

CREATIVE REVOLUTION AT MAXXI

2017 will see a tripling of the “free and permanent” collection

as with 15 new exhibitions and special artistic projects

the museum celebrates the great protagonists of our time and reflects on global issues

among the protagonists:

Piero Gilardi, Zaha Hadid, Yona Friedman

A group show exploring the theme of global control

A focus on the art scene in Beirut concluding the “Mediterranean Trilogy”

An exhibition on Art and Science in a tribute to Einstein with Tomás Saraceno

The launch of JACK CONTEMPORARY ARTS TV, the first innovative international web TV platform from the museums of contemporary art

www.fondazionemaxxi.it

Rome, 25 January 2017. 15 new exhibitions, including a tribute to **Zaha Hadid** and, from May, the “creative revolution” that **will see a tripling of the areas devoted to the permanent collection, with the major new hang *The Place To Be*** and a rethinking of the museum spaces, their use and functions; the launch of **JACK Contemporary Arts TV**, the first, innovative web TV platform from the museums of contemporary art headed by MAXXI that already features 14 institutions in Italy and abroad, the fruit of a new technological partnership with Engineering; a rich programme of **talks with great artists and architects** exploring the themes of the exhibitions, thanks to the partnerships with MINI for the Public Programs; **MAXXI for KIDS**, a new educational project with BNL Gruppo BNP Paribas; a programme of **free guided tours every Saturday**, realised with the support of Groupama Assicurazioni; the renewed partnership with Alcantara.

Following a 2016 that was very positive for the museum (+33% tickets, +43% MAXXI Community, 28 new acquisitions, 144 companies and private benefactors), the programme, the novelties and the partnerships for 2017 were presented today by **Giovanna Melandri**, President of the Fondazione MAXXI; **Margherita Guccione**, Director of MAXXI Architettura, **Bartolomeo Pietromarchi**, Director of MAXXI Arte and **Pietro Barrera**, Executive Director of the Fondazione MAXXI.

As Giovanna Melandri says: “After years of growth and consolidation, I am particularly happy to announce the major project for the reorganization, relaunch and valorization of the permanent collection, the core of the museum. We think of MAXXI as a civic platform, as place of aggregation, debate and experimentation. A workshop for the future in which the public is as much a protagonist as the artists. The exhibitions present the masters of our time and allow us to reflect on universal themes. In the words of Maurizio Nannuci, whose great neon work hangs proudly on the MAXXI façade: *more than meets the eye.*”

As Hou Hanru says: “MAXXI has developed its programme by stimulating the dialogue between artistic creation and continually changing social life, intercepting the challenges of the present and the future. Issues such as freedom and global control, migrations, identity, reception, sustainability, the debate between East and West, are at the centre of the group and solo exhibitions, the special projects and the events.”

THE PLACE TO BE: from May, the most extensive ever hang of the permanent collection

The new presentation of the permanent collection (which will remain free every first Sunday of the month and from Tuesday to Friday, as trialled from October 2015, thanks in part to Enel, founding partner of the Fondazione MAXXI) will be housed in Gallery 1 on the ground floor, which will also boast a permanent video gallery, while major installations will be located in Piazza Alighiero Boetti, linking the interior and exterior. Gallery 2 on the first floor will host focuses based on the works in the collection.

Among others on show will be works by Mario Merz, Alighiero Boetti, William Kentridge, Anselm Kiefer, Sol Lewitt and, for the first time, the designs for the Naples metro stations, the greatest work of public art realised in Italy (Dominique Perrault, Gae Aulenti, Álvaro Siza and Eduardo Souto de Moura, Atelier Mendini).

From today, moreover, some of the finest models in the Architecture Collection not currently on display (Campo Baeza, Sacripanti, Rossi) feature in a virtual reality exhibition through the **Virtual MAXXI** project, also fruit of the partnership with Engineering.

Body, Movement, Structure. Contemporary jewellery and its structures examines the creation of unique pieces in which the creative process is of more importance than the carats (curated by Domitilla Dardi, 15 November – February 2018).

