



PRESS RELEASE

ART CITY Bologna

7th - 8th - 9th May 2021

Bologna, 28th April 2021 - The **ninth edition** of **ART CITY Bologna**, the institutional programme of exhibitions and special initiatives promoted by the Municipality of Bologna, returns **from 7th to 9th May** to open the Bologna Summer calendar, under the artistic direction of **Lorenzo Balbi** and coordinated by **Istituzione Bologna Musei**.

The ongoing pandemic emergency and the decision by BolognaFiere to turn its attention directly to 2022 for Arte Fiera meant that this year the exhibition was moved forward a few months from its usual January date, becoming a spring event.

For the Municipality of Bologna, which has maintained its desire to offer the city a moment of collective exchange on the art of the present as soon as the situation permits, the event represents an opportunity for the **rebirth** of Bologna's cultural life, which has gone through and is still going through a period of difficulty and extremely demanding challenges.

This edition with its renewed formula proposes itself as an engine for the **restart** of sociality and enjoyment in the presence of artistic creativity, while respecting the security conditions dictated by the state of the Covid-19 emergency.

ART CITY is realised with the support of **Destinazione Turistica Bologna Metropolitana**, **Camera di Commercio Industria Artigianato Agricoltura di Bologna** and **Bologna Welcome**.

*"It will be a special edition of ART CITY 2021," declares Deputy Mayor for Culture and City Promotion **Matteo Lepore**. "We have decided, together with the Istituzione Bologna Musei, to organise it, albeit on different dates from the previous editions, in order to relaunch art and culture in Bologna in this difficult period, through one of the city's best-loved events. It is a festival that is part of the Bologna Estate 2021 programme, which, in fact, will open the door to the many summer events. I would like to thank all those who have made it possible to bring ART CITY 2021 to life".*

As the president of the Istituzione Bologna Musei **Roberto Grandi** underlines, *"The civic museums are taking care of Bologna. Once again we have reopened our halls on the first available day, and to make this reopening special we will enrich it with an out-of-season edition of ART CITY, which is dedicated to the artists, to the exhibition spaces and to the less obvious corners of the city. An edition that surprises, excites, rich in creativity, diverse and innovative with respect to previous editions, which accompanies the people of Bologna and tourists on a journey of re-appropriation of the pleasure and taste of approaching art in the presence and total safety".*

*"The 2021 edition of ART CITY - adds the artistic director **Lorenzo Balbi** - marks a radical change: together with the period of the year which is different from the customary one and with a participation method that will have to deal with the anti-Covid-19 procedures for the first time, a completely renewed coordinated image will be added. ART CITY 2021 will have an exceptional guide, a person capable of leading the public to the discovery of a different city - the city of*

nell'ambito di

con il sostegno di





contemporary art - which, thanks to ART CITY, will clearly appear once a year in the most diverse and unusual places, which can be found by following the stars and composing one's own trip-visit".

The places

The search for unexpected paths and the possibility to access particular, unusual places, normally out of the canonical circuits of the cultural scene, will distinguish the 2021 edition, which is conceived as a **great visit of the "city that isn't there"**: an unusual Bologna, seen through the transforming lens of contemporary languages.

Very different public and private spaces, from the Historical Theatre of Villa Aldrovandi-Mazzacorati to the Ex GAM, from the Monumental Cemetery of Certosa to the Greenhouses of Giardini Margherita, up to the evocative ex-military anti-aircraft shelter "Vittorio Putti", as well as museums, galleries and non-profit exhibition spaces, are put into relation in a new way thanks to the planning entrusted to the curators of each intervention.

Real art districts are created in some areas, for example in the Fiera area, with initiatives at the Ex GAM, at the Padiglione de l'Esprit Nouveau and around the Fiera itself, or in San Lazzaro di Savena with the Fondazione Massimo e Sonia Cirulli, KAPPA-NÖUN and 10 Lines.

