

Magister Canova

Venice, June 16 - November 22, 2018
Scuola Grande della Misericordia

Press Release

Canova in Venice. A journey is about to start in Venice that immerses visitors in the creative process followed by Antonio Canova, the celebrated Venetian sculptor and the greatest interpreter of Neoclassical art. The exhibition is an immersive experience that blends together technology, entertainment and state of the art research. President Stefano Vegni announces **Magister Canova**, the second act of the trilogy of exhibitions conceived and produced by Cose Belle d'Italia Media Entertainment.

Following **Magister Giotto** (2017), **Magister Canova** is presented in collaboration with the city of Possagno's Canova Foundation, Gypsotheca and Antonio Canova Museum (Treviso). It will be hosted in the magnificent Scuola Grande della Misericordia, Venice from 16 June to 22 November 2018.

"This spectacular immersive itinerary familiarizes visitors with Canova's life and work in great depth. In **Magister Canova** - says Renato Saporito, Managing Director and Creative Supervisor of the project - the absolute scholarly quality of the story is combined with a skillful filmic and artistic direction by the use of a plurality of languages that propose a narrative unfolding from micro to macro, from the butterfly of *Cupid and Psyche* to the giant *Hercules throwing Lichas into the Sea*, passing through dance to the timeless beauty of *Paolina Borghese*".

The exhibition includes fascinating rooms devoted to specific research topics, such as the original drawings of anatomical subjects held at The National Health Institute's Library as well as the illustration of Antonio Canova's unique creative process, which would revolutionize the history of sculpture in Europe.

Guests are welcome on the ground floor of the Scuola Grande della Misericordia by a monumental, site-specific installation by Fabrizio Plessi, a magnificent homage symbolizing our journey into the Master's mind.

The colourful installation by Fabrizio Plessi preludes to the core of the exhibition taking place on the Scuola's upper floor. An imposing block of textile architecture, evocative of Carrara marble, houses the immersive journey.

In this space a powerful architectural dialogue with the Scuola Grande della Misericordia unfolds in the form of research areas that enable the public to explore Canova's entire life and works thanks to an itinerary that is both intimate and spectacular at the same time. Accompanying guests step by step will be the narrating voice of actor Adriano Giannini, who is called upon to read some of young Canova's letters. The original soundtrack is entrusted to the cello of Giovanni Sollima.

The exhibition is curated by Mario Guderzo and Giuliano Pisani. M. Guderzo directs the Canova Foundation, Gypsotheca and Antonio Canova Museum and is a Member of the Committee for the National Edition of Antonio Canova's Works, as well as of the Catalogue of Italian Modern Art's (CAM) Expert Committee. Alongside his work as a classical philologist and art historian, G. Pisani is a Member of the Galilean Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts in Padua and of the National Committee of Guarantors for the Promotion of Classical Culture for the Italian Ministry of Education and Research (MIUR). The Scholarly Committee benefited from the collaboration of a number of internationally reputed scholars from the fields of Classical Studies and Art History:

Giuseppe Pavanello, Full Professor of History of Modern Art at the University of Trieste and Member of the Committee for the National Edition of Antonio Canova's Works, the Institute of Research on Canova and Neoclassicism of Bassano del Grappa (Vicenza) and Possagno's Scientific Council of the Canova Foundation;

Steffi Roettgen, Emeritus Professor of Art History at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität of Munich;

Johannes Myssok, Vice Chancellor of the Kunstakademie of Düsseldorf;
Andrea Bellieni, Curator of the Correr Museum of Venice and Board Member of the Venice Civic Museum Foundation (Fondazione Musei Civici Veneziani).

Author and art film director Luca Mazzieri leads once more the artistic direction of the Magister project, in collaboration with architect and designer Alessandra Costantini.

Cose Belle d'Italia Media Entertainment is a subsidiary of Gruppo Cose Belle d'Italia, whose mission is to extend the supply of content creation through the production of formats conceived, created, managed and distributed on the Italian market and at international level through an ethical and cultural approach to communicating and generating wealth.

The Magister format shares this philosophy. Following **Magister Giotto** (2017) and **Magister Canova** (2018) in 2019 it will present **Magister Raffaello**, to complete the trilogy devoted to art history's universal masters.

In this contemporary format of touring exhibitions conceived and produced by Cose Belle d'Italia Media Entertainment, the scientific rigour and the immersive power of the details allows younger visitors to immerse themselves in the life and art of the great masters in an extraordinary opportunity for knowledge and entertainment.

magister.art



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Cose Belle d'Italia acquires, preserves and valorises them within an integrated system inspired by the eternal values of beauty, culture and the Italian "belvivere" lifestyle.

The Group operates across every sector, creating value and promoting the dissemination of this culture of excellence among the subsidiaries.

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"Sci-Il Mondo della Neve" "La Madia Travelfood", "Belvivere" and "Watch Digest". Controlled by Europa Investimenti, Cose Belle d'Italia was founded in 2013 with the definition of its own "Manifesto", that fixes the fundamental values inspiring the vision and the mission of the Group.

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