, 2007-2009 (series of photos) is the result of a collaboration between the writer Rasha Salti and Ziad Antar, which included producing and publishing a book, as well as a series of photographs. More than fifteen years after the end of violence, Beirut's urban landscape still bears the stigmas, scars and vestiges of a seventeen years long civil war, like a reflection of the town political, social and cultural condition. The very fabric of the city is woven with unfinished, abandoned buildings, often a mere concrete structure. Sometimes sheltered behind rusted fences, these naked edifices stand today bereft, as if enclosing grief, loss and destitution. Painful evidence of failure, nagging reminders of all over which shadow is steadily cast, hidden away from sight, description, narration.

Short biography

Ziad Antar's work deals with crucial issues in Lebanese society, in particular with war and human condition in a conflict situation. He graduated in agricultural engineering in 2001 and has been working in photography and video since 2002. He completed a residency at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris in 2003 as well as at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Paris.

His recent exhibitions include: 6th Seoul International Biennial of Media Art, Seoul; *Who Wants to Act Now, or Even See Acting*, Depo, Istanbul; *America*, Beirut Art Centre, Beirut; *Breakfast of Champions*, Guest Project, London; Taipei Biennial, Taipei; *Future Generation Art Prize*, the PinchukArtCentre, Kiev.

FAOUZI BENSAIDI (MOROCCO)

Born in 1967 in Morocco, where he lives and works.



Le Mur, 2000
Short film, 10'

Work in exhibition

Shot in one frame with a steady camera in front of a wall in a Moroccan town, *Le Mur* records the bizarre, joyful and gloomy events taking place on an ordinary day in a highly banal place. A thread in the works of the Moroccan director and actor, the wall becomes a proscenium for life, an element of transgression, a metaphor of individual and social connections and clashes, also questioning the role of an artist involved in a wide range of means of expression. The movie received an award at Cannes Festival in 2000.

Short biography

After working in theater as a director and an actor, in 1997 Faouzi Bensaïdi shot his first film, *La Falaise*, which received 24 awards in French and international festivals. In 1999, he co-wrote the movie *Loin* by Andre Techine. In 2000, he directed two short films: *Le Mur*, awarded at the Cannes Film Festival, and *Trajets* awarded at the Venice Film Festival. In 2003 his first feature film *Mille mois* was doubly awarded at *Un certain regard* at Cannes. In 2006 his second film *www-what a wonderful world* in the section "Venice Days" of the Venice Festival. The installation *Man's worlds - World mens* is a reflection on the elements building the film, yet ending up left out of the final version (footage, sketches, ideas, images and video).

He returned to theater in 2008 with *Histoire d'amour en 12 chansons, 3 repas et 1 baiser*. He is currently working on his third long feature film, *Death for sale*.

MARIE BOVO (SPAIN)

Born in 1967 in Alicante (Spain), Marie Bovo lives and works in Marseille (France). She is represented by Kamel Mennour Gallery, Paris.



Cour intérieure, 17 février 2009

Ilfochrome print 120 x 152

© Marie Bovo, *courtesy of the artist and kamel mennour, Paris*

Works in exhibition

Part of a series called *Cours intérieures*, (2008-2010) the seven photos show the courtyards of the popular district of Belzunce in Marseille, located in the crossroads to Algeria harbour area. They were shot by the artist at different moments of day and night, always orienting sight towards the sky. Ropes for hanging laundry connect the houses facing the courtyards, as interstitial spaces between the domestic landscape and the street. Working with long exposures, Marie Bovo saturates the film, creating almost unreal light effects that recall the skies of Baroque frescos, creating an impression of suspension and loss of gravity.

Short biography

Marie Bovo works with video and photography. Time is a key element of many of her works, suggesting mostly metaphorical temporalities which recall the universal cycles of the living. Her work is deeply rooted in reality. It highlights geopolitical and social issues, particularly in her approach to the city.

Her work has recently been shown at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris; the CCC of Tours; the Luìs Serpa Projectos in Lisboa; the Collections de Saint-Cyprien; the [MAC] of Marseille; the ERA Foundation in Moscou; at the Federation Square of Melbourne and at the "Nuit Blanche" in Tel Aviv.

DAVID CASINI (ITALY)

Born in 1973 in Italy, he lives and works between Milan and Geneva. He is represented by Analix Forever Gallery, Geneva.



