



European
Cultural
Centre

EUROPEAN CULTURAL CENTRE - ITALY PROFILE & ACTIVITIES



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WHO WE ARE

The European Cultural Centre [ECC] is a cultural organisation founded by the Dutch artist Rene Rietmeyer and originating back to 2002. Today we are an ever-expanding group of diverse people who like to make a positive difference, because we care.

We have created a dynamic organisation which establishes cultural centres worldwide and is devoted to cultural exchange, international art and architecture exhibitions, symposiums and a wide range of cultural projects. Not only for Europeans but with people from all around the world.

We believe that progress is best made by raising a deeper awareness about serious topics. We try to bring people from very different cultures together in the hope that we will all learn from each other.

Naturally we have our own opinions and we do like to promote our own values, values in which we strongly believe. Nevertheless we are a non-political and non-religious organisation, open to all people, to all points of view, for as long as they respect the freedom, the dignity and rights of every single living being.

The main activity of the European Cultural Centre - Italy is to invite artistic and creative practices and provides them with a platform where Art, Design and Architecture can be seen and experienced by people from all over the world.



ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The headquarters, European Cultural Centre Worldwide, is based in the Netherlands as an association, the ECC-Satellites are spread all over the world. The ECC-Italy is based in Venice.

The ECC-Italy can make all decisions concerning its activities by itself. The ECC global network enables the ECC-Italy to have an increased international interaction and to create joined projects, making it easier for people to participate worldwide in cultural activities such as exhibitions, educational and other creative projects.

The ECC-Italy mainly organises exhibitions and other cultural events in its own venues in Venice, being: The Palazzos Mora, Bembo and Michiel, as well as the two Marinaressa gardens. If needed, additional venues are activated for special projects.



The Project "Facing Gaia" by Daniel Libeskind at the European Cultural Centre.

WHAT WE DO

To date, we have organised and hosted over 50 contemporary art, design and architecture exhibitions worldwide - as well as hundreds of meetings, workshops, symposiums and other cultural events.

In addition, we publish books, catalogues, documentary videos and offer, with our ECC-Academy, comprehensive educational programs for all those who are sincerely interested in cultural exchange.

We create Art Projects and Art Editions in close cooperation with each selected artist. Each project centralises the artist and emphasises their work. The Projects and Editions are published by the ECC. The artworks which are created in the process often become part of the ECC-Collection.

Moreover, as part of the ECC-Italy exhibitions, the ECC awards a participating artist, designer, architect or institution for their achievements every year.



WHO WE HAVE WORKED WITH

- Marina Abramovic, SRB
- Nobuyoshi Araki, JPN
- Emre Arolat, TUR
- Auckland University, NZL
- Arthena Foundation, DEU
- Asia Art Center, TWN
- Tatiana Bilbao, MEX
- Ricardo Bofill, ESP
- Andrey Bokov, RUS
- Denise Scott Brown, USA
- Caldic Collection, NLD
- Odile Decq, FRA
- TU Delft University, NLD
- Balkrishna Doshi, IND
- Peter Eisenman, USA
- Toshikatsu Endo, JPN
- ETH Zurich, CHE
- ECC-Academy, NLD
- VALIE EXPORT, AUT
- Fang Lijun, CHN
- Curt Fentress, USA
- Konrad Fischer Gallery, DEU
- Fondazione Morra, ITA
- GMP, DEU
- Goodman Gallery, ZAF
- The Governments of:
Ivory Coast, Kuwait, Mongolia,
Philippines, Mozambique,
Pakistan, Kiribati, Seychelles.
- Gotthard Graubner, DEU
- Guangdong Museum of Art, CHN
- Hubei Museum of Art, CHN
- Arata Isozaki, JPN
- IUAV University, ITA
- Marcio Kogan, BRA
- Joseph Kosuth, USA
- Kengo Kuma, JPN
- Kunstlerhaus Bregenz, AUT
- La Biennale di Venezia, ITA
- Lee Ufan, KOR
- Li Chen, CHN
- Lissoni Associati, ITA
- Daniel Libeskind, POL
- Lisson Gallery, GBR
- Ludwig Museum, DEU
- Heinz Mack, DEU
- Fumihiko Maki, JPN
- Richard Meier, USA
- Mies v.d. Rohe Foundation, ESP
- MIT, USA
- Francois Morellet, FRA
- Nanjing University, CHN
- New Museum NY, USA
- Hermann Nitsch, AUT
- Yoko Ono, USA
- Roman Opalka, FRA
- Pan Tianshou Foundation, CHN
- Mike Parr, AUS
- Otto Piene, DEU
- Arnulf Rainer, AUT
- Karim Rashid, USA
- Moshe Safdie, ISR
- Sammlung Lenz-Schonberg, AUT
- Oki Sato, JPN
- Nikken Sekkei, JPN
- Schusev Museum Moscow, RUS
- Setagaya Art Museum, JPN
- Stanford University, USA
- E. Souto De Moura, PRT
- Tsinghua University, CHN
- Turenscape, CHN
- UNESCO, ITA
- Universidad Católica del Norte, CHL
- Universidad Ibero Americana, MEX
- University of Arkansas, USA
- University of Hong Kong, HKG
- University of Houston, USA
- University of North Carolina, USA
- University of the Philippines, PHL
- University of Sydney, AUS
- Ben Vautier, FRA
- herman de vries, NLD
- Lawrence Weiner, USA
- White arkitekter, SWE
- WOHA, SGP
- Written Art Foundation, DEU
- WY-TO Architects, SGP
- Xu Bing, CHN
- Kris Yao, Artech, TWN
- And many others

