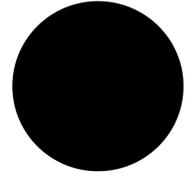
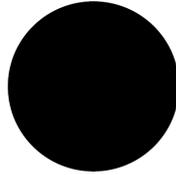


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Press release | 28 May 2019

Artissima 2019

The first new features of the 26th edition

Ilaria Bonacossa confirmed as director until 2021

ARTISSIMA - International Fair of Contemporary Art **Oval, Torino**

31 October 2019 | Press presentation, preview, opening
1-2-3 November 2019 | Open to the public

Artissima, the International Fair of Contemporary Art of Torino, announces the first new developments for the **twenty-sixth edition**. The upcoming appointment with the only fair in Italy exclusively focused on contemporary art will take place, as usual, in the large, luminous spaces of the **Oval in Torino**, from Thursday 31 October (preview) to Sunday 3 November.

For the third consecutive year, Artissima is directed by **Ilaria Bonacossa**. Due to the excellent results achieved, the board of directors of Fondazione Torino Musei has **confirmed her appointment as director of the fair in Torino** for the next two years (until 2021).

In 2019 the fair in Torino moves forward with its pioneering approach, selecting the dynamic of **desire/censorship** as a versatile theme around which to organize its activities. The objective is to stimulate timely and heterogeneous reflections on contemporary ambitions and utopias; on the impulses that shape our times, the perspectives and narratives that cross them; on the complex relationship that exists in contemporary society between images and their control.

“Desire – Ilaria Bonacossa explains – springs from the relationship between the body and society, between experienced reality and an imagined, coveted existence. In history, works of art have conveyed images capable of emancipating us from things conventionally seen as taboo, thanks to the desire to break rules, to dissolve the boundaries between normal and exceptional. The borderline between permitted and prohibited content is at the centre of a very timely debate in which art itself is the object of censorship. In the digital world and the main social networks preventive, often algorithmic control increasingly hampers the spread and promotion of our artistic-cultural heritage. In such a context, desire remains a moment of rupture, a ‘ligne de fuite’, as Deleuze and Guattari posited in A Thousand Plateaux: a disruptive energy that manages to infiltrate the cracks in the system, to open up unexpected lateral viewpoints capable of showing the open spaces beyond the limits of conventions. And contemporary art is still a space of true, physical encounter between people and their aspirations.”

THE NEW FEATURES

The **first new features** of Artissima in 2019 include the arrival of **new members of the selection committee for galleries, updated teams of international curators and directors for the curated sections**, and the **new graphic image** that will grant recognition to this edition of the fair.

THE COMMITTEES

The **selection committee for the galleries** participating in the *Main Section, New Entries, Dialogue* and *Art Spaces & Editions* updates its team of international gallerists, composed of Isabella Bortolozzi and Gregor Podnar (Berlin), Paola Capata of Monitor (Roma/Lisbon), and Alessandro Pasotti of P420 (Bologna), along with **two new members: Raffaella Cortese** (Milano) and **Claudia Altman Siegel** (San Francisco). Confirmation of **Lucrezia Calabrò Visconti** as the consultant for the New Entries section, set aside for emerging galleries.

The selection committees of the curated sections have been updated as follows:

Back to the Future

Lorenzo Giusti (coordinator), director of GAMEC Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Bergamo;

Cristiano Raimondi, independent curator, curator and artistic director, Società delle Api;

Nicolas Trembley, independent curator and curator of the SYZ Collection, Paris and Geneva.

Back to the Future will concentrate this year on museum-quality exhibitions on the great pioneers of contemporary art, with works made from the 1960s to the 1990s. For the first time, this section is open to the estates of artists.

Present Future

Iliaria Gianni (coordinator), independent curator, Roma;

Juan Canela, independent curator and art critic, Barcelona;

Émilie Villez, director of KADIST, Paris.

Present Future, reserved for young emerging artists (preferably under 40), as well as galleries, is also open to experimental art spaces starting this year.

Disegni

João Mourão and **Luís Silva**, directors of Kunsthalle Lissabon, Lisbon.

Disegni is the section of the fair launched in 2017 as a tribute to the artistic practice of drawing. An experimental project inside a fair on the contemporary arts, both for its mode of presentation and its curatorial vision.

THE NEW GRAPHIC DESIGN

The coordinated image for 2019 has been assigned for the second year to the Torino-based graphic design studio FIONDA.

In line with this edition's theme, the graphic design for this year features a sort of black visual diaphragm perforated by six circles that offer glimpses of a second photographic level. *"We have selected a black, literal, symbolic mask through which one perceives images but never in a clearly legible way, capturing the gaze at first glance. They are famous images reproduced as enlarged portions – says Roberto Maria Clemente, director of FIONDA. – But we do not see only this: in each image one of the holes reveals a written message. These are stolen phrases, without indication of author and context, that suggest other interpretations of the image in a semantic drift that alternates common meanings with other prohibited, unspeakable things."*



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The organization of Artissima is coordinated by **Artissima srl**, the company of **Fondazione Torino Musei** founded in 2008 to oversee the artistic and commercial relations of the fair. The Artissima trademark belongs to **Regione Piemonte, Città Metropolitana di Torino** and **Città di Torino**. The 26th edition of Artissima is being held with the support of the three brand-owning authorities, jointly with **Fondazione per l'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea CRT, Compagnia di San Paolo** and **Camera di commercio di Torino**.

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