L'illogica abitudine, 2011
Coral, resin, glass

Works in exhibition

Unauthorized Mediterranean buildings, mostly unfinished architectural structures symbolizing a disturbing contemporary vision, are at the core of the art work *L'illogica abitudine, 2011* (5 sculptures - coral, resin, glass). Shown them as precious objects set on corals and kept under glass bells, the structures form a particular *wunderkammer*, recalling historical museum collections, yet with a disenchanted gaze on modern times. Five works structured here as micro-systems where small scale reproductions of real 'ecomonsters' are grafted on coral skeletons, as if they were two different species in a particular symbiosis, do create a unique surreal landscape, somehow as fascinating as a tormented mutation.

Short biography

A distinguishing characteristic of David Casini's art lies in his approach to the practice of manufacture, with particular regard to investigation in materials. Casini creates miniaturized landscapes made of ceramic and quartz surrounded by a certain kind of nostalgic kitsch feeling, developing a particular dimension in spatial/environmental installations.

Casini won the *Talent Prize 2009*. Villa Paloma Museum, Monaco; Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art, Athens; Villa Noailles, Hyeres; Mambo Museum, Bologna; Musée de Carouge, Geneva; Viagarini, Milan. He participated to the Biennial in Carrara.

HÜSEYİN KARABEY (TURKEY)

Born in 1970 in Istanbul, where he lives and works.



No darkness will make us forget, 2011
Short movie, 8'

Film in exhibition

The film *No darkness will make us forget* is based on the funeral of the Armenian journalist Hrant Dink, killed in Istanbul in 2007 by a seventeen year-old ultranationalist. At Dink's funeral, two hundred thousand mourners marched in protest against the assassination. The short film, produced by Art for The World, portrays with drawings by Aksel Zeydan Göz the funeral, and the protesters peacefully marching through all Istanbul, while the audio broadcasts the actual speech Mrs Raket Dink addressed to her beloved husband and to the crowd, an intense and powerful message, becoming a manifesto of peace and tolerance.

Short biography

Hüseyin Karabey pursues film directing since 1996. He graduated from the Film & Television department at Fine Arts School of the Marmara University in 2001. His short films, documentaries and his first long feature *Gitmek - My Marlon and Brando* have been shown at many important festivals and have won the *Tribeca Film Festival* for the Best New Narrative Filmmaker in 2008 in NYC. Currently he is involved as Artistic Director in the production of the film project *Do not Forget me Istanbul* commissioned by 2010 Istanbul Cultural Capital of Europe in which six internationally renowned directors each shoot a short segment about the city.

ART for The World produced in 2011 his new short film *No darkness will make us forget*, under the patronage of the Council of Europe, UN, and of the City Geneva.

ANGE LECCIA (FRANCE)

Born in 1952 in Minerbio (Corsica), Leccia lives and works in Paris. He is represented by Almine Rech Gallery, Paris/Brussels.



La Mer, 2001
Video, 27'32''

Work in exhibition

Recurrent issue in the works of the artist, *La Mer*, the sea, is filmed here in a single steady frame from a perpendicular plan, creating continuously changing abstract images. One could linger watching them for hours, as in a Zen meditation practice. Projected vertically on the wall, waves actually lose their familiar aspect, producing a feeling of estrangement that amplifies their beauty. They become magic fluorescences, infinitely recurring in a continuous loop that underlines the materiality of video images and their vivid relation with paintings.

Short biography

Major figure on the French contemporary art scene, Ange Leccia produces films, installations and deploys video projections in architectural interventions and arrangements, to convey stories of personal and public dramas.

He is professor at the Ecole supérieure de Beaux-Arts de Cergy-Pontoise (ENSAPC) and directs research for young artists at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris. His works have been shown at Musée Rodin, Paris; Museum of Modern Art, Takanawa and Seibu Museum, Tokyo; Sydney Biennial; Musée du Louvre, Paris.

ADRIAN PACI (ALBANIA)

Born in Shkodra, Albania, in 1969, Adrian Paci lives and works in Milan. He is represented by Kaufmann Repetto Gallery, Milan; Peter Kilchmann, Zurich; Peter Blum, New York City.



Last Gestures, 2009

Four-channel video installation, loop

Work in exhibition

The work *Last Gestures* composes a scenario in which fragmented episodes capture gestures determining the video's whole duration. During the moments before a wedding a drama unfolds between a bride and the family that she must abandon in order to construct a new one. The bride's somber behaviour is highlighted by the family's ritualized gestures, a seemingly ancestral model contrasted by the characters' awareness of the artificial gaze that both undermines their spontaneity and confines them as willing actors in a codified drama. The video shows a painterly quality, presenting a portrait of gestures in which affectation dwells with solemnity.

