

La Biennale di Venezia  
57<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition



**Biennale Arte 2017**  
**Curated by Christine Macel**  
**VIVA ARTE VIVA**

**Venice (Arsenale and Giardini), May 13<sup>th</sup> to November 26<sup>th</sup> 2017**  
(Preview May 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>)

*Venice, September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016* – The President of La Biennale di Venezia, **Paolo Baratta**, accompanied by the curator of the 57<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition, **Christine Macel**, met today at Ca' Giustinian with the representatives of **57 Countries**. The 57<sup>th</sup> Exhibition will take place from **May 13<sup>th</sup> to November 26<sup>th</sup> 2017** (Preview May 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>) in the **Giardini** and the **Arsenale** and in various other venues in Venice.

The title chosen by **Christine Macel** for the 57<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition is:

**VIVA ARTE VIVA**

**Christine Macel** has explained his project as follows:

«In a world full of conflicts and jolts, in which humanism is being seriously jeopardized, art is the most precious part of the human being. It is the ideal place for reflection, individual expression, freedom and fundamental questions. It is a “yes” to life, although sometimes a “but” lies behind. More than ever, the role, the voice and the responsibility of the artist are crucial in the framework of contemporary debates.

**Viva Arte Viva** is also an exclamation, an expression of the passion for art and for the state of the artist. **Viva Arte Viva** is a Biennale designed with the artists, by the artists and for the artists. It deals with the forms they propose, the questions they pose, the practices they develop and the forms of life they choose.

The Exhibition organically evolves in a sequence of pavilions, rooms and *stanze*, offering the spectator an experience, i.e. a journey, from the interiority to the infinity.

These pavilions or **Trans-pavilions**, which gather artists of all generations and origins, sinuously follow one another like chapters of a book. From the “Pavilion of artists and books” to the “Pavilion of time and infinity”, a dozen universes tell a conversational and

sometimes paradoxical story, concerning the complexity of the world and the variety of positions and practices.

The Exhibition also aims to be an experience, representing an extroversion movement towards the other, towards a common place and towards the most indefinable dimensions, opening the pathways to a neo-humanism.

Every week, during the six months of the exhibition, the artist and his public will participate to an *Open Table (Tavola Aperta)* where they can have lunch together and where they can dialogue and talk about the artist's practice.

Every day, during the weeks before the opening of the Exhibition, a video will be posted on the Biennale official website, giving the opportunity to uncover the artists even before the Exhibition».

*(The full text of Macel's Statement is included in the Press Kit)*

Christine Macel is "a curator committed to emphasizing the important role artists play in inventing their own universes and kindly injecting vitality into the world we live in", President **Paolo Baratta** said last January on the day of Macel's appointment.

Today Baratta adds that: «By finding inspiration in a "humanist" vision and keeping the focus on the artist's creative act the Exhibition will also promote a new and more intense conversation between visitors and many of the artists on display, through a programme of meetings specifically designed for the occasion».

*(The full text of Baratta's Statement is included in the Press Kit)*

The **57<sup>th</sup> International Art Exhibition** of La Biennale di Venezia will also present, as is traditional, the **National Participations** with their own exhibitions in the Pavilions at the Giardini and at the Arsenale, and in the historic city centre of Venice.

This edition will also include selected **Collateral Events**, presented by international entities and institutions, which will present their exhibitions and initiatives in Venice concurrently with the 57<sup>th</sup> Exhibition.

#### **For further information**

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