

Collateral Event of the
55th International Art Exhibition
La Biennale di Venezia



Curated by Adriano Berengo and James Putnam

GLASSTRESS

White Light | White Heat

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A side event of the
55th International Art Exhibition – the Venice Biennale

June 1st – November 24th 2013

Palazzo Cavalli – Franchetti /
Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti
(Venetian Institute of Sciences, Letters and Arts)
Campo S. Stefano, 2847 Venice – Waterbus stop: Accademia

Berengo Centre for Contemporary Art and Glass
Campiello della Pescheria – Murano

Scuola Grande of the Confraternity of San Teodoro
San Marco, 4810 Venice – Waterbus stop: Rialto

Press day in the three venues on
Thursday, May 30th, from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm

ual: university
of the arts
london
london college
of fashion



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www.glasstress.org

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International Artists + Glass = GLASSTRESS

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GLASSTRESS, the great side event of the 55th International Art Exhibition – the Venice Biennale, now in its third edition, continues to involve artists from all over the world and to captivate the public with extraordinary glass artworks.

Glasstress. White Light / White Heat, curated by Adriano Berengo and James Putnam, opens to the public from June 1st to November 24th 2013 in three prestigious locations and sees the presence of the artists dealing with light and heat, intrinsic aspects of glass and its working.

His great passion for contemporary art and glass led Berengo to create Glasstress, a successful event which has brought together 65 internationally renowned artists to work in its furnace with enthusiasm and team spirit. Many of them have been confronted for the first time with this bright and ductile material and are giving birth to works of high artistic and communicative value. The success met by Glasstress started on the occasion of the 2009 edition of the Venice Biennale and brought together more than 200 artists, receiving - as a result of significant shows held in Europe - proposals from major museums in other continents such as America and Asia.

The participating artists are:

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AES+F, Alice Anderson, Polly Apfelbaum, Ron Arad, Ayman Baalbaki, Mirosław Balka, Rina Banerjee, Fiona Banner, Pieke Bergmans, Boudicca, Pedro Cabrita Reis, Loris Cecchini, Hussein Chalayan, Mat Chivers, Oliver Clegg, Mat Collishaw, Tracey Emin, Jan Fabre, Paul Fryer, Francesco Gennari, Recycle Group, Cai Guo-Qiang, Dmitri Gutov, Mona Hatoum, Stuart Haygarth, Charlotte Hodes, Shirazeh Houshiary, Shih Chieh Huang, John Isaacs, Michael Joo, Ilya&Emilia Kabakov, Kiki&Joost, Marta Klonowska, Joseph Kosuth, Hew Locke, Delphine Lucielle, Alastair Mackie, Jason Martin, Kris Martin, Oksana Mas, Whitney McVeigh, Aldo Mondino, Lucy Orta, Tony Oursler, Zak Ové, Mimmo Paladino, Cornelia Parker, Javier Pérez, Jaume Plensa, Karim Rashid, Ursula von Rydingsvard, Thomas Schutte, Joyce Scott, Conrad Shawcross, Sudarshan Shetty, Meekyoung Shin, Helen Storey, Tim Noble & Sue Webster, Zak Timan, Gavin Turk, Koen Vanmechelen, Anneliese Varaldiev, Joana Vasconcelos, and Zhan Wang.

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Glasstress is accompanied by special projects and the performance of high artistic level:

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Ron Arad participates with his work *Last Train*, to which an entire room has been dedicated. It represents a mechanical arm with a hand wearing a ring with a large diamond moving together to create drawings, engraved on sheets of glass. The project relies on the collaboration of international artists, involved personally by Ron Arad, who, working in streaming on their I-PAD connected to the machinery, will reproduce their own drawings on the panes of glass.

The singer and composer **Cathy Battistessa**, along with **Kay Nakayama** and **Elika Aka**, has put in place a sound project of music tracks recorded directly from Adriano Berengo's furnace, which has been a source of inspiration for the creation of a soundtrack that will be presented during the opening ceremony to be held on May 31st and reproduced in the rooms of Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti and in Murano.

"Untitled Human Mirror Project" is a humanitarian project realized in collaboration with fashion designer **Marina Spadafora** and director **Jordan Stone**. It is a video made in Ethiopia, which will be screened in endless loop in the premises of Palazzo Cavalli Franchetti and will be visible during the course of the exhibition. The project involved a local tribe, which has neither mirrors nor clear water that can reflect their image. Consequently, when they have to put on make-up they sit down opposite one another and, with the help of facial expressions, are able to understand the result of their work. The inspiration of the video was drawn from the concept of revisiting the mirror and, consequently, of glass.