The visual identity

One of the totally innovative elements of this ninth edition refers precisely to the concept of the "city that isn't there": the new visual identity that accompanies ART CITY, from the logo to the different aspects of the informative, editorial and promotional materials. **Filippo Tappi** (artistic director) and **Marco Casella** (graphic design) were entrusted with the conception and development of the new identity. They started from the character of Peter Pan, not the Disney character but the original created by James Matthew Barrie in 1902: not an eternal child, but a hybrid between a bird and a human being, in perpetual and immobile transition of identity. Another reference to the new image is the *symbolon* of ancient Greece, a means of recognition obtained by breaking an object into two parts to seal an agreement: once the two halves were recombined, the owners were certain of the validity of the transaction and of their identity. Starting from these suggestions, the graphic idea is based on the idea of being more than one thing at the same time: if Bologna during ART CITY splits into two and becomes the epicentre of contemporary art, the evolution of its identity acts and reacts, with the unreal becoming an integral part of the real. The elements underlying the visual project form a constellation of **unreal figures that become symbols**. Peter Pan and the star are two fluid and constantly evolving elements that may, even in the future, change shape.

The artistic offer

Attention to the **Italian art scene, intergenerationality, intermediality**: these are the distinctive features of the 2021 offer structured in a special project curated by the artistic director Lorenzo Balbi; a **main programme** representing the most varied contemporary art practices placed in relation to different urban spaces; an **institutional programme** that puts the offer of the rich system of public and private cultural subjects of the city into a network; the proposals of modern and contemporary art **galleries** (both associated to the Confcommercio Ascom circuit and independent).

nell'ambito di

con il sostegno di





Also in 2021 ART CITY will use a variety of media: videos, installations, performances, drawings, radio and sound works and site-specific installations will transform the spatial fabric of Bologna.

If the special project opens up to internationality with the environmental installation by the German artist **Gregor Schneider** (Rheydt, 1969) at the Ex GAM, supported by the Main Partner **Gruppo Hera**, the main programme offers a selection of projects by young, mid-career and established Italian artists, spanning several generations. They range from the very young **Beatrice Favaretto** (Venice, 1992) at the Cassero LGBTI Center to **Michelangelo Pistoletto** (Biella, 1933) at Palazzo Boncompagni, passing through **Annamaria Ajmone** (Lodi, 1981) & **Felicity Mangan** (Geelong, 1978) at the Certosa Monumental Cemetery, **Carola Bonfili** (Rome, 1981) in the former military air-raid shelter "Vittorio Putti", **Giorgio Andreotta Calò** (Venice, 1979) at the LabOratorio degli Angeli, **Matteo Nasini** (Rome, 1976) in live streaming on Radioimmaginaria, **Riccardo Baruzzi** (Lugo, 1976) at the Teatro Storico of Villa Aldrovandi-Mazzacorati, **Chiara Camoni** (Piacenza, 1974) at Palazzo Bentivoglio, **Margherita Morgantini** (Venice, 1971) at the Orti Boschetto Lungo Reno, **Sabrina Mezzaqui** (Bologna, 1964) at the Oratorio di San Filippo Neri, **Alessandro Pessoli** (Cervia, 1963) at Alchemilla in Palazzo Vizzani, **Stefano Arienti** (Asola, 1961), supported by **Arte Fiera-BolognaFiere**, in Piazza Costituzione, **Norma Jeane** (Los Angeles, 1962) at the Greenhouses of Giardini Margherita. The only main project dedicated to a historic artist is the one on **Vincenzo Agnetti** (Milan, 1926-1981) at the Padiglione de l'Esprit Nouveau, Partner **Banca di Bologna**, with his rediscovered work *NEG* at its centre.

The main programme is made possible thanks to the productive effort of exhibition spaces that operate in the city as consolidated subjects of the cultural fabric and that, together with the Municipality of Bologna and the Istituzione Bologna Musei, contribute to the creation of ART CITY.

