

XIX BIENNALE DONNA

Mónica De Miranda  
— Christina Kubisch  
— Diana Lelonek —  
Ragna Róbertsdóttir  
— Anaïs Tondeur

**OUT OF TIME**

# Ripartire dalla natura

FERRARA PADIGLIONE D'ARTE CONTEMPORANEA 27 MARZO — 29 MAGGIO 2022

press release

The Biennale Donna [Women's Biennial] is back for its 19th edition: from 27 March to 29 May, the Padiglione d'Arte Contemporanea di Ferrara is hosting the exhibition *OUT OF TIME. Ripartire dalla natura*, curated by Silvia Cirelli and Catalina Golban. The group exhibition presents works by five international artists: Mónica De Miranda (Portugal, 1976), Christina Kubisch (Germany, 1948), Diana Lelonek (Poland, 1988), Ragna Róbertsdóttir (Iceland, 1945) and Anaïs Tondeur (France, 1985).

*OUT OF TIME* illustrates the need to rethink the entrenched structures, reorganise the established practices in the social and economic fields, and highlight the connections with the ongoing ecological debate. For several decades now, and more dramatically in recent times, there has been a different and growing awareness regarding the natural environment around us. Our anthropocentric era is in need of a rethinking through new paradigms which could indicate another way of existing in the world.

So it is inevitable that art, with its own tools and languages, would tackle the most pressing ecological issues. The resulting reflections arrive from different spheres in a multi-faceted convergence of artistic languages (installations, photographs and videos), in an exhibition that strives to explore the relationship between the human being and the environment, and examine the interactions between both subjects. Another goal of this project is to focus on the methods used to appropriate the environment as a dramatic consequence of the exploitation of natural resources.

The five artists investigate the exchanges and possible alliance between all living beings hosted by this planet. Varied interpretive models and perspectives draw attention to the ways in which nature has been torn apart in the human quest for hegemony, highlighting the side effects both on the environment and the social fabric. The intertwining of different artistic experiments is part of a broader and more productive dialogue with the sciences, showing how cooperation and social-economic and ecological research are crucial in developing a common line of thinking that dismantles the anthropocentric vision.

The exhibition opens with the Icelandic artist, Ragna Róbertsdóttir, whose work is distinguished by a strong minimalism but has a surprising evocative materiality that goes beyond boundaries and takes on a complex tactile quality. Her personal expression, involving



lava, glass, pumice, obsidian, volcanic rocks, salt, or shells, becomes a visceral bond with the natural world. In addition to some of her most important works, such as the *Saltscape* series, made with sea salt and black lava salt, or *View*, dominated by the red lava of the Seyðishólar volcano, the Biennale Donna will also host two site-specific works: unmistakably tactile pieces that evoke the magnificence and fragility of the natural universe.

The French artist, **Anaïs Tondeur**, on the other hand, has a different poetic synthesis. Her artistic research has a scientific focus, the result of studies carried out with the collaboration of geologists, oceanographers, physicists and anthropologists. In fact, the two multidisciplinary installations presented in the exhibition are a visual translation of scientific investigations of, respectively, traces of the petrichor, the unmistakable scent of rain on dry earth, and the analysis of ocean cycles, crucially important for better understanding climate change on earth.

The Biennale then continues with the visionary world of **Mónica De Miranda**, a Portuguese artist of Angolan origin. Her art is heavily influenced by her cultural heritage, compelling her to explore environmental evolution from an anthropological point of view. Grappling with the wounds of a violent colonialism, De Miranda focuses on the convergences between social stratification and change in the ecosystem, proposing “emotional geographies” – as she herself calls them – in other words, urban narratives that follow intimate processes of identity.

Man’s prevarication over nature is also key in the work of the Polish artist **Diana Lelonek**. Offering a critical view on the processes of overproduction, her research focuses on possible alternative solutions of coexistence and cohesion between the natural world and the human world. This empathic approach lays the foundations for an interdependence between species and the acceptance of a transversal scenario which makes a clean break with the present one.

The exhibition is completed by the work of **Christina Kubisch**, one of the most groundbreaking figures in German sound art. Drawing on an unprecedented aesthetic, Kubisch has succeeded in projecting “acoustic landscapes” by exploring the power of sound. Her sound installations delve into so-called silent noise pollution, a sensory experience that is crucial to understanding the state of electromagnetic saturation around us.

On the occasion of the exhibition, a bilingual Italian and English catalogue is published, with critical texts by Silvia Cirelli, Maura Gancitano and Catalina Golban, and reproductions of all the works.

The exhibition is organised by the Comitato Biennale Donna dell’UDI [Women’s Biennial Committee of the UDI] (composed of Lola G. Bonora, Silvia Cirelli, Ada Patrizia Fiorillo, Catalina Golban, Anna Quarzi, Ansaldo Siroli, Dida Spano, and Liviana Zagagnoni) and the Servizio Musei d’Arte [Art Museums Service] of the City of Ferrara in collaboration with the Fondazione Ferrara Arte, with the support of the Regione Emilia-Romagna.

**To download the complete press kit and images [click here](#)**

***OUT OF TIME. Ripartire dalla natura***  
***[OUT OF TIME. Starting again with nature]***

27 March – 29 May, 2022  
Padiglione d'Arte Contemporanea  
Corso Porta Mare 5, Ferrara

**Curated by**

Silvia Cirelli and Catalina Golban

**Organisers**

UDI – Unione Donne in Italia and Servizio Musei d'Arte – Gallerie d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea in collaboration with Fondazione Ferrara Arte, with the support of the Region of Emilia-Romagna

**Sponsors**

Assicoop, Coop Alleanza 3.0, Copma

–

**Opening hours**

10 am – 6 pm, closed Mondays  
Also open 18 and 25 April, 1 May

**Entrance fees**

Full price €5, reduced and groups €3

For discounts and free admission: <https://artemoderna.comune.fe.it/index.php?id=1953>

**Information**

Tel. +39 0532 244949 | [diamanti@comune.fe.it](mailto:diamanti@comune.fe.it)  
[artemoderna.comune.fe.it](http://artemoderna.comune.fe.it)

**Bookings**

<http://prenotazionemusei.comune.fe.it/>

**UDI – Unione Donne in Italia**

Tel. +39 0532 206233 | [udi@udiferrara.it](mailto:udi@udiferrara.it)  
[www.biennaledonna.it](http://www.biennaledonna.it)

**Press office**

Sara Zolla  
Tel. +39 346 8457982 | [press@sarazolla.com](mailto:press@sarazolla.com)