

La Biennale di Venezia  
presents the exhibition

# *Le muse inquiete* (*The Disquieted Muses*)

When La Biennale di Venezia Meets History

by the Historical Archives of Contemporary Arts - ASAC

curated for the first time by the artistic directors of all six departments  
(Art, Architecture, Cinema, Dance, Music, and Theatre)

with the cooperation of Istituto Luce-Cinecittà, Rai Teche  
and other Italian and international archives

Central Pavilion, Giardini della Biennale  
from August 29 to December 8, 2020

**La Biennale di Venezia**, to mark the **125th anniversary** of its foundation, is presenting *Le muse inquiete (The Disquieted Muses)*. *When La Biennale di Venezia Meets History*, an exhibition by the **Historical Archives of Contemporary Arts – ASAC**, to be held in the **Central Pavilion** of the **Giardini della Biennale** from Saturday, **August 29** to Tuesday, **December 8, 2020**.

This is the **first exhibition to be curated by all the artistic directors of La Biennale's six departments**. Working together, they have used the one-of-a-kind sources of the **Historical Archives of La Biennale** and **other Italian and international archives** to retrace key moments during the 20<sup>th</sup> century when La Biennale crossed paths with history in Venice.

**Cecilia Alemani** (Art), **Alberto Barbera** (Cinema), **Marie Chouinard** (Dance), **Ivan Fedele** (Music), **Antonio Latella** (Theatre) and **Hashim Sarkis** (Architecture) have drawn on the materials of the ASAC, **Istituto Luce-Cinecittà** and **Rai Teche**, but also on the records of the **Archivio Centrale dello Stato**, **Galleria Nazionale Arte Moderna di Roma**, **Fondazione Modena Arti Visive**, **Archivio Ugo Mulas**, **Aamod-Fondazione archivio audiovisivo del movimento operaio e democratico**, **Archivio Cameraphoto Arte Venezia**, **IVESER Istituto Veneziano per la Storia della Resistenza e della società contemporanea**, **Peggy Guggenheim Collection**, **Tate Modern London**, **LIMA AMSTERDAM**.

In presenting the exhibition, **Roberto Cicutto**, President of La Biennale di Venezia, expressed his gratitude “for the generous support that the directors and staff of the Historical Archives and the entire Biennale have given to this project, parallel to their work on the exhibitions and festivals. It is one that bolsters La Biennale’s role as a hub of research in the contemporary arts, a fundamental driving force for investigating the present and future, and a strategic tool for development, even in terms of economic growth.”

For this exhibition, the directors have selected rare footage, first-hand accounts, and a range of artworks, following various lines of research to examine the many times when the history of La Biennale has overlapped with the history of the world—revealing or generating institutional rifts and political and ethical crises, but also new creative languages.

The exhibition is laid out in the rooms of the Central Pavilion and weaves its way through all six disciplines: from Fascism (1928-1945) to the Cold War and new world order (1948-1964), to the unrest of '68 and the Biennales chaired by Carlo Ripa di Meana (1974-78), then from the postmodernism to the first Architecture Biennale and until the 1990s, and the beginning of globalization (*see attached document “The Rooms” with details*).

Inside the Book Pavilion at the Giardini, designed by James Stirling, there is a review of the posters of the exhibitions of art, architecture, cinema, dance, music and theater, from 2000 to 2019.

In a period of global instability that over the course of just a few months has brought a succession of environmental disasters, new pandemics, and social revolutions, La Biennale di Venezia serves as a wellspring and channel for the most innovative currents in the artistic disciplines of our era—but also continues to bear witness to the many shifts and crises that have supervened from the late nineteenth century to the present, like a seismometer recording the tremors of history.

The exhibition design is by Formafantasma.

The exhibition catalogue is published by La Biennale di Venezia.

### **Tickets exclusively available online**

Timed entry every half hour (maximum capacity of 200 people per time slot)

Ticket price: full admission €12, student admission €8

Groups with bookings, €10

For group bookings and information, [booking@labiennale.org](mailto:booking@labiennale.org)

### **Opening times**

Summer hours: 11.00 am – 7.00 pm

Winter hours (from October 6<sup>th</sup>): 10.00 am – 6.00 pm

Closed on Mondays (except 31 August, 7 September, 2 November, 7 December)

**PHOTOS** of the exhibition can be downloaded at:

<http://ftp.labiennale.org> | Account: biennale2020 | Password: biennale2020

Hashtag: **#BiennaleArchivio #MuseInquiete #Biennale2020 #LaBiennaleDiVenezia**

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**For more information:** La Biennale di Venezia Press Office

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