



fiera internazionale d'arte  
moderna e contemporanea

international exhibition  
of modern and contemporary art

13/15-05-2022  
Bologna

## ARTE FIERA: the 45<sup>th</sup> edition

13-15 May 2022

Preview: 12 May 2022

Bologna, 12 May – After the decision to postpone the traditional late-January edition, **Arte Fiera** will reopen its doors from **13 to 15 May 2022**, energised by a spirit of recommencement and by the eagerness to once again personally welcome professionals and the art-loving public.

Arte Fiera 2022, the third physical edition under the artistic direction of **Simone Menegoi** (the 2021 edition was replaced by the online cultural project Playlist), presents the strong points of the two previous editions, with emphasis on the quality of exhibited artworks. Menegoi affirms, “Arte Fiera is back with its head held high, with a selection of galleries maintaining a high quality standard enriched by some interesting new entries, renewed stands, and a more logical and efficient path to guide visitors.”

The fair's structure will be reinforced in the upcoming edition, with **three invitation-only curated sections** that accompany the **Main Section** to emphasise the key elements of the fair's identity: modern art and post-war masters (**Focus**), 21<sup>st</sup>-century art (**Pittura XXI**), and photography and video (**Photography and moving images**).

The selection of galleries will be combined with an approach that gives space to personal poetics, and exhibitors have been explicitly requested to present a limited number of artists. As in the past, monographic exhibits (of both post-war masters and contemporary artists) will be encouraged. In 2022, these monographic stands – 35 in all, about a fourth of the total – will once again be a significant presence.

As for its primary objectives, Arte Fiera, the longest-living Italian art fair (begun in 1974) remains true to its calling: **to be the key art fair for Italian galleries and for 20<sup>th</sup>- and 21<sup>st</sup>-century Italian art.**

As in 2020, the fair will be held in Halls 15 (contemporary art) and 18 (20<sup>th</sup>-century art), but with a **new entrance** so that visitors may choose which Hall to see first.

There will also be more **elegant and orderly stands**, the result of BolognaFiere's decision to invest in the exhibition, enhancing its quality without any expense to participating galleries.



BolognaFiere spa  
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segreteria.generale@bolognafiere.it  
PEC bucultura@pec.bolognafiere.it  
Capitale Sociale 106.780.000,00 i.v.  
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## SECTIONS AND GALLERIES

**142 galleries** will participate in Arte Fiera 2022. For the complete list, see:

<https://www.artefiera.it/en/artefiera/galleries-list/9719.html>

The following is a brief summary of the contents of each section and their participants.

The **Main Section** ranges from Modern and Post-War art (the Fair's traditional strong points) to contemporary research, with significant emphasis on Italian art. It encourages monographic stands and curatorial proposals that focus on a 20<sup>th</sup>-century school, trend, or period.

**Focus**, introduced in 2020, concentrates on modern art and post-war masters, with content that changes from year to year: the curator is free to choose the period, trend, and artistic school to be presented. The 2022 edition, curated by art critic and historian **Marco Meneguzzo**, will regard so-called "exact art" (which includes kinetic art, programmed art, and similar trends) from the late '50s to the '70s, with specific attention to the Italian scene.

**Pittura XXI**, curated by independent critic and curator **Davide Ferri**, now in its second edition, is a new format for art fairs (both Italian and foreign): a panorama of 21<sup>st</sup>-century painting that ranges from emerging to mid-career artists. In past editions, this section was extremely popular with both professionals and the public: for the first time, a fair has devoted a specialised section to the most traditional artistic medium, which in recent years has returned to centre stage for critics, institutions, and the market.

Lastly, **Photography and moving images**, curated by the **Fantom** platform (Selva Barni, Benedetta Pomini, Ilaria Speri, Massimo Torrigiani and Francesco Zanot), considers the photographic medium in a strictly contemporary manner: it is open to video and encourages dialogue between photography and other media. Now in its third edition, it is a reference point in Italy for collectors and enthusiasts.

## PUBLIC PROGRAMME

Arte Fiera 2022 will offer rich and inclusive contents with some of the most interesting names on the contemporary Italian art scene. The public programme ranges among expressive genres and offers professionals and the general public a close-up look at the state of art in Italy.