Alice Anderson will be present with a performance at the press day to be held on May 30th. The artist will perform in a room with a group of 15 people who, with different and asynchronous gestures, will create sounds through spools of copper wire and transparent crystal bars. At the end of the performance the bars will be put on display upon a shelf for the entire duration of the exhibition.

Cai Guo-Qiang, in his performance scheduled for May 31st, during the opening, will involve seven performers dressed in close-fitting catsuits and jackets equipped with several pockets containing elements that simulate explosive materials (e.g. electrical wires, bombs, etc.), who will move among the public.

Adriano Berengo says about the project: *"I realized that Glasstress has reached an important goal when I saw three artists of different nationalities talk to each other in our furnace of Murano. It was the first time they met and exchanged their impressions on glass and its working techniques as well as on the experiments they were conducting. Their dialogue substantially changed each other's plans. Now, this is what Glasstress is: a meeting place for artists from all over the world who are confronted with glass"*.

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Glass is born from the creative and destructive force of fire, which transforms the basic chemical elements into a mouldable fluid, resulting in a solid substance with a chaotic molecular structure, which offers to light an unlimited variety of surfaces, colours, transparencies and reflections that have intrigued the artists involved and contributed significantly to the creation of unique works.

The exhibition takes place in **three locations**, namely: in addition to the now familiar venues of **Palazzo Cavalli – Franchetti / Istituto Veneto di Scienze Lettere ed Arti - Venetian Institute of Sciences, Letters and Arts** (Campo S. Stefano) and the **Berengo Centre for Contemporary Art and Glass** (Murano), this year a third institution has joined: the **Scuola Grande of the Confraternity of San Teodoro** (San Marco).

The exhibition is accompanied by a significant book in English with texts by Adriano Berengo, James Putnam, and Frances Corner.

Glasstress 2013 is promoted by LCF-London College of Fashion, with the support of Venice Projects, Berengo Studio 1989, Wallace Collection, Steinmetz Diamonds, and Valmont.

In the **two previous editions** of the International Art Exhibition – the Venice Biennale, **Glasstress** involved more than **150 artists**, including:

Josef Albers, Arman, Jean Arp, Barbara Bloom, Monica Bonvicini, Louise Bourgeois, Daniel Buren, Lawrence Carroll, Cèsar, Tony Cragg, Jan Fabre, Lucio Fontana, Kendell Geers, Dan Graham, Zaha Hadid, Richard Hamilton, Zhang Huan, Joseph Kosuth, Jannis Kounellis, Oleg Kulik, Vik Muniz, Orlan, Jean Michel Othoniel, Luca Pancrazzi, Giuseppe Penone, Anton Pevsner, Robert Rauschenberg, Man Ray, Kiki Smith, Patricia Urquiola, Fred Wilson, Erwin Wurm, and Chen Zhen.

Berengo Studio

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The Berengo Studio represents one of the most innovative experiences in the use of glass to express the artistic expectations of today's world. Founded in 1989 by Adriano Berengo, it aims at bringing contemporary international artists closer to the world of glass so that, in his own furnace in collaboration with master glassmakers, they can translate their artistic research into the three-dimensional language of glass paste.

The Berengo Studio is a meeting place for young artists making their debut, primarily established or emerging authors, whose works are mostly exhibited in major museums and private collections.

The artists who work with the Berengo Studio usually use a variety of expressive materials other than glass, that's why in their approach to this new medium they always contribute an original and freer interpretation of the possibilities offered by this extraordinary material.

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Exhibition Details

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Title: GLASSTRESS. White Light / White Heat

Curators: Adriano Berengo and James Putnam

Three Venues:

**Palazzo Cavalli-Franchetti / Istituto Veneto di Scienze,
Lettere ed Arti Campo S. Stefano, 2847
Waterbus stop: Accademia**

**Berengo Centre for Contemporary Art and Glass
Campiello della Pescheria, Murano**

**Scuola Grande of the Confraternity of San Teodoro
San Marco, 4810 | Waterbus stop: Rialto**

Period: June 1st – November 24th 2013

Opening Ceremony by Invitation: Friday, May 31st at 6:00pm,

Palazzo Cavalli – Franchetti, Venice

At 9:00 pm – Berengo Centre, Murano

Catalogue with texts by Adriano Berengo,
James Putnam and Frances Corner

Opening hours: Every day from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
(hours valid for all three locations)

Admittance: Single combined ticket for all three venues:
full price 10 Euros – reduced 8 Euros for groups,
senior citizens over 65 and children

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Text and images available for download at: www.irmabianchi.it



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Creators of the world's glass elements

VALMONT

