

# ARCHÈUS

LABIRINTO MOZART

IMMERSIVE INSTALLATION



La Biennale di Venezia

Archivio Storico  
della Biennale  
di Venezia

A creation by Ophicina and Damiano Michieletto

Welcome to **Archèus. Labirinto Mozart**, the installation that welcomes you through its giant white portal, inviting you along a journey that takes place in a dialogue with *The Magic Flute* by Mozart.

Slowness. Silence. Listening.

To cross the threshold of the great portal of *Archèus* means to set off on an intimate journey of discovery. *Archèus* is a voyage, a passage from the darkness to the light. In the labyrinth, Ariadne's thread is the music by Mozart.

The entrance leads to the first of **five dark tunnels**, which lead into **five rooms**:

- 1 The sphinx:**  
an enigmatic being halts the daily routine, inviting you to accept the challenge of wisdom.
- 2 The mine:**  
the search proceeds through excavation, rubble, attempts to find the right way forward.
- 3 The guardian:**  
the journey towards knowledge brings us face to face with the black bird, the guardian of alchemic gold.
- 4 The eye:**  
enveloped in blue and gold, we enter a spiritual space where an arrow pierces through the gaze and projects it beyond itself.
- 5 The beginning:**  
in the breath of a soft light, harmony has been achieved, a prelude to a new birth.

*Archèus*

is a word from the sixteenth century: it indicates the creative and transforming energy of nature. *Archèus* is the *ark* that navigates during the flood, the *arch* of the bow that shoots the arrow and a living *archive* of symbols.

*Archèus* is a theatre of wonders and, like in a theatre, each of you is asked to **turn off your phone** before entering, for a personal experience of silence and darkness.

Length of the experience:  
30 minutes approx.  
The use of mobile phones  
or flashlights is prohibited.

In the tunnels, please proceed slowly  
and use the handrails to guide you.  
Emergency exits are available.

Visitors may move freely through the  
rooms, but it is prohibited to touch  
or photograph the installations.

No photos or videos.

18.02 —  
5.06.2022

Venezia, Forte Marghera