

New Home of the Historical Archive – International Centre for Research on Contemporary Arts, Arsenale di Venezia

The project involves the **recovery, conservative restoration and enhancement** of a group of historic buildings within the **Arsenale Sud complex in Venice**, known as the **Officine e Magazzini del Ferro**. Extending for over **200 metres parallel to the Corderie building**, these spaces will be used for consultation and conservation activities related to the archival holdings of the Historical Archive of Contemporary Arts of La Biennale di Venezia.

The intervention consists of a **single lot, comprising five interconnected historic buildings**; this lot is divided into two operational phases, corresponding to different funding sources.

Within the **Magazzini del Ferro**, the project foresees the creation of **spaces open to the public for the on-site paper-based and multimedia consultation of the Archive's holdings**. These areas will be dedicated to research through a new integrated infrastructure designed for innovative, multimedia, multichannel and flexible access to the contents of the Archive of La Biennale. The spaces will also **include multifunctional areas and areas dedicated to College activities, staff offices and a new restaurant**.

The **Consegnatori e Aggiustatori building, ninety metres long**, will house spaces dedicated to the conservation, enhancement and inventorying of the Archive's holdings through **multi-level compact shelving systems**, together with **equipped areas for restoration laboratories and activities preparatory to the cataloguing of the archival heritage**. The project includes the adaptation of all rooms in order to ensure the proper conservation of the documentary heritage, through the construction of climate-controlled units capable of guaranteeing ideal temperature and humidity conditions.

Project Data

Management and Control of the Intervention:

Special Projects Department of La Biennale di Venezia, directed by architect **Arianna Laurenzi**; Sole Project Manager, engineer **Cristiano Frizzele**, **Director of Technical and Logistics Services**. **Functional project lead for the Archive** being lawyer **Debora Rossi**, **Head of the Historical Archive of Contemporary Arts**.

Architecture and restoration design

TA Torsello Architettura | Alberto Torsello and Studio SERES

Architectural design

Arch. Ottavio di Blasi & Partners

Lead Consultant, Safety Coordination, Sustainability and General Works Supervision

TA Torsello Architettura | Alberto Torsello

Structural Design

Studio Milan Ingegneria

Fire Prevention and Operational Supervision of Systems

Company TFE Ingegneria

Contractor

Setten Genesio S.p.A.

Areas Currently Under Construction

5 buildings involved in the project

8,000 sqm

Over 200 linear metres in length

Approximately 8,000 linear metres of shelving for archive storage in compact shelving systems

Total Financial Framework

€38,000,000 allocated by the Ministry of Culture

Of which:

€20,000,000 under the “Great Cultural Heritage Projects” programme – 2019

€18,000,000 under the PNC to the PNRR “Great Cultural Heritage Attractors” programme – 2021