Again in November 2017, **Franco Purini** will be the protagonist of the latest chapter in the project *Nature*.

MAXXI AROUND THE WORLD

2017 will see a further reinforcement of the network of international collaborations, with exhibitions produced and co-produced by the museum and hosted by prestigious international institutions.

These include **The Japanese House**, coproduced with the Japan Foundation, Barbican Centre in London (where it will be on show from late March to June 2017) and the Tokyo Museum of Modern Art, where it will arrive in the summer and **Superstudio 50**, produced by MAXXI where it was on show last spring and due to be hosted by the Power Station of Art in Shanghai from November 2017.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Lectures on contemporary creativity, encounters with artists and architects, analyses of the exhibitions: in 2017 MAXXI is once again presenting a rich schedule of events such as the consolidated series of seminars *The Histories of Art*, *The Histories of Architecture* and *The Histories of Design* of the Auteur Conversations, on the occasion of a new hang of the permanent collection. New for 2017: a series of lectures entitled *The Histories of Artist Film*, *Mixed media on the silver screen*, and the study day *Elastic Space. Criticism, Exposition, Museum* dedicated to the relationship between art criticism, image theory, curatorial activities and the museum in the contemporary age. Also scheduled are seminars on theatre, performance and film.

CINEMA AL MAXXI

The collaboration with the Fondazione Cinema per Roma – CityFest continues with the **Cinema al MAXXI** season curated by Mario Sesti. Proceedings get underway this evening with the preview of *Hacksaw Ridge* and through to 29 March will be presenting previews, shorts, documentaries, animation, a masterclass with Danny Boyle, Oscar winner with *The Millionaire*, a tribute to the Japanese director Yasujiro Oz and four films associated with the exhibition *Please Come Back* (starting with *Pezzi* by Luca Ferrari on 5 February).

MAXXI EDUCATION AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The role and activities of MAXXI Education are fundamental in drawing in, understanding and communicating with the general public. All the projects and workshops (664 in 2016, with around 15,000 participants including schools, families, adults and young people) are organized and run by the Fondazione MAXXI staff. Among the projects for 2017, mention should be made of **Oltre il Muro**, on the occasion of the exhibition *Please Come Back*, designed for high school students together with the minors and young adults inserted in the young offenders programmes. Then there is *Il MAXXI tra i banchi di scuola* now in its fourth editions, workshops on Piero Gilardi and Zaha Hadid and *La Mia Beirut*, a project with the Lebanese community in Rome.

Just as fundamental are the Public Engagement activities that render the museum even more of a place of inclusion, involving its customary public and those “marginal” people who together share the experience of art. Among the projects for 2017 are the workshop **Una volta... all'improvviso** with the artist Claudia Losi, conceived within the Rebibbia Women's Prison, in collaboration with Vic-Volontari in Carcere, on the occasion of the exhibition *Please Come Back*. And then there is *In con-Tatto with Nervi and Hadid*, which also allows unsighted people to explore the Palazzetto dello Sport and MAXXI through tactile materials, the third edition of *Narrazioni da Museo a Museo* which brings together the riches of various institutions and also involves migrant minors and disabled people. The year will also see the continuation of *MAXXI per REFUGEE ScART*, *REFUGEE ScART PER MAXXI*: the bookshop will be selling jewellery and design objects created by a group of refugees with recycled materials, the profits from which return to the makers.

The press release and a selection of images from the 2016 exhibitions may be downloaded from the restricted area of the Fondazione MAXXI site www.fondazionemaxxi.it/area-riservata inserting the password **areariservatamaxxi**

THE EXHIBITIONS

The programme features **15 new exhibitions and special artistic projects**, starting with the sixth edition of the **Progetto ALCANTARA-MAXXI**, dedicated this year to **Local Icons. Urban Landscapes from North to South**: eight cities recounted by eight international designers through the versatility of Alcantara (curated by Domitilla Dardi and Giulio Cappellini, 3-26 February 2017).

