



ASSOCIAZIONE
GENESI

Associazione Genesi
presents

Progetto Genesi. Art and Human Rights 3rd edition

curated by Ilaria Bernardi

Gubbio, Logge dei Tiratori della Lana, March 1–April 7, 2024
Pavia, Horti – Almo Collegio Borromeo, May 4–June 2, 2024
Turin, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, June 20–October 13, 2024
Cesano Maderno, September 27–December 1, 2024

Press conference: Milan, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, February 27, 11 am

Associazione Genesi presents the third edition of *Progetto Genesi. Arte e Diritti Umani*, a major exhibition and educational initiative dedicated to the theme of human rights, conceived and curated by Ilaria Bernardi, in the belief that contemporary art can assume the role of ambassador of human rights. In parallel *Progetto Genesi* offers to transform the traditional format of the exhibition into a fully-fledged traveling museum moving from city to city with its collection, exhibition, and educational activities.

Its first two editions, respectively in 2021–2022 and in 2023, presented the works in the contemporary art collection of the Associazione (**the Collezione Genesi**), made up of artists from around the world and of different generations, who deal with the relevant social and environmental issues of our day and age. Initially, the Collection included 37 opere, to which over the course of 2021–2022 15 new acquisitions were added, presented in 2023 on the occasion of the second edition of the Project.

For the last stop of the second edition, Brescia in November 2023, rather than present the whole Collezione Genesi, only a part was included, using it as an introduction to a theme-based exhibition about Iran, with works loaned by major collectors, and international museums and galleries. **This new exhibition format** was further developed in the following two exhibitions held in November 2023 in Alba, at the Banca d'Alba, in collaboration with the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, and in December 2023 in Geneva, at the Palais des Nations, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Indeed, each of the two exhibitions **involved a small number of works from the Collezione Genesi, in order to include works with various origins (i.e. loaned by artists, museums, galleries, and other collections) and develop an exhibition path dedicated to a specific theme:** in Alba violence against women, and in Geneva the relationship between Italian art and human rights.



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GENESI

The third edition of *Progetto Genesi* marks a further evolution in the theme-based exhibition format developed in Brescia, Alba, and Geneva. It will in fact be characterized by four exhibitions, each of them different, in terms of both the works displayed and the theme dealt with, joined by a common thread: a focus on the condition of women in the world.

The focus on the female condition in the world will be present in each of the four exhibitions via a closer look at a different internationally renowned artist, but one of different provenance and generation, respectively: **Simone Fattal** (Damascus, Syria, 1942), **Shirin Neshat** (Qazvin, Iran, 1957); **Monica Bonvicini** (Venice, Italy, 1965), **Binta Diaw** (Milan, Italy, but of Senegalese origin, 1995). The choice of the four artists does not just derive from the quality of their work; above all it stems from their interest in women's bodies and experiences in different geographical and social contexts. The closer look at these four artists are also a way to approach a major project which the Associazione Genesi is working on and will not be announced until fall 2024.

In the first exhibition, hosted by the Logge dei Tiratori della Lana in Gubbio from March 1 to April 7, 2024, the closer look at Simone Fattal will introduce an exhibition section including the most important works in the Collection dedicated to the theme of the female condition already presented in the first two editions of *Progetto Genesi*. At the same time, the closer look at Simone Fattal will conclude the first exhibition section including the 15 new acquisitions to enter the Collezione Genesi presented here for the first time. The artists of the new acquisitions include: **Diane Arbus (New York, USA, 1923-1971), **Nadira Azzouz** (Mosul, Iraq, 1927 – London, UK, 2020); **Anna Boghiguan** (Cairo, Egypt, 1946); **Yoan Capote** (Pinar del Río, Cuba, 1977); **Binta Diaw** (Milan, Italy, 1995); **Irene Dionisio** (Turin, Italy, 1986); **Petrit Halilaj** (Kostërrc, Skenderaj-Kosovo, 1986); **Shadi Harouni** (Hamedan, Iran, 1985); **Emilio Isgrò** (Barcellona Pozzo di Gotto, Messina, Italy, 1937); **patricia kaersenhout** (Den Helder, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 1966); **Elena Mazzi** (Reggio Emilia, Italy, 1984); **Małgorzata Mirga-Tas** (Zakopane, Poland, 1978); **Francis Offman** (Rwanda, 1987); **Silvia Rosi** (Scandiano, Italy, 1992), **Sebastião Salgado** (Aimorés, Minas Gerais, Brazil, 1944).**

In the second exhibition, at the Horti del Collegio Borromeo in Pavia from May 4 to June 2, 2024, the closer look at Monica Bonvicini will be introduced by a group of works in the Collezione Genesi linked to the theme of the environment and mostly made by women artists.

