

A Collection announces its participation at Arte Fiera 2020 through a dedicated award. The winning artist, who will be selected from those exhibiting at Arte Fiera by a jury specifically appointed, will have the opportunity to live a mini-residence for the realization of a tapestry made by the master weaver Giovanni Bonotto.

The desire of creating a prize was born after the A Collection debut in Turin, the project interweaves the contemporary research of young but established artists of the Italian panorama with the creative vision of new weaving techniques. The project, in its first edition, has led to the creation of 10 + 1 fascinating contemporary tapestries made with extraordinary yarns obtained from the processing of recycled plastic.

This operation affirms how it is possible, with technology research and creativity, combine the attention for the environment with the production of artwork, creating a contemporary luxury object as a work of art starting from the waste product.

Tapestries are not the purpose, but the means. The story we tell is thousands years old. A universal language whose earliest evidence dates back to 2000 BC in Egypt. From pre-Columbian America to France, tapestry production has always been a cultural strategy. Weaving is action and metaphor, performance and model.

The tapestry is a very precious object, it requires very high manual specialization, it is made in long times, too long to be accessible to everyone. It had decorative, ritual, public, commemorative purposes with political, religious and social meanings.

Since the Renaissance the great artists, such as Raphael, Pieter Paul Rubens, Bronzino, Pontormo, Francisco Goya, William Morris, and again Pablo Picasso, Juan Mirò, Kandinski, Klee, Afro, Casorati, Capogrossi, Boetti, have created 'cardboard' for tapestries on commission. Nowadays new technologies have contributed to the their modern realization. So, an ancient tool that has always had a contemporary thought becomes a translator of a complex and disjointed system, the visual one, to create unpublished models.

"A Collection grows. We are very pleased to announce the first A Collection residence prize that will take place at Arte Fiera Bologna 2020. Born with the intention of enriching itself with collaborations and contemporary projects, A Collection wants to promote emerging and successful artists in order to demonstrate that today it is possible to

produce works of art starting from recycled plastic, paying a particular attention to the environment and respecting the planet ". So Chiara Casarin, the curator of project, and Giovanni Bonotto master weaver, affirm.

The desire to recover this elegant and sophisticated language, combining with the attention to the environment and respect for our planet, has therefore led to the creation of a dedicated award. The A Collection Award is configured as a production award associated with a mini-residence: the winning artist, chosen from those exhibited at Arte Fiera 2020, will have the opportunity to design a tapestry.

This tapestry will be created by the master weaver Giovanni Bonotto, The winning artist will assist the master during the realization of the early stages of weaving.

Artistic residences are important moments of growth and comparison both for the companies that host them and for the artists, putting their language and creativity in dialogue with other operators. To live the moments of set up of a tapestry, starting from an artistic project, is a unique experience that demonstrates the potential of collaboration in artistic production.

Jury

Giovanni Bonotto

Chiara Casarin

Diego Bergamaschi

Maria Chiara Valacchi

**a-collection.org**