

23 December 2007

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The sixth edition of the **Florence Biennale of Contemporary Art** will take place at the historic Fortezza da Basso from 1st - 9th December, 2007. 840 artists coming from 76 countries will be exhibiting more than 2,500 artworks and there will be an extraordinary meeting of cultures, languages and diverse artistic styles. The actress **Anne Archer**, Ambassador of the association **Artists for Human Rights** is coming to Florence to award the Biennale for its support of the United Nations program "Dialogue between civilizations", to which the Biennale has officially adhered since 2001.

The Biennale will also see the presence of important artists: **Gilbert & George** will receive the "**Lorenzo il Magnifico**" prize for their career. In the 2005 edition, it was conferred to Christo and Jeanne-Claude and to Richard Anuszkiewicz and in 2003 to David Hockney. On the wave of the exceptional success dedicated to their work at the Tate Gallery in London, Gilbert & George will come to Florence together with **Tim Marlow**, Exhibitions Director of the White Cube Gallery London, founder of the Tate Magazine, and currently a collaborator on Channel Five, writing for important British newspapers such as The Times, The Guardian, The Independent on Sunday, Art Monthly, etc.

The art and life of **Frida Kalho** and of **Tina Modotti** will be presented in two conferences given by **Gregorio Luke**, past Director of the MOLAA of Long Beach and member of the International Jury of the Biennale.

Ars Electronica Center from Linz, Austria is a museum dedicated to digital art. They organize the Prix Ars Electronica, the Ars Electronica Festival and the Ars Electronica Futurelab. Ars Electronica will have a 300m2 digital art and interactive video space at the Biennale where they will be inviting the visitors to enter into a virtual reality.

Calendar of Events

Saturday 1 December

11.30 Opening Ceremony

5pm Concert, written and conducted by Carol Worthey

Sunday 2 December

11.30 Lecture "Abstraction in painting and drawing" - by Paul Lorenz

4pm Performance by artist Nam-Hong

5pm Presentation of the Ars Electronica Center, Linz, by Maurizio Vanni and Gerfried Stocker

Monday 3 December

3pm Master Class "Investing in Art" - presented by Sergei Skaterchikov, from Hermitage Magazine and "Skate's"

5pm Conference on Tina Modotti given by Gregorio Luke

Tuesday 4 December

3pm Film "The World of Gilbert & George"

5pm Gilbert & George receive the "Lorenzo il Magnifico" career award. Tim Marlow, Exhibitions Director of the White Cube Gallery, London, will also be present.

Wednesday 5 December

3.30pm Conference "Let there be the light", by David Rubin

5pm Presentation of installation art work, by artist Les Christensen at St James Church, via Rucellai 9.

Thursday 6 December

5pm Film "The World of Gilbert & George"

Friday 7 December

11.30 Conference "Abstraction in sculpture", by Paul Lorenz

5pm Concert

6pm Performance by artist Nam-Hong

Saturday 8 December

11.30 Lecture on Frida Kalho, by Gregorio Luke

3.30pm Presentation "Artists for human rights Association" by Anne Archer

5pm Presentation "Passion for Life", by Antoine Gaber

9pm Gala Dinner

Sunday 9 December

3.30pm Award Ceremony

For further information: www.florencebiennale.org

Press Office:

Studio Abba, Corso Italia, 6 - 50123 Firenze Italy

tel./fax +39 055292082

press@florencebiennale.org