On the occasion of the **third exhibition, at the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo in Turin from June 20 to October 13, 2024, for the first time ever the Associazione Genesi will commission a work: it will ask Binta Diaw to create a video on woman and migration, created during a residency in Senegal, supported by the Italian Cultural Institute of Dakar. The artwork will be showcased in Turin in the form of a site-specific video installation, realized through the collaboration with the Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo. Subsequently, it will become part of the Collezione Genesi.**

In the fourth exhibition, hosted by Palazzo Arese Borromeo di Cesano Maderno from October 5 to December 1, 2024, the closer look at Shirin Neshat will be introduced by the exhibition of the entire Collezione Genesi currently made up of 67 works, divided into its six main theme-



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GENESI

based areas: *The Memory of a People, Multicultural Identity, The Victims of Power, The Color of a Person's Skin, The Female Condition, the Safeguarding of the Environment.*

Along with the four exhibitions, an equally essential part of *Progetto Genesi* is its **educational activity**, distributed in a rich program of **guided tours and workshops, both inclusive and participatory, on site in the exhibition venues**, for children young and older, and adults. The educational program also includes a **public program** organized in collaboration with **Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, FAI - Fondo per l'Ambiente Italiano, Gariwo Foundation, the Gardens of the Righteous, and RFK Human Rights Italia**. The dates for the educational program and the public program will be communicated over the course of *Progetto Genesi* on the Associazione website.

To expand its educational tools, **the Associazione Genesi commissioned Hidonix to create a "Genesis Project" app**, which can be downloaded for free from cell phone and tablet stores, where you can find all the information about the exhibitions, guided tours, workshops, public program, as well as the artists and works in the Collezione Genesi.

The third edition of *Progetto Genesi* will take place **under the patronage of Rai Per la Sostenibilità ESG, the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, FAI Ponte tra culture project, Gariwo Foundation, the Gardens of the Righteous, and RFK Human Rights Italia**.

The media partner is **Rai Cultura**.

The main sponsors are Eni, Intesa Sanpaolo, and Gens.

The Gubbio exhibition made **with the support of Fondazione Perugia**, the Pavia exhibition received a **contribution from Fondazione Banca del Monte di Lombardia**, the Turin exhibition received **contributions from the Fondazione Pirelli and the Italian Cultural Institute in Dakar**, and the Cesano Maderno exhibition received a **contribution from Brandart**.

The third edition of *Progetto Genesi* is accompanied by a **bilingual catalog (Italian and English) titled "Progetto Genesi. Arte e Diritti Umani. 3ª edizione"** published by Silvana Editoriale and curated by **Ilaria Bernardi**.

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Associazione Genesi, founded in 2020 at the behest of Letizia Moratti, is committed to defending human rights via the valorization of various cultures and the environment. The goal of the Association is to contribute, through contemporary art, to the creation of citizenship that is more responsible and socially active. For this reason, the Associazione Genesi created the Collezione Genesi, selecting works by artists from around the world and of different generations, who reflect on the most urgent, complex, and often dramatic cultural, environmental, social, and political issues of our day and age. The Association is also a Founder-along with Università Cattolica, Mapei, WeBuild and Always Africa Association-of E4Impact Foundation, for the development of entrepreneurship in Africa, in which Intesa Sanpaolo, ENI, Montello, Carvico, CONFAPI, Coldiretti, Filiera Italia and, as individual participants, Diana Bracco and Michele Carpinelli also participate. E4Impact offers training programs *in impact entrepreneurship* in 20 African countries, in pursuit of a threefold goal: to train new entrepreneurs with a strong social impact; to collaborate with African universities to offer entrepreneurial training aimed at action; and to favor the encounter between Italian and African companies oriented toward sustainability.



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