In the **institutional programme** too, the space reserved for interventions by Italian artists prevails. These include: **Aldo Giannotti** in the Sala delle Ciminiere at MAMbo, realised thanks to the support of the **Italian Council**, General Directorate for Contemporary Creativity, Ministry of Culture; **Helen Dowling** at Villa delle Rose; **Giorgio Morandi** at Museo Morandi; **Franco Vimercati** at Casa Morandi; **Maurizio Donzelli** at Museo Civico Medievale; **Flavio Favelli** and **Nanni Menetti** at the Collezioni Comunali d'Arte, Cappella Farnese and municipal showcases; **Dario Bellini** in Cappella Farnese at Palazzo d'Accursio; **Virginia Zanetti** in the exhibition rooms on the second floor of Palazzo d'Accursio; **Mimmo Paladino** at the Salaborsa Library; **Giulia Marchi** at the Jorge Luis Borges Library; **Giacomo Verde** in the Chapel of Santa Maria dei Carcerati at Palazzo Re Enzo; **Nicola Samori** at Palazzo Fava; **Angelo Bellobono** at Villa Ghigi Park; **Simone Carraro** at Giardino del Cavaticcio, Officina Artierranti and Opificio delle Acque; **Matteo Nasini** in the Spazio Arte of CUBO Unipol; **Tresoldi Academy** in the Ex Mercatone Uno area; **Tullio Vietri** in the seat of the Legislative Assembly of the Emilia-Romagna Region; **Michael Beutler** in the KAPPA-NØUN space (Clan Lazzaro); **Francesca Pasquali** at the Raccolta Lercaro.

Among the collective projects: **Contenere lo spazio** as part of the RE-COLLECTING exhibition focus cycle in the MAMbo Project Room; **Informale, Ultimo Naturalismo and Scultura, Arte Verbo-visuale** in the MAMbo permanent collection; the exhibition of the winning artists of **Carapelli for Art - Premio Arti Visive. III Edition** at the International Museum and Library of Music, which will also host the documentary exhibition **NO DAMS! 50 anni di Corso di Laurea in**

nell'ambito di

con il sostegno di





Discipline delle Arti, della Musica e dello Spettacolo; 141 - Un secolo di disegno in Italia in the exhibition space of the Fondazione del Monte di Bologna e Ravenna; **All Stars** al mtn | museo temporaneo navile; **Impronte. Giovani artisti in residenza - Open studio** at the Raccolta Lercaro; **Open-Close. Mostra dei Vincitori del Concorso Zucchelli 2021** at the Zu.Art giardino delle arti di Fondazione Zucchelli; **Autopromozione 10 con 10** at the headquarters of the Legislative Assembly of the Emilia-Romagna Region; **En plein air** at 10 Lines (Clan Lazzaro).

These are joined by the **Fiorucci Pop Revolution** time capsules at the Massimo and Sonia Cirulli Foundation (Clan Lazzaro) and the workshop for children **Chimica...a regola d'arte** at the Opificio Golinelli.

As usual, the programme also includes the exhibitions promoted by the **Gallerie d'arte Moderna e Contemporanea - Confcommercio Ascom Bologna** and the other initiatives set up in the most diverse types of public, **private and independent exhibition spaces**, which every year dot the city with the languages of contemporary art.

Many of the exhibitions that enliven the art days will continue in the following weeks and months, accompanying the Bologna Summer programme.

The special project

The special project of ART CITY 2021 is the installation by **Gregor Schneider** (Rheydt, Germany, 1969) entitled *Gregor Schneider visits N. Schmidt (in the former Galleria d'Arte Moderna di Bologna)*, presented in 2017 at the event Skulptur Projekte in Münster and remounted many times since. The work refers to a series of works about "Mr Schmidt", first evoked in room 54 of *Haus ur*, a seminal work by the artist presented at the 2001 Venice Biennale. Schneider triggers the expectation of an encounter that will allow this mysterious individual to emerge from the collective presence, an imaginary character who seems to finally answer the question: who is N. Schmidt? In the spaces of the Ex GAM in Piazza Costituzione, so steeped in history for contemporary art, the work goes beyond the limits of the museum setting, both as an institutional and as an architectural framework; it is stripped of any presentation reminiscent of the museum environment and rendered neutral by the artist's point of view. Visitors, as one at a time they enter N. Schmidt's home, his intimate, domestic space, will have the opportunity to try to reconstruct his identity. The installation of the work in Bologna is made possible thanks to the Main Partner **Gruppo Hera**.

