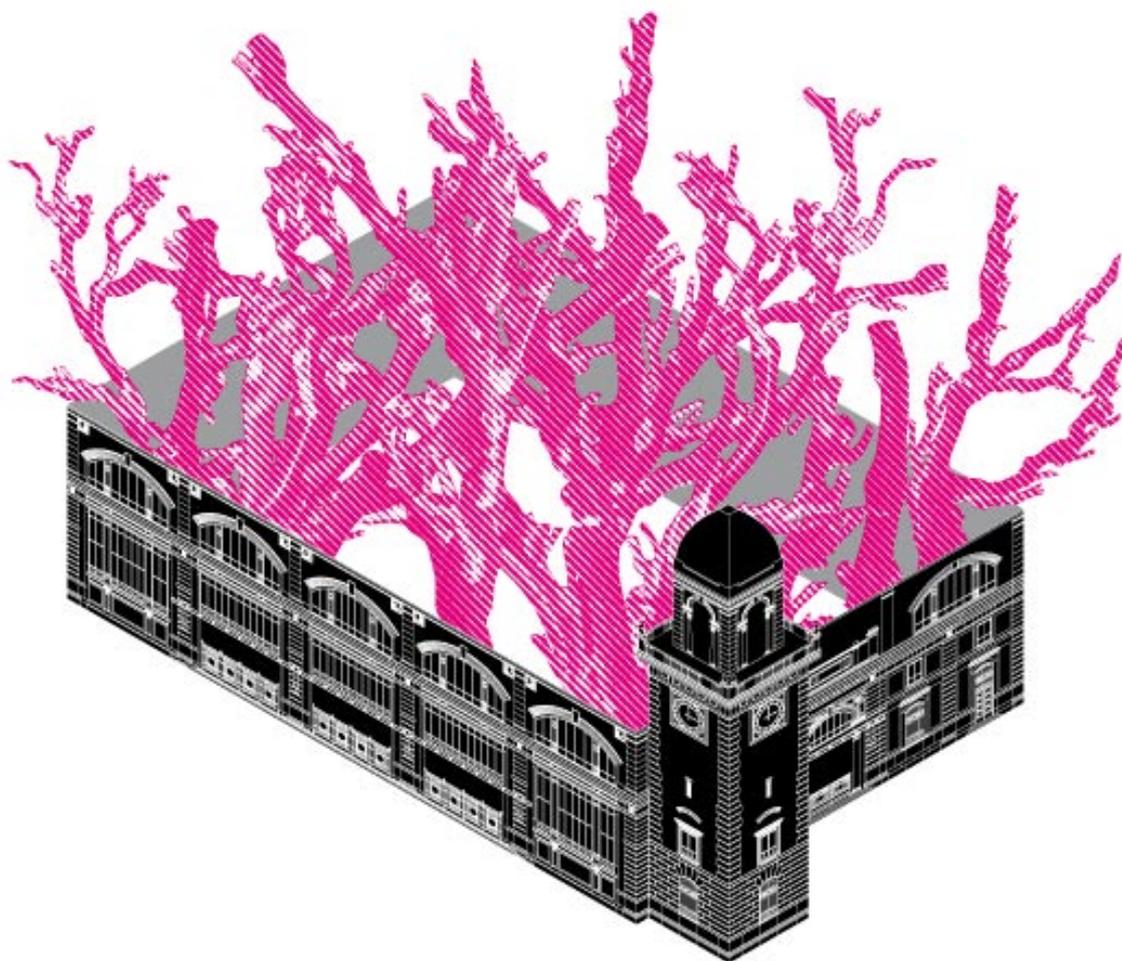




comune di trieste  
assessorato alla cultura



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# IL FUOCO DELLA NATURA

THE FLASH  
OF NATURE

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12.02.2012 — 09.04.2012  
salone degli incanti  
ex pescheria  
trieste