In every edition since 2019 – the first year of Simone Menegoi's mandate as artistic director – Arte Fiera has commissioned a well-known Italian artist to create a **new, large-scale work** to be presented to the public at the fair. The artist invited to Arte Fiera 2022 (following Flavio Favelli, Eva Marisaldi, and Stefano Arienti) is **Liliana Moro** (b. Milan, 1961). One of the most original Italian artists since the late 1980s, Moro is not easily classified: although she works with recurring subjects, expressive formulas and materials – from references to games to scale models, up to her recent ceramics – her 30 years of work resists all attempts at pigeon-holing, challenging viewers to face her works without prejudice.

To carry out her commission, Moro has chosen an unusual material that she has employed regularly since the late '90s: sound. Focussing on a section of the path that connects the North Entrance to the halls of Arte Fiera – three long corridors with moving walkways that are commonly found in airports and metros - Moro has conceived a sort of large sound sculpture, that visitors will experience as they move to and from the halls.



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**Oplà. Performing Activities**, now in its third edition, is curated by **Silvia Fanti (Xing)**, recognised internationally for her interdisciplinary look at contemporary cultures, with special attention to live arts, an expressive form that has characterised Bologna's artistic scene since the 70s.

There are four activities on the programme, by Italian artists (by birth or adoption).

- **Jacopo Benassi** (b. 1970), photographer, artist, and performer, known for the rawness of his style, proposes **Unisex**, an activity in an unexpected space: the bathrooms in the fair's Infopoint area. The artist will welcome guests in the common rooms of the bathrooms according to a new and inclusive exhibition practice based on live shooting.
- **Invernomuto** (Simone Bertuzzi, b. 1983, and Simone Trabucchi, b. 1982), presents **Vernascacadabra**, an intangible radio performance that adds a new piece to the linguistic and subculture research that characterises their work. The activity takes place on the loudspeaker system in the halls, from which Invernomuto will transmit a series of works for ocarina, announced and played throughout the day.
- **Muna Mussie** (b. 1970), an Eritrean artist based in Bologna, presents **Persona**, an encounter between the artist and visitors, mediated by sewing: Mussie challenges visitors to have their worst defect embroidered on an article of their clothing.
- **Luca Trevisani** (b. 1979) presents his new **Ai piedi del pane**, at the crossroads of performing activity and metaphoric/organic sculpture: works to wear, shoes with soles of bread grafted onto existing uppers, bas reliefs to take for a walk around Arte Fiera. An act of cultural archaeology that employs irony to challenge our hierarchy of material values.

The Talk section is a very important part of the public programme. In 2022, it will be renamed **Book Talk** and will focus exclusively on the presentation of recently-published books.

There will be many daily presentations throughout the three days of the fair. Here are a few highlights (the day-by-day programme is available on [www.artefiera.it](http://www.artefiera.it)).

- **Liliana Moro**, artist invited by Arte Fiera for the 2022 edition, presents the book *Ascolto* (Di Paolo Edizioni) in dialogue with the book's curator **Cecilia Casorati** and gallerist **Mario Pieroni**. The book, published in 2021, focusses exclusively on the artist's work with sound.
- **Gianfranco Maraniello**, curator (with Alberto Salvadori and Vincenzo Trione) of the book *Aria Italiana* (Mousse Publishing, 2021) on the current art scene in Italy, introduces the book along with **Massimo Kaufmann**, one of the artists included, engaging in a game of chess on a multicoloured work/chessboard created by Kaufmann. This is the first public presentation of *Aria Italiana*, commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- **Marco Meneguzzo**, curator of the Focus section, which is dedicated this year to the rational approaches to artistic creation from the '50s to the '70s, moderates a talk on the past, present, and possible future of kinetic and programmed art with **Domenico Quaranta** and **Valentino Catricalà** (authors of *Sopravvivenza programmata. Etiche e pratiche di conservazione, dall'arte cinetica alla Net Art*, Edizioni Kappabit, 2020), and **Lucilla Meloni** (author of *Le ragioni del gruppo. Un percorso tra gruppi, collettivi, sigle, comunità nell'arte in Italia dal 1945 al 2000*, Postmediabooks, 2020).
- **Laura Cherubini**, curator of Focus in 2020, will talk with **Andrea Viliani**, Director of Museo delle Civiltà of Rome, about his book *Controcorrente. I grandi solitari dell'arte italiana. Alighiero Boetti, Gino De Dominicis, Luciano Fabro, Fabio Mauri, Vettor Pisani, Marisa Merz* (Marinotti, 2020).



