

A new exhibition space in Venice

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FONDACO DELL'ARTE - To promote modern and contemporary art projects and encourage cultural development, Arte Communications manages and rents the exhibition space at Fondaco dell'Arte, a historical Venetian building founded between the sixteenth and the seventeenth century. Venice, historically linked to the maritime trade, inherited from Arabian culture the architectural model of the so-called "fondaco", importing it to the Venetian lagoon to provide storage spaces for merchants. The unique structure with large open spaces reveals its intended uses.

The Fondaco dell'Arte, covering an area of 360 sqm, was restored in a conservative approach during 2004 and 2005. The refurbishment has left unsullied the charming brick facade as well as the spacious interior without partition walls. The skylights and the marble columns surrounding the ancient wooden beams are some of its distinctive characteristics. Thanks to its architectural structure and to its location overlooking the Grand Canal, the Fondaco dell'Arte presents considerable possibilities of artistic intervention, thus meeting any specific request. The Fondaco dell'Arte, located in San Marco 3415 (calle dei Garzoni) close to Palazzo Grassi, in front of the San Tomà boat station, also offers the possibility of using Venice, internationally recognised for its historic and cultural heritage, as a display for promoting artistic events at an international level.

Through its experience Arte Communications has developed consolidated relationships with major institutions, museums, foundations, galleries, thus facilitating contacts at an international level. Since 1995 Arte Communications has been collaborating with the Venice Biennale for the organisation of national and collateral participations of Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Iran, Latvia, Jamaica, Estonia, Macedonia, Ukraine, Georgia, Macao, Portugal and Morocco.

Arte Communications organises in Venice Lido the yearly event "OPEN International Exhibition of Sculptures and Installations" in parallel to the Venice Cinema Festival. Conceived in 1998 by its President, Paolo De Grandis, in addition to the diversity of countries represented, in the past years OPEN has included major works by prestigious artists, such as Yoko Ono, Marisa Merz, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Emilio Vedova, Enzo Cucchi, Richard Long, Niki de Saint-Phalle, Bernard Venet, Mimmo Rotella, Sandro Chia, Luigi Ontani, Magdalena Abakanowicz, Cesar, Arman, Beverly Pepper, Erik Dietman, Jean-Pierre Raynaud, Carl Andre, Keith Haring, Fabrizio Plessi, Julian Schnabel, J. Seward Johnson, Jr., Dennis Hopper, Feng Mengbo, Max Neuhaus, Chen Zhen, Ju Ming, Lee Ufan, Wang Guangyi and Yue Minjun.

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