



## **Arte Fiera appoints Simone Menegoi as next Artistic Director**

Italy's longest running modern and contemporary art trade show has announced the name of the new Artistic Director to follow on from Angela Vettese.

Born in 1970, critic and independent curator since 2005 of public and private exhibitions in Italy and elsewhere, **Simone Menegoi** has worked with prestigious institutions such as the Marino Marini Museum of Florence, London's David Roberts Art Foundation, the Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, Milan's Triennale, and the Extra City Kunsthal in Antwerp. At the last edition of Arte Fiera and ART CITY, Menegoi curated the first solo exhibition in Italy of Erin Shirreff, acclaimed by critics and the general public as one of the major attractions of the 2018 event.

**Simone Menegoi**, Arte Fiera's newly appointed Artistic Director said: "Arte Fiera is Italy's first and most prestigious modern and contemporary trade show. Being entrusted with taking it to new heights is both an honour and a challenge. I hope to measure up to the task. Bologna's artistic and cultural scene is enjoying a particularly vibrant period. I would like Arte Fiera to be the catalyst of the city's new surge of vitality. My appointment also gives me great pleasure because it strengthens a longstanding bond with Bologna started when I was a university student here some thirty years ago. I intend to spend as much time as possible in the city to get to know it better - and let Bologna get to know me!"

The choice of Simone Menegoi will further strengthen the ties between the trade show and the city, notes BolognaFiere Chairman, **Gianpiero Calzolari**. "Arte Fiera has been broadly overhauled during the last few editions, leading to even stronger ties between the trade show and Bologna's institutions and organizations. The events at the fair and in town form a single programme for art lovers everywhere. We are sure that under Simone Menegoi, Arte Fiera 2019 will further strengthen what was started by former Director Angela Vettese during the last two editions, ensuring further selection of participating art galleries, conferences and meetings of great topical interest, but also continuing the excellent team work developed with MAMbo Director, Lorenzo Balbi."



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"BolognaFiere and Arte Fiera play a major role in making contemporary culture one of Bologna's key characteristics. This links in seamlessly with the strategic approach adopted by Bologna Musei-MAMbo, the city's umbrella cultural institution", says **Matteo Lepore**, Bologna's Counsellor for Tourism, Culture and Promotion of the City. "With Simone Menegoi at the helm of Arte Fiera, the stage is set for Bologna to take a leap forward on the contemporary art scene starting with Arte Fiera and continuing throughout the year. I extend every good wish to Menegoi and the Arte Fiera staff. I am sure we will work together well to the benefit of Bologna as a whole".

Congratulating and wishing the new director well, **Lorenzo Balbi**, Artistic Director of MAMbo (Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna) added: "I am sure Simone Menegoi will make an important contribution to furthering contemporary culture in Bologna. I confirm our full commitment to curating ART CITY 2019. In fact, we're already working on an ambitious programme that will bring Arte Fiera, a strategically important player on the art scene, even closer to its host city".

Simone Menegoi is already at work preparing the upcoming Arte Fiera scheduled for 1 – 4 February 2019.

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