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Arte Fiera 2022 is delighted to host **Note di Sguardi** in its public programme. *Note di Sguardi* is a photography project involving three districts of three European cities: the centre of Cervia, Santo Stefano in Bologna, and Pankow in Berlin. 36 international artists working in these three cities or in neighbouring areas were asked to select from their archive an image to be printed as a poster. The posters will be affixed in the public space of these districts over the course of a year: every month, a group of three different posters will be exhibited simultaneously in the three cities.

The project was conceived by **Giovanna Sarti** (artist and curator) and created in collaboration with **Gino Gianuzzi**, **Eva Scharrer** (in the 1<sup>st</sup> edition), and **Sara Bernshausen** (in the 2<sup>nd</sup>). At Arte Fiera, the public can see a selection of the posters created so far in both editions, displayed in the passageway that links the two Halls.

## AWARDS AND TRUSTS FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

### ANGAMC Award

The only Italian award that honours the role and career of a gallerist who has distinguished him/herself for outstanding personal and professional qualities.

### Jacobacci & Partners "Arte e Progetto" Award

An accolade for the cultural project of one of the galleries participating in Arte Fiera 2022.

### BMPS Collection Award

This award is devoted to painting, and consists of the purchase of a work, chosen from the Pittura XXI section of Arte Fiera, for the BMPS Collection.

### Oswaldo Licini Award by Fainplast

This award stems from an idea by the Picena Contemporary Art Association with the collaboration and contribution of the City of Ascoli Piceno and the Fainplast Group. For the 2022 edition, one of the four finalists will be exhibited in the Pittura XXI section of Arte Fiera.

### Rotary Award

Awards the most creative installation presented at Arte Fiera 2022. To celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the amount of the award will be doubled and all of the Rotary Clubs in Bologna will participate.

### The collectors.chain di Art Defender Award

This is the first Italian award for photography assigned by a jury composed primarily of collectors. Part of Arte Fiera's "Photography and Moving Images" section, the award derives from Art Defender's special relationship with photography.

### Trust for Contemporary Art

The Trust for Contemporary Art makes its debut at Arte Fiera 2022. Created by **Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna**, **Fondazione del Monte di Bologna e Ravenna** and **BolognaFiere** with the aim of confirming Bologna's position as one of the capitals of contemporary art. The Trust will invest 30 thousand euros at Arte Fiera to acquire one or more Italian artworks from the '50s to the present.



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## ART CITY BOLOGNA

From 7 to 15 May 2022, the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of **ART CITY Bologna**, the institutional programme of exhibits, events, and special projects promoted by the **Municipality of Bologna** in collaboration with **BolognaFiere**, will once again join **Arte Fiera** to enliven the city's most exciting period for contemporary art.

Coordinated by the Modern and Contemporary Art Area of Istituzione Bologna Musei under the artistic direction of **Lorenzo Balbi**, the programme repeats the format successfully applied in the last three editions, with a main programme offering a special project and a series of curatorial projects presenting a comprehensive look at contemporary artistic practices. The programme also includes exhibits and events at museums, foundations, institutional spaces, Ascom galleries, exhibition spaces, and independent galleries in the city.

Alongside the **9 main projects** – by emerging artists such as Benni Bosetto, Kipras Dubauskas, Mattia Pajè, and Emilia Tapprest, established artists such as Andreas Angelidakis, Giulia Niccolai and Italo Zuffi, and international artists such as Carlos Garaicoa and Pedro Neves Marques, we eagerly await the **special project for 2022**: the “constructed situation” by **Tino Sehgal**, curated by Lorenzo Balbi and conceived specifically for **Piazza Maggiore**.

Of course, there will also be ART CITY White Night, one of the most popular events, on Saturday 14 May, with many sites of the ART CITY Bologna circuit, as well as galleries, independent exhibition spaces, historical buildings and shops open until midnight.

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## INFORMATION

Where: Bologna Fair District, Halls 15 and 18

Entrance: North Entrance (Ingresso Nord) of the Fair (from Piazza Costituzione: free shuttle bus service every 2 minutes)

When: open to the public 13-15 May 2022;

12 May (invitation only): Press Preview 11 AM-12 N / Preview 12 N – 5 PM / Vernissage 5 - 9 PM

Hours: 13 May 11 AM -12 N reserved to VIPs / 12 N – 8 PM open to the public;

14 and 15 May 11 AM – 8 PM open to the public

Info: 051 282111

## ARTE FIERA 2022 DIGITAL KIT

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

Facebook @artefiera | Instagram @artefiera\_bologna | YouTube <http://bit.ly/11qM4ni>

Official hashtag #artefiera2022

## 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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