The audience. New models of use. Centralized telephone reservations for the main programme.

The forced diversity of this edition of ART CITY, which will not be able to count on the specialized audience of Arte Fiera, is an opportunity to address itself mainly to the **local audience**, enhancing and strengthening the relationship with those who daily live in and pass through the city. The aim is to involve the people of Bologna in a **joyful re-appropriation of the known and lesser-known places** of the area in which they live, finding new and unexpected associations between artistic creativity and public and private spaces. With a view to involvement and accessibility, **free access to the main programme** is confirmed for 2021.

The situation linked to the pandemic emergency, hopefully improved during the ART CITY period, will unfortunately not be entirely overcome. Far from being a setback, the critical situation is

nell'ambito di

con il sostegno di





becoming a stimulus to imagine and implement **new models of art appreciation**. In full compliance with current regulations, each participant can construct his or her own tailor-made visit to the city transfigured by contemporary art, thanks to a **centralised information system**. **From Monday 3 May**, for the **main programme** initiatives, interested parties can receive information and reserve access on the days and times available, with entry by numerical slots according to the capacity of the spaces, by calling **051 6496632** and **051 6496637** on the following days and times: 3 and 4 May 4 pm - 8 pm; 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 May 10 am - 8 pm. **For Saturdays and Sundays, booking is always obligatory** and must be made the day before the visit.

Some initiatives, especially the performances, require a very targeted participation, even for single spectators. The precautionary measures planned and already taken since the Covid-19 emergency began remain confirmed for ART CITY.

The guide and the map

For the 2021 edition, conceived as a slower, more participatory and non-frenetic experience, ART CITY also proposes a new editorial model: no longer a tabloid designed for "instant" consumption, but a real **guide** to take with you on your personal journey through the main programme and keep at the end of the event. The booklet, edited by Lorenzo Balbi, Caterina Molteni and Sabrina Samorì, is bilingual (Italian/English) and contains critical texts on the special project and the main projects of the artists of this ninth edition, with a description of the spaces that will host their projects, as well as images of each intervention and a street map with the locations. Furthermore, this year the **paper map** is again available and distributed in the spaces hosting the initiatives of the programme, with a new format and graphics.

The complete programme of ART CITY Bologna 2021, with detailed information on venues, opening hours and bookings, will be published on the website artcity.bologna.it.

nell'ambito di

con il sostegno di





TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

ART CITY Bologna 2021 is promoted by:

Municipality of Bologna in the framework of Bologna Summer

With the support of:

Destinazione Turistica Bologna Metropolitana

Camera di Commercio Industria Artigianato Agricoltura of Bologna

Bologna Welcome

Artistic Direction:

Lorenzo Balbi

With the coordination of:

Istituzione Bologna Musei

Period:

7 - 8 - 9 May 2021

Website:

artcity.bologna.it

Instagram:

@artcitybologna

Facebook:

artcitybologna

Hashtag:

#artcitybologna

Information and reservations by phone for the main programme initiatives

Tel. 051 6496632 and 051 6496637 | 3 and 4 May 2021 h 4.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m.; 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 May 2021 h 10.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m.. For **Saturdays and Sundays reservations are required** on the preceding day.

Press Office:

Elisa Maria Cerra - Silvia Tonelli

With the collaboration of Guendalina Piselli

Tel. +39 051 6496653 / 6496620

ufficiostampaARTCITYBologna@comune.bologna.it

elisamaria.cerra@comune.bologna.it

silvia.tonelli@comune.bologna.it

nell'ambito di



Comune di Bologna



Destinazione
is Bologna



CITTÀ
METROPOLITANA
DI BOLOGNA



CAMERA DI COMMERCIO
INDUSTRIA ARTIGIANATO E
AGRICOLTURA DI BOLOGNA
Camera dell'Economia



Bologna Welcome