



fiera internazionale d'arte  
moderna e contemporanea  
international exhibition of  
modern and contemporary art  
3-5/02/2023  
Bologna

## Arte Fiera 2023: return to tradition and a new path

Bologna, 21 July 2022 - Arte Fiera announces its new dates: the next edition will be held from **3 to 5 February 2023** with an invitation-only preview on **2 February**. After the 2022 edition (held in May due to the pandemic), the fair returns to its traditional dates, making it the **year's first fair in Italy** (and the only one to be held in the Bologna Fair District in that period). The location also marks a return to tradition: the exhibition will once again be held in **halls 25 and 26**, associated with Arte Fiera for years, and will use the Costituzione entrance, the Fair District's port of entry toward the city centre. Built in 1964 as part of the initial core of BolognaFiere, halls 25 and 26, recently restyled, are among the most elegant and recognisable in the entire district.

The 2023 edition also marks a **change in governance**: along with **Simone Menegoi**, confirmed as Artistic Director for his fourth edition, **Enea Righi** enters as Managing Director. Born in Bologna in 1956, internationally known as one of Italy's most important collectors of contemporary art, Righi brings to Arte Fiera not only his comprehensive knowledge of the art world, but also managerial skills honed in over 30 years of work at the helm of a large company. Righi will coordinate a number of critical aspects for the event's success, focussing especially on the visitor experience.

Righi's arrival is the first, important signal of Arte Fiera's decisive change of pace, with investments and renewal in multiple areas, including communication, attention to VIP guests, contents, and partnerships, in view of an important anniversary: **2024** celebrates **50 years since the first edition Arte Fiera**, making it the first art fair in Italy (and one of the first in Europe).



BolognaFiere spa  
Viale della Fiera, 20 - 40127 Bologna, Italia  
Tel. +39 051 282111 Fax +39 051 6374004  
segreteria.generale@bolognafiere.it  
PEC bucultura@pec.bolognafiere.it  
Capitale Sociale 106.780.000,00 i.v.  
C.F. - PIVA e Reg. Imp. BO 00312600372 - REA BO367296

Show Office  
Tel. +39 051 282863 / 282929  
[artefiera@bolognafiere.it](mailto:artefiera@bolognafiere.it)

[www.artefiera.it](http://www.artefiera.it)



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In this perspective, the fair renews its **partnership with Art City**, Bologna's Art Week circuit. Therefore, the 2023 edition of Arte Fiera will also feature the shows and events coordinated by Lorenzo Balbi, director of MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna.

As **Gianpiero Calzolari**, President of BolognaFiere, confirms, "Arte Fiera has launched an important project of renewal, a global project that will further strengthen this historic Italian fair dedicated to modern and contemporary art. The artistic proposal of the galleries at the fair and the Art City initiatives, the result of a long-term collaboration with the City of Bologna, will once again confirm that our city is a reference point for the art market, proof of the strong synergy between the fair and local institutions".

For **Matteo Lepore**, Mayor of Bologna "The next edition of Arte Fiera demonstrates the willingness of BolognaFiere, together with the City's administration, to relaunch the exhibition and respond positively to the stimuli received from the art world. BolognaFiere's efforts are matched by the city's intention to excel in the quality and quantity of its cultural projects and initiatives. These include Art City, which this year will again join Arte Fiera with projects and initiatives involving the entire city, along with many art galleries and cultural institutions and bodies. The edition will also be a launching pad for next year, celebrating Arte Fiera's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary."

In terms of structure, the next edition of Arte Fiera confirms the Main Section and two curated, invitation-only sections, **Pittura XXI** and **Photography and moving images**, reference points for their fields: 21<sup>st</sup>-century painting and photography/video. These two sections will now be joined by a new one (also invitation-only), open to galleries, publishers, and specialised bookshops: **Multiples**, devoted to artwork in editions.

The 2023 edition also launches a new format, **Percorso (Path)**: as the name implies, not a real section, but a thematic itinerary among the stands of the Main Section. The first edition of Percorso is devoted to a medium that has been the subject of renewed interest in recent years: **ceramics**.



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Another important new aspect regards the Main Section. In the prospect of a wider collector base, selected galleries will be able to present a larger number of works. As a result, **more artists may be presented at the stands**. The previous limit will be **significantly increased** for medium-sized stands and **completely eliminated** for large stands. In all cases, the clarity and quality of display achieved in recent years will remain one of the standards of the exhibition.

Details regarding the rules of engagement, as well as the curators of the sections, will be announced in early September when the application forms are issued.

Arte Fiera 2023's image will be curated by **Leftloft**, an independent branding and communication design firm whose clients include some of Italy's most prestigious public and private art institutions.

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## CONTACTS

Communication and External Relations Manager

Isabella Bonvicini [isabella.bonvicini@bolognafiere.it](mailto:isabella.bonvicini@bolognafiere.it) +39 051 282920

BolognaFiere - Press Office

Gregory Picco [gregory.picco@bolognafiere.it](mailto:gregory.picco@bolognafiere.it) +39 051 282862

Arte Fiera - Press Office

Elena Pardini [elena@elenapardini.it](mailto:elena@elenapardini.it) +39 348 3399463



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