opening  
11.02.2012  
ore 18'00

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## ARTISTS AND LENDERS

**Ansel Adams** (USA), **Allora & Calzadilla** (USA / Cuba), **Darren Almond** (UK), **Matteo Attruia** (Italy), **Carlo Bach** (Italy), **Olivo Barbieri** (Italy), **Bill Beckley** (USA), **Gianni Berengo Gardin** (Italy), **Primož Bizjak** (Slovenia), **Gabriele Bonato** (Italy), **Eelco Brand** (The Netherlands), **Piergiorgio Branzi** (Italy), **Monika Bulaj** (Poland), **Luca Campigotto** (Italy), **Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons** (Cuba), **Elio Ciol** (Italy), **Mat Collishaw** (UK), **Anton Corbijn** (The Netherlands), **Giacomo Costa** (Italy), **Massimo Crivellari** (Italy), **Amy Cutler** (USA), **Arnold Mario Dall'O** (Italy), **Riccarda De Eccher** (Italy), **Jim Dine** (USA), **Fulvio Eccardi** (Italy / Mexico), **Gilad Efrat** (Israel), **Elger Esser** (Germany), **Manuel Fanni Canelles** (Italy), **Paul Ferman** (Australia), **Giorgia Fiorio** (Italy), **Franco Fontana** (Italy), **Jernej Forbici** (Slovenia), **Franko B** (Italy / UK), **Daniel & Geo Fuchs** (Germany), **Mario Giacomelli** (Italy), **Ugo Giletta** (Italy), **Antonio Girbés** (Spain), **Robert Gligorov** (Republic of Macedonia), **Nan Goldin** (USA), **Paolo Grassino** (Italy), **Stefano Graziani** (Italy), **Renato Grome** (UK / Australia), **Jonathan Guaitamacchi** (Italy), **Albano Guatti** (Italy), **Henrik Håkansson** (Sweden), **Kenro Izu** (Japan), **Alfredo Jaar** (Chile), **Oleg Kulik** (Russia), **Irene Kung** (Germany), **Christiane Löhr** (Germany), **Robert Longo** (USA), **Urs Lüthi** (Switzerland), **Angel Marcos** (Spain), **Robert Mapplethorpe** (USA), **Francesca Martinelli** (Italy), **Masbedo** (Italy), **Hiroyuki Masuyama** (Japan), **Ana Mendieta** (Cuba), **Michael Najjar** (Germany), **Julian Opie** (UK), **Franco Passalacqua** (Italy), **Cristiano Pintaldi** (Italy), **Alfredo Pirri** (Italy), **Marc Quinn** (UK), **Francesco Radino** (Italy), **Sergio Ragalzi** (Italy), **Robert Rauschenberg** (USA), **Antonio Riello** (Italy), **Julian Rosefeldt** (Germany), **James Rosenquist** (USA), **Ed Ruscha** (USA), **Sergio Scabar** (Italy), **Stefano Scheda** (Italy), **Luigi Serafini** (Italy), **Andres Serrano** (USA), **Mario Sillani Djerrahian** (Italy), **Janez Vlachy** (Slovenia), **Santiago Ydáñez** (Spain), **Andrew Zuckerman** (USA).

**Galleria Alfonso Artiaco**, Napoli — **Galleria Alessandra Bonomo**, Roma — **Galleria Valentina Bonomo**, Roma — **Bugno Art Gallery**, Venezia — **Collezione Ciol**, Casarsa — **Delloro Contemporary Art**, Roma / Berlin — **FaMa Gallery**, Verona — **Forma Galleria**, Milano — **Galleria Goethe**, Bolzano — **Guidi & Schoen Arte Contemporanea**, Genova — **Galleria Il Ponte Contemporanea**, Roma — **Collezione Illy**, Trieste — **Studio La Città**, Verona — **Collezione La Gaia**, Busca (Cuneo) — **LipanjePuntin artecontemporanea**, Trieste — **Galleria Mazzoli**, Modena — **Collezione Micheli**, Milano — **Noire Contemporary Art**, Torino — **Oredaria Arti Contemporanee**, Roma — **Galleria Pack**, Milano — **Studio Trisorio**, Napoli — **Galleria Carla Sozzani**, Milano — **Universal Limited Art Editions**, Bay Shore, New York e collezioni private.



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## PRESS RELEASE

This exhibition features paintings, photographs, sculptures, videos and installations by 82 contemporary artists coming from 18 different countries (Australia, Chile, Cuba, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Italy, Japan, Macedonia, Mexico, The Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and USA).

In essence, through a sequence of sublime images, **THE FLASH OF NATURE**, an exhibition promoted and realized by the Cultural Department of the City Council of Trieste, curated by Marco Puntin and Jonathan Turner, presents present-day symbols of the force and the beauty of Mother Nature, at this time of environmental uncertainty and climate change.

This exhibition looks at the many aspects of nature, both from the perspective of long geographical distances and in magnified close-up. It includes spectacular landscapes from around the globe depicting tropical rainforests in Latin America, the Arctic seas, the Australian bush, the Californian desert, and mountain ranges from the Dolomites and the Himalayas to Mount Fuji.

Through the eyes of artists, we see animals, plants and the natural world in all its splendor, beauty, power and perfection. The choice of the theme was determined by the conviction that Nature as a subject represents

the ideal mediation between the art world and the viewing public. Realistic imagery produced by contemporary artists provides an instantly recognizable map of the natural world, free from changes in fashion or the technological input of man.