Rachele from the ECC-Italy with the architect Daniel Libeskind.



SPONSORS & PARTNERS

We are not a wealthy organisation and so each year becomes a challenge to properly finance all our activities.

Our goal is to stay as transparent and independent as possible and so we choose to finance our activities with the support of the very organisations and people who participate in our projects. In return, they often receive financial support from numerous cultural and governmental institutions, companies, non-governmental organisations, as well as from private sponsors.

Over the years we have established long-term partnerships with other prominent cultural institutions and organisations. In case you would like to support us, please feel free to contact us. We would love to cooperate with you.

OUR APPROACH

Because of our social responsibility, we wish to establish a democratic, dynamic and creative platform. Being aware that globalisation cannot be stopped, our aim is to cherish our differences and at the same time strengthen our intellectual and cultural commons.

We believe in equality, a commitment to others, a sincere caring and that every individual person should try to better understand, tolerate, respect and appreciate other cultural values - as long as these cultural values respect the freedom, the dignity and rights of every single living being.

To achieve a sustainable Europe, a peaceful sustainable world, the intellectual, environmental, social and cultural objectives have to be re-balanced with integrity, against our financial and economic interests.

Horizontal relationships, an open, honest and as sincere as possible visual and verbal communication, education, creative and critical thinking, fostered by the arts and all other cultural activities, also play an important role if people are to regain trust in Europe, to gain trust in their own world.



(Meaning)

A work by Lawrence Weiner.

EXHIBITIONS

Since hundreds of years, Venice has been a fantastic seat for European culture, as well as a place of extensive cultural exchange. Europe and the way it is seen within and outside its borders allowed the European Cultural Centre-Italy to try and understand the European society and the mechanisms of connecting people by organising various cultural events such as exhibitions, here in Venice. The exhibitions are organised every year during six months.

The ECC-Italy in Venice mainly creates extensive non-profit international Art, Architecture and Design exhibitions, taking place in our two Palazzos and in two Venetian public gardens. We present next to some of the world's best known artists, designers and architects, also several young and upcoming professionals, in dialogue with universities and research centres. In addition we organise with various governments their National Pavilions at the Venice Biennale and solo presentations of well known artists and architects.

Our exhibitions attract a large audience of professionals and non-professionals alike from around the world, by being always free entry for everybody, these exhibitions are every year seen by over 600.000 visitors.





SYMPOSIUMS

We understand that in order to bring people together, organising exhibitions might not be enough.

To stimulate direct communication between artists, designers, architects, professionals and all others who might be interested, the European Cultural Centre organises lectures, public debates and symposiums for various fields of thought and subjects. Until now, more than ten international symposiums in Venice have been realised.

In case you are interested in one of our symposiums, or would like to co-organise one yourself, please speak with us, we are sure that we are interested to discuss all options with you.

PUBLICATIONS

The ECC publishes articles, exhibition catalogues, books, limited editions and videos.

Our publications aim to highlight our exhibitions, symposiums, projects as well as individuals through informative theoretical texts, understandable interviews and photographic documentations.

To present different thoughts in regards to the topics TIME – SPACE – EXISTENCE we also create video interviews with artists and architects from very different cultures.