Short biography

Dealing with contemporary issues such as migration and identity, Paci's video production speaks about fragments of humanity the artist has experienced. His works are very often a reflection on the themes of origins and of emotional bounds, intended both as personal and public values.

Adrian Paci's recent exhibitions include solo shows at Kunsthau Zürich; PS1 New York City; Center for Contemporary Art CCA, Tel Aviv; Kunstverein Hannover; Istanbul Museum of Modern Art, Istanbul; Bloomberg Space, London. Among the group shows: Venice Biennale; Tate Modern, London; Renaissance Society, Chicago; Shangai Art Museum; Kunsthau Graz; Manifesta3, Ljubljana.

MARIA PAPADIMITRIOU (GREECE)

Maria Papadimitriou was born in Athens (Greece) in 1957. She lives and works in Athens and Volos, Greece.



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Apparatus, 2011
Murano glass, boat

Work in exhibition

The installation *Apparatus*, composed of glass sculptures and a stylized Revenue Guard Corps boat, takes up almost an entire room at Palazzo Zenobio. The work represents a metaphor of the travels undertaken by migrants crossing the Mediterranean Sea: a beach made with glass fragments evokes the often tragic destiny of the many lives broken in search of a better future.

Short biography

Maria Papadimitriou's previous works revolve around the notions of parody, paradox, and personal identity. She teaches at the Dept. of Architecture, University of Thessaly and she is the founder of T.A.M.A. (Temporary Autonomous Museum for All) in Greece.

Papadimitriou won the *Deste Foundation Prize* (2003) She exhibited at the Sao Paulo Biennial; Manifesta04, Frankfurt; Kunsthaus Graz; Espacio Uno - Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid; MMCA Macedonian Museum of Contemporary Art Thessaloniki; MM Projects Rincon Puerto Rico; Pavillion of Contemporary Art Milan; Olivetti Foundation, Rome; EPO, Munich; Bâtiment d'Art Contemporain, Geneva; Casa del Lago, Mexico City; 1st Bienal de Arquitectura Arte Paisaje de Canarias; The Haifa Mediterranean Biennale; 10th Lyon Biennial; Royal Academy of Arts, London; Louisiana Museum of Modern Art Denmark.

KHALIL RABAH (PALESTINE)

Born in Jerusalem in 1961.

He is currently living and working between London, New York and Ramallah.



The 3rd Annual Wall Zone Auction, 2004

Two channel video projection, 6'
Multimedia installation

Work in exhibition

The video-installation documents *The 3rd Annual Wall Zone Auction*, organized in 2004 by *The Palestinian Museum of Natural History and Humankind* as a result of a major study in the surroundings of the “wall zone” launched in 2002, examining an enormous catastrophe for life on earth. Eight items containing natural and unnatural material from the wall zone surroundings were auctioned in order to seek support for their preservation, developments and presentation in a show at the Museum. Focus of the project is thus the understanding, in the context of contemporary events, of the history of the earth and of its inhabitants.

Short biography

Khalil Rabah has participated in a number of group exhibitions around the world, as well as several biennials, including the Sao Paulo, Sydney, Kwangju, Istanbul, Liverpool and Venice Biennales. Rabah has had numerous international solo shows and has been part of various artist-in-residency programs in Europe. Rabah also taught architecture at Birzeit University, Palestine and Fine Arts at Bezalel Academy, Jerusalem.

He is the founder of *The Palestinian Museum of Natural History and Humankind* (2003-ongoing) and co-founder of Al Ma'mal Foundation for Contemporary Art in Jerusalem and ArtSchool Palestine in London. He is the Director of the Riwaq Biennial, Palestine. Rabah also serves on the advisory boards of Delfina Foundation of the Biennial Foundation, and is a member of the Curriculum Committee of Home Workspace Program - Beirut. Khalil Rabah has participated in a number of group exhibitions around the world, as well as to several Biennials, including the Sharjah, Sao Paulo, Sydney, Kwangju, Istanbul, Liverpool and Venice Biennales.

ZINEB SEDIRA (ALGERIA)

Born 1963 in Paris, she lives in London and works between Algeria, France and England. She is represented by Kamel Mennour Gallery, Paris.



