

The Grace of a Gesture, an artwork by Lawrence Weiner, forms the centerpiece of this exhibition organized by the Written Art Foundation with the support of Berenberg Art Advice. It is presented on the ground floor of the Palazzo Bembo near the Rialto Bridge. As a Collateral Event of the 55th International Art Exhibition – la Biennale di Venezia, an extended component will be the installation of The Grace of a Gesture in ten different languages ranging from Chinese to Arabic to Hebrew installed on five of Venice's major sources of transportation, the Vaporetto. The boats will transport the work through Venice on the Canale Grande, to the Arsenale, the Giardini and beyond. The Grace of a Gesture is a work from 2010, whose muse was the Portuguese city of Lisbon. The exhibition at Palazzo Bembo includes four additional works by Weiner, initially created for his 1991 exhibition, DISPLACEMENT, at Dia Center for the Arts in New York City.

The works from DISPLACEMENT are concerned with various materials used to make art and their displacement. For the engaged viewer, a fascinating process can take shape when looking at these works: one can 'see' materials—cadmium, mud, titanium for example—with quantities, pounds or yards, that with a 'change of state' can be displaced 'in a like amount of some mass not itself'... With volume, color, weight, this process can lead to changes of state, of value. The mix, displaced, leads to a completion, or a whole.

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