

VENICE BY NUMBERS

Highlights of the 55th Venice Biennale

The Venice Biennale offers a global sampling of contemporary art, displayed in national pavilions and exhibitions across the city every two years. Since its inception in 1895, an increasing number of countries have taken part. The British Pavilion was inaugurated in 1909, and 2013 sees new countries participating including Kuwait and Côte d'Ivoire. Many national pavilions are located in one of the two official biennale sites – the Giardini at the eastern tip of the city, and the Arsenale, former home of Venice's ship-building industry – while others take over palaces and churches.

1. The Encyclopaedic Palace

Main international exhibition across both sites, curated by Massimiliano Gioni and based on the idea of an imaginary museum designed to house the world's knowledge. Includes work by Cindy Sherman, Steve McQueen, Sarah Lucas, Albert Oehlen and others.

2. National pavilions in the Giardini

Twenty-nine pavilions, including the British one, are housed in Venice's largest park. Highlights this year are Mark Manders (Netherlands), Sarah Sze (America), Simryn Gill (Australia), Gilad Ratman (Israel) and the French-German pavilion swap.

3. National pavilions in the Arsenale

Further national pavilions are located in the Arsenale, including first-timers The Holy See and Côte d'Ivoire. Other pavilions include Turkey (Ali Kazma) and Kosovo (Petrit Halilaj).

National pavilions across Venice

4. Portugal

Joana Vasconcelos's work reflects the intersection of Portuguese geography and Venetian iconography. *Floating pavilion, moored in front of the Giardini, sailing around the lagoon at regular intervals daily.* www.vasconcelostrafariapraia.com

5. Central Asia

Group show investigating the social and political complexity of Central Asia through the 19th-century poetry of Abay Qunanbaiuly (Bosnia Herzegovina and Estonia pavilions are also at the same location.) *Palazzo Malipiero, San Marco* www.cap2013.net

6. Croatia

Kata Mijatovic presents an interactive archive of dreams (also online). *Sala Tiziano, Opera don Orione Artigianelli, Fondamenta delle Zattere ai Gesuati, Dorsoduro* www.arhivsnova.hr

7. Slovenia

Jasmina Cibic's immersive installation challenges the notion of 'nationhood'. *Galleria A+A, San Marco* <http://slovenianpavilion.net/en/>

8. Kuwait

Two sculptures by Sami Mohammad plus new work by other Kuwaiti artists. *Palazzo Michiel dal Brusà, Strada Nova, Cannaregio* www.artkuwait.org

9. Paraguay

Four Paraguayan artists explore isolation and conflict in their own nation. *Palazzo Carminati, Santa Croce* www.bienaldevencia-paraguay.com

10. Iceland

Katrin Sigurðardóttir manipulates notions of scale and interior space. *Lavanderia, Palazzo Zenobio, Dorsoduro* www.icelandicpavilion.is

11. Iraq

Ikon Gallery director Jonathan Watkins curates this group show of work by 11 Iraqi artists. *Ca' Dandolo, San Polo* www.theiraqapavilion.com

12. New Zealand

Prominent installation artist Bill Culbert presents dramatic light-based works. *Istituto Santa Maria della Pietà, Castello* www.nzatvenice.com

Highlights of wider collateral events

13. Scotland + Venice

Organised by The Common Guild, Glasgow, this show features work by Corin Sworn, Duncan Campbell and Hayley Tompkins. *Palazzo Pisani, Calle de le Erbe (off Campo Santa Marina), Cannaregio* www.scotlandandvenice.com

14. Bedwyr Williams: The Starry Messenger

Exhibition inspired by Galileo Galilei, telescopes and astronomy. *Ludoteca Santa Maria Ausiliatrice, Castello* www.walesvenicebiennale.org.uk

15. Glasstress: White Light/White Heat

Glasstress, in collaboration with the Wallace Collection, London, invites artists including Tracey Emin and Cornelia Parker to work with glass. *Palazzo Cavalli-Franchetti, Campo Santo Stefano, San Marco* www.glasstress.org

16. Anthony Caro: Sculptures

The first major Italian retrospective of one of Britain's greatest living sculptors. *Museo Correr, San Marco* www.correr.visitmuve.it/en

17. Ai Weiwei: Disposition

Straight (2008–12) at Zuccca and a new work at the church of Sant'Antonin. *Zuccca Project Space, Zitelle Complex, Giudecca; Sant'Antonin, Castello* www.zucccagallery.com

18. Marc Quinn

The Cini Foundation presents a major show of 50 works by the British artist. *The Giorgio Cini Foundation, San Giorgio Maggiore*, www.cini.it/en

19. A Remote Whisper

Pedro Cabrita Reis creates a new work that covers the palace walls and floor. *Palazzo Falier, San Marco* www.palazzofalier.pedrocabritareis.com

20. Culture.Mind.Becoming

Chinese artists consider their native culture post-globalisation. *Palazzo Mora, Strada Nova, and Palazzo Marcello, San Marco* www.globalartcenter.org

21. This Is Not A Taiwan Pavilion

Three projects grapple with cultural identity and international politics. *Palazzo delle Prigioni, San Marco* www.venicebiennaletaiwan.org

22. Future Generation Art Prize

Twenty-one young artists including overall winner Lynette Yiadom-Boakye (nominated for this year's Turner Prize). *Palazzo Contarini Polignac, Dorsoduro* www.futuregenerationartprize.org

23. Love Me, Love Me Not

Seventeen artists from Azerbaijan, Iran, Turkey, Russia and Georgia respond to the geopolitics of Azerbaijan. *Tesa 111, Arsenale Nord, Castello* www.loveme-lovemenot.com

24. Shirazeh Houshiary: Breath

Site-specific video installation. *La Torre di Porta Nuova, Arsenale, Castello*, www.lissongallery.com

Venice Biennale Giardini–Arsenale and across Venice, 1 June – 24 November (Giardini–Arsenale closed on Mondays) www.labiennale.org

To download this map as a PDF and for further Venice coverage see www.artfund.org/deller