Gardiennes d'images, 2010

Multivideo projection with sound

© Zineb Sedira, *courtesy of the artist and kamel mennour, Paris*

Work in exhibition

Combining documentary films with installation, *Gardiennes d'images* (2010) proposes a new look at, and a wide acknowledgement of, photographer Mohammed Kouaci's work on Algerian revolution, through the voice of his widow, Safia Kouaci. Since the death of the photographer in 1997, Safia has worked to preserve these priceless archives of Algerian history. Collaborator and privileged witness of numerous historical events, Safia Kouaci steps from shadow into light to become a central figure of the project, underlining the power of links outlasting death and solitude, as well as the importance of the voice of elderly people and the fragility of memory.

Short biography

Zineb Sedira's work is concerned with issues of language and storytelling. She uses photography and video to deal with such topics as wandering, and colonial vestiges and legacies.

Her work has been presented by several museums and institutions, such as Rivington Place, London; John Hansard Gallery, UK; the Pori Art Museum, Finland; BildMuseets, Sweden; Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art, Canada; Musée d'Art Contemporain, Marseille and Palais de Tokyo, Paris.

GAL WEINSTEIN (ISRAEL)

Born in Ramat Gan, Israel, in 1970, Gal Weinstein lives and works in Tel Aviv. He is represented by the Riccardo Crespi Gallery, Milan



Nabalal (Partly Cloudy), 2011
MDF, carpets, acrylan, plexiglas

Works in exhibition

An installation made with carpets, representing the longing for settlement and home through the everchanging language of the weather forecast, *Nabalal (Partly Cloudy)* is exhibited close to a work based on the image of the town *Petra* (steel wool on plywood, 2011), a city called the ‘Red Rock’ in Hebrew. Evoking the longing for travel, adventure and instability, through the ‘stable’ steel material, these two works turn into iconic images of a place and of conflicting passions: both tell us about absence and missed opportunities, and the gap between ideal and actual fulfillment.

Short biography

Gal Weinstein’s installations are based on iconic images that are deeply engraved in the Israeli “collective memory.” His artistic process involves translating the sentimental aesthetics of popular photographic sources (journals, postcards, photographic albums) into concrete substance, through the use of industrial and functional materials such as wall-to-wall carpets. The works can therefore be read as a literal reflection on the two-fold nature of the term “touching”, alluding both to the concrete sense and to the sentimental aspect of the word.

His recent exhibitions include: *Family Traces*, Israel Museum, Jerusalem; *Portrait: Different Sides*, Ashdod Museum of Art; *Boys Craft*, Haifa Museum of Art; *Israele: Arte Contemporanea*, Palazzo Bricherasio, Turin; *Tremors*, Centro Huarte de Arte Contemporáneo, Navarra.

PETER WÜTHRICH (SWITZERLAND)

Born 1962 in Bern, where he lives and works.

He is represented by Fumagalli Gallery, Bergamo and Christian Stein Gallery, Milan



The Angels of Venice, 2011
Photos

Works in exhibition

Part of an on-going project, *The Angels of Venice* (series of 90 photos), the work, conceived in Venice, implied the participation of anonymous people passing by, met by the artist in the streets of the city, and asked to wear an open book on their back. The medium of transformation of the people into angels is the book, with its connotations of knowledge, imagination and creativity, that change it into 'angel wings'.

Short biography

Peter Wüthrich is currently working on a ongoing public project entitled *The Angels of the World*, that he has realized up to now in different cities: Los Angeles, Santiago de Compostela, Milan, Mexico City, Madrid, London, Tokyo, Nagoya, Kyoto and Paris. The participants in all those cities got transformed in a real and virtual way, through a medium (the book) into another medium (the angel), by the medium of photography.

His recent exhibitions include: Espace d'Art Contemporain HEC, Paris; Assab One, Milan; University Gallery of Massachusetts, Amherst; Fondation d'Art Contemporain Salomon, Annecy; CGAC, Centro Galego de Arte Contemporanea, Santiago de Compostela; Kunsthalle Winterthur, Winterthur.