Evolution has its own slow pace, but man's intervention with nature can be sudden, radical, disruptive and sometimes seemingly permanent. But nature can bounce back in surprising ways. So, alongside the aesthetic criteria behind the selection of specific paintings, photographs, installations and videos, in **THE FLASH OF NATURE**, we pose ethical questions directly linked to the works exhibited. We look at how we continue to consume and eradicate endangered species for food, clothing and medicinal purposes. The images of nature are perfect, while the implications of our ability to pollute and destroy are infinite.

Beginning with three iconic black-and-white landscapes by **Ansel Adams**, the exhibition includes the historical presence of such masters of photography as **Robert Mapplethorpe**, **Gianni Berengo Gardin**, **Franco Fontana** and **Mario Giacomelli**. As the show progresses, it is divided into sub-themes, including different sections dedicated to the ocean, winter landscapes, flowers and volcanoes (as represented in a painting by **Cristiano Pintaldi**, a gra-



phic work by **Julian Opie** and a photograph by **Nan Goldin**).

Given the immense size of the ex-Pescheria, the two curators Marco Puntin and Jonathan Turner have taken the decision to focus on presenting large-scale works. The works selected come from important private collections, art galleries and in some cases, directly from the artist's studio.

The exhibition has been installed in an open architectural labyrinth designed by Gian Paolo Vernier and Luigi Semerani from ell(E)gi Architecture, Trieste. The design features three pavilions constructed below the cast-iron girders of the vast space of the former Pescheria (fish markets) in the waterfront of Trieste. One pavilion is dedicated to the theme of animals, including "portraits" created in different techniques: a chimpanzee (**Andrew Zuckerman**), a shark (**Robert Longo**), a horse (**Albano Guatti**), a snake (**Daniel & Geo Fuchs**), a deer (**Santiago Ydáñez**), a chihuahua (**Gabriele Bonato**), a tuna (**Luigi Serafini**), a panda (**Antonio Riello**) and a Wunderkammer of embalmed beasts (**Francesca Martinelli**). Another pavilion is dedicated to the majesty of mountain landscapes: the Dolomites (**Olivo Barbieri, Riccarda De Eccher, Giorgia Fiorio**), a sacred mountain in Tibet (**Monika Bulaj**), a glacier in Chile (**Luca Campigotto**) and peaks in Argentina (**Michael Najjar**). The third pavilion is devoted to film projections by two artistic duos, **Masbedo** and **Allora & Calzadilla**, the

latter who represented America in the national pavilion at the 2011 Venice Biennale. Their works are among the few on show that include the human presence, so this third pavilion is like entering a separate house, where the viewer inside looks through windows to the world outside, at the surrounding nature. Upstairs in the ex-Pescheria, the auditorium will be used to project a series of video works by **Alfredo Jaar** (Chile) and **Ana Mendieta** (Cuba), coming from the prestigious La Gaia Collection in Busca.

**THE FLASH OF NATURE** also features works by the American masters of Pop Art **Robert Rauschenberg**, **James Rosenquist** and **Jim Dine**, British art stars **Mat Collishaw**, **Darren Almond** and **Marc Quinn**, such "wild-cards" as Russian **Oleg Kulik**, Macedonian **Robert Gligorov**, and the Americans **Ed Ruscha**, **Bill Beckley** and **Andres Serrano**, the Dutchman **Anton Corbijn**, and Germans **Elger Esser** and **Julian Rosefeldt**.

These days, while most environmental news is marked by tragedy, several works show nature valiantly fighting back – **Massimo Crivellari**'s photographs of the forest slowly growing back over the venues built for the 1956 Winter Olympics in Cortina, **Stefano Scheda**'s images of wild plants reclaiming an abandoned house, and **Giacomo Costa**'s massive lightbox showing a jungle strangling architectural ruins, previously exhibited in the Italian pavilion at the 2009 Venice Biennale.



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In collaboration with research provided by the Civic Science Museums of Trieste and WWF Trieste (World Wildlife Fund), the exhibition takes a firm

stance on such local and global issues as pollution, endangered species and disappearing habitats.

**IL FUOCO DELLA NATURA / THE FLASH OF NATURE**

12.02.2012 – 09.04.2012  
salone degli incanti – ex pescheria  
riva nazario sauro, 1 trieste

**time**

monday to friday  
11 am - 1 pm / 4 - 8 pm  
saturday, sunday and public holidays  
10 am - 8 pm

**tickets**

adults 6,00 €  
concessions 4,00 €  
free up to 14 years

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