

PRESS RELEASE

The Silk Road: Contemporary Art and Artists from Italy

Almost forty Italian artists, including established masters and emerging talents, have been brought together for a highly innovative international project: the exhibition entitled “The Silk Road: Contemporary Art and Artists from Italy”, curated by Angela Tecce, which charts the route of the ancient Silk Road, stretching from **Kiev**, in Ukraine – where it will be inaugurated on 30 July at the Kyiv History Museum – to the China World Art Museum in **Beijing** and the **Xi’an** Art Museum, where in 2022 (the Italy-China Year of Culture and Tourism) it will reach the end of its journey before coming back home, having covered more than 30,000 km as the crow flies.

“The Silk Road” is an initiative of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), conceived and staged by the Istituto Garuzzo per le Arti Visive. The exhibition will travel around the world thanks to the network of Italian Embassies and Italian Cultural Institutes.

The exhibition encapsulates a kaleidoscope of artistic trends and techniques expressed through a total of 38 works, eight of which come from the Farnesina Collection, the Ministry’s contemporary art collection. The exhibition constitutes a *bona fide* modern-day caravan that will visit, after **Kiev**, the CerModern Museum in **Ankara** (Turkey), the Tbilisi History Museum in **Tbilisi** (Georgia) and the Fine Arts Gallery of Uzbekistan – NBU in **Tashkent** (Uzbekistan).

As **Lorenzo Angeloni**, Director General for the Cultural and Economic Promotion and Innovation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, states: “The Silk Road” offers an excellent summation of contemporary Italian art from the late 1960s to the present day, and aims to highlight its extraordinary vitality and, at the same time, to embody its ability to interact with remote contexts in other parts of the world, becoming a natural tool for dialogue”.

For her part, **Rosalba Garuzzo**, Founder and Chairman of the Istituto Garuzzo per le Arti Visive, comments: “We are especially delighted, at a time when a great deal can be reached only virtually, to be bringing works that can be admired in the flesh, and to be

promoting artists who live and work in Italy and are capable of capturing something about a country that, in the awareness of its role as a custodian of beauty and inspiration, continues to create, breathe life into and export culture and art”.

Exhibition curator and art historian **Angela Tecce** stresses how, in orchestrating the exhibition, there was “a special focus on highlighting the value both of artists with consolidated reputations and of up-and-coming talents, with a view to offering the public a panorama that takes account of the complexity and diversity of recent and not-so-recent trends”.

The artists whose works are featured in the exhibition include: *Carla Accardi, Marisa Albanese, Yuri Ancarani, Francesco Arena, Enrico Baj, Gabriele Basilico, Bianco-Valente, Alighiero Boetti, Diego Cibelli, Gianni Dessì, Pamela Diamante, Flavio Favelli, Eugenio Giliberti, Paolo Grassino, Emilio Isgrò, Mimmo Jodice, Francesco Jodice, Jannis Kounellis, Maria Lai, Luigi Mainolfi, Domenico Antonio Mancini, Umberto Manzo, Masbedo, Sabrina Mezzaqui, Marzia Migliora, Nino Migliori, Nunzio, Luigi Ontani, Mimmo Paladino, Giulio Paolini, Perino&Vele, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Tamara Repetto, Pietro Ruffo, Ettore Spalletti, The Cool Couple, Eugenio Tibaldi, Fabio Viale.*

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