THE PARTNERS

Under the auspices of



In collaboration with



With the support of



Kamel Mennour Gallery, Paris

Almine Rech Gallery, Brussels/Paris

Riccardo Crespi Gallery, Milan

Kaufmann Repetto Gallery, Milan

Minini Gallery, Brescia/Milan

Sponsors in kind



ART for The World

ART for The World is a Non Governmental Organization (NGO), associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information, founded in Geneva and in Milan by Adelina von Fürstenberg. ART for The World's concept is to be an itinerant institution, literally without walls. Rather than to a permanent and defined space, its activities are related to the meaning of the initiatives it promotes: a link between expansion of contemporary culture, and defense of universal values. Such a concept points out Art for The World on the international scene as a totally unique experience. ART for The World initiatives do not belong only to the traditional cultural circuits. They also take place in venues such as ancient monuments, monasteries, parks, public buildings, schools, and movie theaters. ART for The World is inspired by the article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which proclaims creative activity to be an essential part of people's well-being, along with the necessity of respect for pluralism and differences in any kind of creative expression.

SELECTED ART EXHIBITIONS SINCE 2000

- *Playgrounds&Toys 2000 - today*: playgrounds created by artists and architects (Chen Zhen, D. Buren, A.Jaar) and built in New Delhi, India (J. Kosuth, F. Gygi, etc.), Erevan, Armenia (S. Boccalini, E.Saoares), Athens Greece (A. Angelidakis), Peackam, Great Britain (S. Houshary);
- *1st and 2nd edition of Lago Maggiore at Isola Madre*, Italy: Robert Wilson, video installation, William Kentdrige, Liliana Moro, sculptures and video installation 2005/2006;
- *Woman, Women, 2005-2007*: an international travelling show (Geneva, Florence, Sao Paulo), for the 10th anniversary of Beijing Women Convention (S. Neshat, S. Fleury, T. Moffat, Kim Soo Ja, G. Toderi, etc.) ;
- *Balkan Epic*, Marina Abramovic: video installations, Milan, 2006 ; Sao Paulo, 2007
- *Voom Portraits*, Robert Wilson, video installations, Sao Paulo, 2008.

SELECTED FILM PRODUCTIONS :

Stories on Human Rights, 2008: production and distribution of a long feature by 22 three minute short movies, by international artists (M. Abramovic, P. Rist, R.Islam, T. Serrano, Sarkis, D. Gonzales-Foester.), independent filmmakers (S. Bodrov, H. Abu Assad, J. Zbanic, I. Ouedraogo, A. Sissako, P. Trapero etc.) for the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was awarded the logo of Cultural Event 2008 by the European Council, as a recognition for the exceptional and innovative value of the project. *Then and Now, Beyond Borders and Differences*, 2011: production and distribution off a long feature, composed by seven short-movies by outstanding independent filmmakers from all over the world. Inspired by the Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion", The long feature film will include seven short films by Tata Amaral (Brazil), Fanny Ardant (France), Hüseyin Karabey (Turkey), Masbedo (Italy), Idrissa Ouédraogo (Burkina Faso), Jafar Panahi (Iran), and Robert Wilson (USA), with the general sound track by composer Michael Galasso (USA/France).

AFTW'S SELECTED PROJECTS IN VENICE 1993-2007

San Lazzaro Island and Palazzo Zenobio



1993 **Trésors de Voyage**

Group exhibition with Alighiero Boetti, Christian Boltanski, Daniel Buren, Anish Kapoor, Gino De Dominicis, Sol LeWitt, Annette Messager, Chen Zhen etc. in collaboration with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Venice Biennale.

Book: *Mediterranée, an essay by Fulvio Salvadori*, published by the CNAC-Magasin de Grenoble.



1996 **Robert Rauschenberg**

Solo exhibition under the patronage of the City of Venice and awarded with the Golden Lion of Venice to the artist's career, with the support of Illy Café'.



1999 **The Children's Museum, Philip Johnson**

Exhibition of the project and the models of Children's Museum in Guadalajara, Mexico, in collaboration with the Institute of Architecture in Venice and under the patronage of the Municipality of Venice with the support of Francis!Francis!

Catalogue supplement of Casabella/Mondadori.

(Photo: *Philippe Johnson and Henri Cartier Bresson at the opening*)



2003 **Jannis Kounellis**

Solo show under the patronage of the Department of Public Information of UN with the support of Lottomatica.

Catalogue published by Electa/Mondadori.



2007 **The Language of The Equilibrium**

Joseph Kosuth

Solo exhibition and collateral events of the 52nd Venice Biennale with the support of the Foundation Almine and Bernard Ruiz – Picasso, Madrid, the Foundation Patrick Odier, Hangar Bicocca, etc.