Of great currency is **Please Come Back. The world as a prison?** that through 50 works by 26 artists (including Claire Fontaine, Jenny Holzer, AES+F, Chen Chieh-Jen and Gianfranco Baruchello) starts out from the issue of prison to investigate the hyper-technological and hyper-connected contemporary society of global control (curated by Hou Hanru and Luigia Lonardelli, 9 February – 28 May 2017).

9 February will also see the first appointment for 2017 with **The Independent**, the multi-year special project dedicated to independent platforms: the protagonist this time is the Cypriot group **Urban Gorillas** (curated by Giulia Ferracci and Elena Motisi with Simone Ciglia).

Freedom of Movement is instead the project by **Nina Fischer** and **Maroan el Sani**: a video installation previewing at MAXXI that, starting out from the heroic feat of Abebe Bikila at Rome '60, examines migration and integration (curated by Pippo Ciorra and Elena Motisi, 11 March – 23 April 2017).

In April it will be the turn of the first major monographic show dedicated to **Piero Gilardi**, with works from the 1960s to the present day in an exhibition that explores the themes of ecology, artistic work as research and social and political commitment (curated by Hou Hanru and Bartolomeo Pietromarchi, 13 April – 15 October 2017).

Following **Interiors**, the focus on interior design (from Del Debbio to Gra, from Rossi to Scarpa and contemporary projects) curated by Margherita Guccione and Elena Tinacci (6 May – October 2017), A further two monographic exhibitions dedicated to masters of contemporary architecture, the fruit of international collaborations.

Zaha Hadid and Italy is the well-deserved tribute MAXXI is paying to the architect who designed the museum, one of the most influential and visionary figures of our time. Realised in collaboration with the Hadid studio and the Zaha Hadid Foundation, the exhibition explores her relationship with Italy: from the projects for the Terminal Marittimo at Salerno, the Messner Mountain Museum at Plan de Corones, City Life in Milan and MAXXI itself to the design projects with Italian firms (curated by Margherita Guccione and Woody Yao, 23 June 2017 – January 2018).

Mobile Architecture. Yona Friedman, born out of the collaboration with Shanghai's Power Station of Art which in 2017 will be hosting the exhibition on Superstudio, this show presents the work and thinking of Friedman, An icon of the post-war utopian architecture, with video interviews, installations and archive materials (curated by Gong Yan, 23 June – October 2017).

Estate Romana at MAXXI: on the occasion of its 40th anniversary, the Estate Romana is about to be revived at MAXXI, with the reconstruction of the Teatrino Scientifico by Franco Purini and Laura Thermes (Via Sabotino, 1979) that will act as the backdrop to a series of seminars, shows, conferences and workshops produced with the City of Rome (summer 2017).

Kemang Wa Lehulere, the South African artist, is the **Deutsche Bank – Artist of the Year 2017**. His work will be exhibited at MAXXI from 29 September (through to November 2017), the latest chapter in the **Expanding the Horizon** project: temporary focuses on the leading national and international corporate and private collections.

A focus in October (curated by Hou Hanru and Anne Palopoli) examines the performances of **Jennifer Allora and Guillermo Calzadilla**, who explore with humour and realism the issues of our contemporaneity.

Immersive and involving, **Einstein Oggi. Percorsi tra arte e scienza**, in collaboration with the Agenzia Spaziale Italiana, the Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare and MIUR, investigates the fascinating implications of modern cosmology and relativity in the artistic field through models, simulations and major installations like the one designed ad hoc by Tomás Saraceno (autumn 2017 – April 2018).

Beirut, Rinascimento Mediterraneo/ Mediterranean Renaissance concludes the trilogy on the Mediterranean and the Middle East curated by Hou Hanru. Following the analyses of the contemporary art scenes of Iran and Istanbul, it is now the turn of Beirut and its fertile and vivacious artistic community (curated by Hou Hanru and Giulia Ferracci, 15 November 2017 – April 2018).

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