



PRESS RELEASE

VENICE PAVILION AT THE BIENNALE ARCHITETTURA 2025 VENICE "LIBRARY OF ALL LIBRARIES"

The Venice Pavilion at the upcoming Biennale Architettura 2025 is dedicated to building collective intelligence, conceived as a network of exhibitions spread across the University and the city.

Natural, Artificial, Collective... just like Venice! The Venice Pavilion adds a new piece to the three definitions of intelligence that form the title of the upcoming 19th International Architecture Exhibition. Drawing on the extraordinary cultural heritage of its territory, the project *Biblioteche. Costruire l'intelligenza veneziana - Libraries. Bildung Venice Intelligence* will find its home in the city's Pavilion. Conceived and curated by Iuav University of Venice, in collaboration with the City of Venice and the Order of Architects, Planners, Landscape Architects and Conservators of Venice, the project envisions the Pavilion as a hub for collective intelligence.

The curatorial collective — composed of Iuav Rector Benno Albrecht, Michele Casarin (President of the Venice Academy of Fine Arts, Director of the Municipality of Venice's Cultural Sector and Director of the Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation), and Architect Roberto Beraldo (President of the Order of Architects) — has imagined the Venice Pavilion as a vast library, a place where collective intelligence is built and developed, becoming a driving force for new forms of work. Visitors will be immersed in an experience of reading and viewing within an enormous library space, hosting hundreds of printed and multimedia volumes. Among them, 27 specially published micro-catalogues will present ongoing research projects that start from Venice and expand to the global stage. A broad overview will also be dedicated to over 300 initiatives promoted by the City of Venice for the protection and development of the city and its lagoon — from the daily maintenance of the urban fabric to the realization of complex architectural and infrastructural projects.

The idea of *Venice, City of Knowledge* is supported by data confirming the excellence of Venice's library heritage: within the Municipality of Venice alone there are 128 libraries, involving 125 institutions, with a total of 6,860,000 volumes. In the historic city itself, the ratio of books to residents reaches 125.4 volumes per inhabitant. Venice positions itself as a center of excellence for architecture and the arts, with a network of seven specialized libraries holding a total of 890,000 volumes — the largest Architecture and Art library in the world.

"The Venice Pavilion reaffirms itself as a space for research, innovation, and inspiration. This year it will be a treasure chest of collective intelligence. We will also continue to host the winners of the competition *Artefici del nostro tempo* (Makers of Our Time), dedicated to young artists under 35, now in its sixth edition," emphasized Mayor Luigi Brugnaro. "Venice is a laboratory for contemporary youth artistic culture. Exhibiting one's works within the Pavilion at the Giardini or at Forte Marghera, with a dedicated exhibition, is an important opportunity we want to offer to the new generations. We are adding new chapters to the enormous library of knowledge."

For Commissioner Maurizio Carlin, "this year too, the exhibition set-up is the result of an intense collaboration involving many public and private stakeholders who have worked alongside the City of Venice to reaffirm the Pavilion's original function and its connection with the project conceived for the Biennale Architettura 2025. The word *bildung* in the project title defines the process of development and growth through which the individual — and then the community — achieves full realization. It represents the moment when education and training engage with reality."

The development of collective intelligence through design is a central theme for Benno Albrecht, who considers it a fundamental element in reflecting on both the university and the project itself. He comments: "One of the key questions of the upcoming Biennale is how human ingenuity can provide answers to the



most pressing challenges of our time. Architecture, in particular, is the space where collective intelligence can best unfold — oriented towards building the future, caring for and designing the public sphere. The agreement with the City of Venice for the design and curatorship of the Venice Pavilion over the next three years is an important new step in constructing Venice as a center of the new knowledge economy, in line with the 'Venice City Campus' project."

In addition to the pavilion at the Giardini, the project will also use as exhibition spaces the municipal libraries the City of Venice together with the VEZ Library, Luav University of Venice, and CNR-Ismar and the new BSG – Biodiversity Science Gateway of CNR-Ismar, located in Riva dei Sette Martiri.

The new Fondaco della Ricerca at Ca' Tron will host the following exhibitions:

luav at Work_C. SCARPA – Beyond Sustainability, introducing a new methodological approach to design, serving as the common thread for all luav exhibitions.

luav at Work_C. SCARPA – Venice City Campus, dedicated to the transformation of Venice from a mono-functional tourist city into a vibrant city for students and culture.

luav at Work_C. SCARPA – Proactive Reconstruction, focused on luav's projects for the reconstruction of crisis-stricken areas around the world.

luav at Work_C. SCARPA – IMEC, centred on luav's geopolitical project for the Indian Middle East Corridor, a new labour route linking India, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean, including the design of a new offshore port in Venice, a strategic hub following the Suez Canal crisis.

luav at Work_INest – The North-East Project, presenting the outcomes of research dedicated to achieving climate neutrality in Veneto, Friuli Venezia Giulia, and Trentino Alto Adige.

At the Tolentini campus, the following exhibitions will be on display:

luav at Work – Venetian Library, a prelude to the major exhibition at the Giardini della Biennale, housed within the new student study space.

luav at Work – Hall of Fame, showcasing a selection of luav's most important inventions and projects, spanning from The Architecture of the City to recent works in Design, Fashion, and the Arts.

From July, the Cotonificio building will host the exhibition of the results from the WAVE Architecture Workshop, which involves over one thousand students every year. This edition will also feature the participation of ten international universities, from the United States to India.

The new exhibition space at Magazzino Ligabue 6 will open with *luav at Work – Giancarlo De Carlo. The Open Work*, featuring previously unseen drawings by the architect. For the first time, visitors will also have stable access to the Archivio Progetti collections through the initiative *luav at Work – Open Visit*.

At the Ex Convento di Santa Teresa, *luav at Work – Atlas* will offer a comprehensive overview of the cultural works produced by luav faculty, including books and projects.

Palazzo Badoer will host *luav at Work – Sources & Resources*, dedicated to the results of courses in Design and Industrial Product Design.

The Masieri Foundation will exceptionally open its doors to the public throughout the Biennale with the exhibition *luav at Work – Carlo Scarpa and the Officina Zanon*, dedicated to the works created by Paolo and Francesco Zanon for Carlo Scarpa, displayed for the first time.

The Pavilion is the result of a collective effort by the City of Venice together with the VEZ Library, the Luav University of Venice, and CNR-Ismar, with the collaboration of the luav University of Venice, the Accademia di Belle Arti the Order of Architects, the Fondazione Musei Civici di Venezia, Fondazione Teatro La Fenice,

Ca' Foscari University of Venice, NonSoloVerde Venezia, Ve.La , gruppo AVM and Venis Spa, with the support of Fondaco Italia and the contribution of Nine in The Morning, which will dress the cultural mediators.

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