Catalogue by Electa / Mondadori

The Boghossian Foundation and the Villa Empain

Created in 1992, the Boghossian Foundation has been involved in contributing to the improvement of people's living conditions, especially in Lebanon and in Armenia, by financing numerous projects: educational projects (orphanages, schools and academies), urban projects (public spaces, gardens and installation of drinkable water networks), and cultural projects (theaters and art centers).

In 2006, the Boghossian Foundation acquired the Villa Empain, Art deco jewel of Brussels architecture, with the aim of creating a Centre for art and dialogue between the cultures of the East and the West. After its complete restoration, this magnificent building opened its doors to the public, in April 2010. The Foundation organizes numerous artistic and cultural activities at the Villa Empain.



Villa Empain, Avenue Franklin Roosevelt 67 – 1050 Brussels

info@boghossianfoundation.be / www.villaempain.com / www.fondationboghossian.com

The Mediterranean Approach – Biennale di Venezia- Palazzo Zenobio

Epson projection technology: the artists' works “live” through the light

Venice, June 2nd 2011 – **Epson Italia is partner of *The Mediterranean Approach* exhibition.**

Epson projectors, already known for their high quality, reliability and capability to adjust themselves for very different art installations, are the hi-tech media that will give shape and visibility to the art-works of most of the artists who will display on this occasion.

Technology is fast becoming an important tool in the artistic quest: everyday we get in touch with this versatile tool which can fulfill an increasingly complex reality demanding sophisticated instruments that can communicate on different levels. Internationally famous video artists have chosen Epson as a mean for representing their peculiar artistic vision, because they find the features they need to give shape to their art-works in Epson projectors, and the commitment to high level technology research in the Company.

The Mediterranean Approach is just the last evidence of how Epson contributes to the most innovative contemporary artistic production in terms of both tools and support and the will of dialoging with the artists.

Massimo Pizzocri, Epson Italia CEO says: “I would like to quote some Grazia Toderi’s words, the artist we have been working with for more ten years, who says that *the artist, who is naturally inclined to experiment and imagine, always brings technology to its extreme consequences*. Epson is always committed to developing and offering the best of digital innovation: we would like technology to inspire people and give them the chance to express themselves. In some way we work in the same direction”.

About Epson

Epson is a global imaging and innovation leader that is dedicated to exceeding the vision of customers worldwide through its compact, energy-saving, high-precision technologies, with a product line-up ranging from printers and 3LCD projectors for business and the home, to electronic and crystal devices.

Led by the Japan-based Seiko Epson Corporation, the Epson Group comprises over 70,000 employees in 106 companies around the world, and is proud of its ongoing contributions to the global environment and the communities in which it operates. <http://global.epson.com>

About Epson Europe

Epson Europe B.V., based in Amsterdam, is the Group’s regional headquarters for Europe, Middle-East, Russia, and Africa. With a workforce of 2,400 employees, Epson Europe’s sales for fiscal year 2009 were 1,875 million Euros.

www.epson-europe.com

Epson Italia

Epson Italia is the national sales company of Epson. Epson Italy’s sales for fiscal year 2009 were more than 200 millions Euro with about 150 people. www.epson.it

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Cinisello Balsamo (MI) – Italy

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Piper-Heidsieck, le champagne à l'étiquette rouge, couleur de l'audace, couleur du cinéma aussi. Pas de hasard, ce rouge passion est l'expression de la relation singulière entre la Maison et le 7^{ème} art.

Déjà bien connu des plus fins amateurs de champagne, c'est aux mains de Laurel & Hardy que Piper-Heidsieck fait sa première apparition au cinéma en 1934 dans *Les fils du désert*. Quelques années plus tard, l'audacieuse Marilyn Monroe illustre le glamour de la Maison en déclarant ne jamais se lever sans une flûte de champagne Piper-Heidsieck, « pour rechauffer son corps ».

Champagne officiel du Festival de Cannes depuis les années 80, Piper-Heidsieck fait pétiller la Croisette et devient star parmi les stars. Habillée par les plus grands créateurs, de Carl Fabergé en 1885 à Christian Louboutin en 2009, en passant par Jean-Paul Gaultier en 1999, la bouteille est à la fois bijou, mannequin et accessoire de mode. Mais la véritable star se trouve à l'intérieur: des champagnes vibrants au fruité explosif qui révèlent l'exigence et la rigueur du chef de cave, cinq fois primé par l'International Wine Challenge.