With our publications we give hundreds of thousands of people an insight into the life, work and ideas of professionals such as: Daniel Libeskind, Yoko Ono, Richard Meier, Odile Decq, Lawrence Weiner, Fumihiko Maki, Arata Isozaki, Denise Scott Brown, Peter Eisenman, Joseph Kosuth, Ricardo Bofill, Marina Abramovic, Kengo Kuma and others.



ART PROJECTS & EDITIONS

Our Art Projects are projects documented as Personal Structures Limited Edition artists' books. Each project centralises one artist and emphasises his or her work. Since 2010, we have published our Art Projects with Lawrence Weiner, Hermann Nitsch, Roman Opalka, On Kawara, Arnulf Rainer, Lee Ufan, Ben Vautier, herman de vries, Yoko Ono, Otto Piene, Heinz Mack and Nobuyoshi Araki.

In order to support our organisation, several artists created Limited Editions Prints with us. In addition, several artists also donated original artworks to our Organisation. In order to co-finance our cultural activities, we sell these artworks through the European Cultural Centre Collection.



A work by Rene Rietmeyer.

THE ECC COLLECTION

The ECC Contemporary Art Collection contains artworks donated to the Collection by many established and younger artists.

The collection includes paintings, sculptures, drawings, photography and limited edition prints from artists, such as; Joseph Kosuth, Yoko Ono, Rene Rietmeyer, Hermann Nitsch, Nobuyoshi Araki, Sarah Gold, Arnulf Rainer, Takashi Suzuki and many others.

To support the financing of its cultural projects, the ECC sometimes sells artworks from its Collection.





Lucia from the ECC-Italy with the French architect Odile Decq.

THE ECC AWARDS

Every year, the European Cultural Centre awards an Artist, Designer, Architect or educational Institution for their work concept and execution thereof.

In the past this Award has been given to Arata Isozaki (Architecture 2012), Arnulf Rainer (Art 2013), University of Houston (Architecture 2014), Yoko Ono (Art 2015), Karim Rashid (Design 2016), Denise Scott Brown (Architecture 2016), Oki Sato (Design 2017) Joseph Kosuth (Art 2017), Ying Gao (Design 2018), North Carolina State University (Architecture 2018) and Odile Decq (Architecture 2018).



The architect Curt Fentress explaining new projects at the ECC Academy.

THE ECC ACADEMY

The ECC Academy was created as part of the European Cultural Centre. The goal of the ECC Academy is to educate and advance careers in Art, Architecture, Design and other creative industries.

Our short courses provide exclusive insights into these fields while also teaching practical skills in the organisation of international exhibitions, symposiums and conferences, in a short period of time.

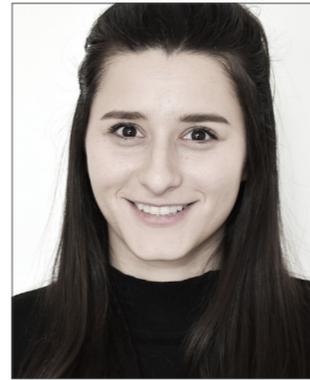
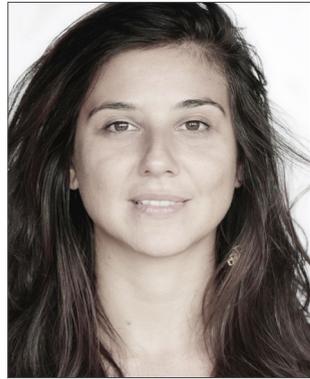
Each course is composed of lectures, workshops and guided visits to studios, museums as well as to the Venice Biennale.

Our faculty includes artists, designers, curators, gallerists, architects and scholars that help one build the necessary skills to navigate through these opaque and very competitive industries.



ECC FUTURE

The European Cultural Centre is a continuously growing organisation, organising and supporting cultural activities. Having started many years ago in Venice, it is our goal to cooperate with other people, foundations and institutions from all over the world. Therefore, we have started cultural franchises in New York, Amsterdam, Moscow and Tokyo. Our vision is to establish more ECC Satellites in many more cities worldwide.



OUR TEAM

Responsible for the ECC - Italy is an international team of, at the moment, more than 70 mainly young and sincere people, working in the Venice office and the exhibition venues.

CONTACT

We hope to have the opportunity to work with you and start a conversation. We look forward to hearing from you. We are open to all suggestions, no matter how unusual they may seem.

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Bianca and Elena from the ECC-Italy at Palazzo Mora in Venice.