Avant-gardiste et audacieuse, la Maison Piper-Heidsieck imagine sans cesse de nouveaux rituels de dégustation, parfois en remettant au goût du jour des usages oubliés, souvent en les créant. Boire dans un soulier en cristal signé Louboutin comme certains fétichistes du XIX^{ème} siècle, se regaler à l'envers du Rosé Sauvage revisité par Viktor & Rolf, siroter à la paille le Baby Piper, ou déguster une coupe très fraîche aux glaçons de champagne, en se prélassant dans sa piscine par un soleil de plomb...

L'esprit Piper-Heidsieck, frais, vif et fruité allie charme et structure, spontanéité et précision pour s'offrir dans une subtile impression de simplicité sophistiquée. Une personnalité intense, reflet de l'esprit à la fois audacieux et élégant de la Maison.

PRESS RELEASE

NEONLAURO 1956

Via Raffaello,57

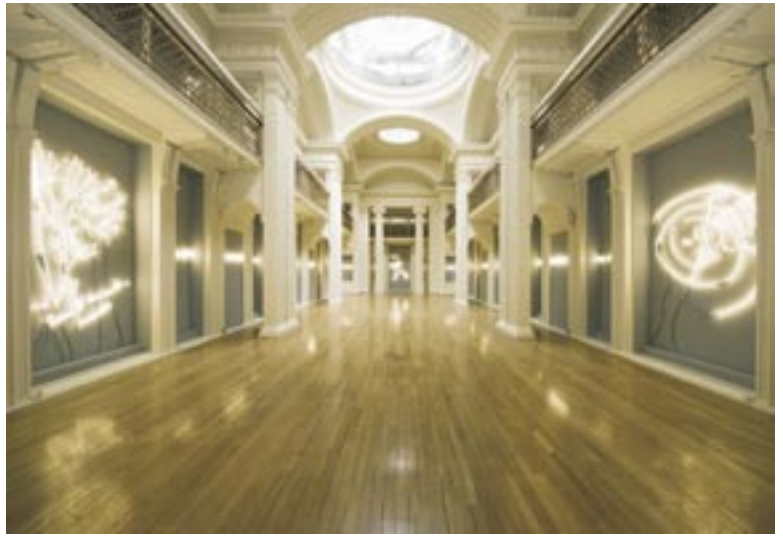
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Neonlauro was born in 1956 as an artisanal laboratory to produce hand bended neon. We've been producing and installing neon signs and lighting implant for over 50 years. We work with plastic, aluminium, steel, glass, vinyl, plexiglass, led, fluorescent lamps...but neon is our passion.

We're just one of the many stories one could tell in this part of Italy, where innovation goes hand in hand with manual ability, and the project with the object, in that imprecise, unstable, indefinable mixture of competence, enthusiasm and risk.

The link with the art-world began in 1997 and represent for us the natural development of the passion, the attention to the smallest and apparently insignificant detail, the artisanal knowledge of materials that have always been priorities in our products.

As regards art, neon technology has arrived to a level never achieved before in advertising, both for the complexity of its forms and the visual impact the work gain, once installed.

We've been collaborating with artists such as Joseph Kosuth and Pier Paolo Calzolari, well-known galleries, foundations and museums; over the years our professionalism has been appreciated not only in Italy, but in Europe, Australia and USA.

Our collaboration with Art For the World began in 2007 with the Joseph Kosuth's neon installation 'The Language of Equilibrium', located in San Lazzaro degli Armeni island, for the 52° Venice Art Biennale.

For Art for the World, in this occasion, Neonlauro will be enlightening the artists works for 'The Mediterranean approach' at Palazzo Zenobio in Venice.

LUCE PER L'ARTE. LIGHT FOR ART.

Da sempre lavoriamo con la luce.

Il neon

è stato il nostro punto di partenza.

Il nostro primo amore.

La passione per l'arte,

viene subito dopo.

Abbiamo spostato il nostro potenziale,

dalla pubblicità all'arte

contemporanea.

Il neon si mostra

in tutta la sua bellezza

e forza.

Grazie agli artisti.

Nelle mani dei quali

siamo strumenti.

We've always been working with light.

Neon light

was our starting point.

Our first love.

Passion for art,

just follows.

We've moved our skills,

from advertising

to contemporary art.

Neon shows itself

at his most beautiful

and powerful.

Thanks to the artists.

In whose hands,

we're just tools.

NEONLAURO 1956
www.neonlauro.it

