

LE STANZE DEL VETRO
A project of Fondazione Giorgio Cini and Pentagram Stiftung

Venice, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore
26 April – 1 November 2021

***THE GLASS ARK. Animals in the Pierre Rosenberg Collection* extended until 1 November 2021**

The exhibition, featuring the extraordinary glass animal collection of Pierre Rosenberg, former Director/President of the Louvre Museum in Paris, has been extended until 1 November 2021

The free educational activities and guided tours continue to be available at LE STANZE DEL VETRO, both onsite and online.

The exhibition *The Glass Ark. Animals in the Pierre Rosenberg Collection*, curated by Giordana Naccari and Cristina Beltrami, **has been extended until 1 November 2021** in order to allow school visits in September and October. **Students of Venice and the whole of the Veneto Region will be given the opportunity to visit this extremely successful and popular exhibition at the reopening of the forthcoming school year. Further measures to help and support schools achieve this goal will be announced at a later date.**

The exhibition will be part of the fifth edition of ***The Venice Glass Week, #VivaVetro!***, the international festival dedicated to the glass art, scheduled in Venice, Murano and Mestre **from 4 to 12 September 2021.**

With a unique and fascinating set-up, tailor-made for young visitors by the stage designers Denise Carnini and Francesca Pedrotti, *The Glass Ark* retraces the history of 20th-century Murano glass from an unusual angle: **the glass animal.**

The exhibition features over **750 works of art** representing, among others, elephants, hippos, cats, giraffes, bears, parrots, fish, turtles, foxes and tiny, lamp-worked life-sized insects, belonging to the personal collection that **Pierre Rosenberg**, art historian and former Director/President of the Louvre in Paris, put together over thirty years of regular visits to Venice.

The many free educational activities curated by Artsystem offer insights about this glass zoo: **free guided tours** are scheduled **every Saturday and Sunday at 12 noon in English** and **at 3.30pm in Italian.**

SUNglassDAYS, the free Sunday appointments for families involving adults and children, will run every Sunday starting at 10.30 am. June's theme is *The Paper Ark*: while adults participate in a guided tour of the exhibition, children will create animals to collect and a fantastic paper Ark to shelter in.

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The next online **Fuso-Fuso!!** is scheduled on **11 June** at 5.30 pm (CET): the exhibition curators, Giordana Naccari and Cristina Beltrami, will tell us anecdotes and secrets about *The Glass Ark. Animals in the Pierre Rosenberg Collection*.

All the educational activities are free of charge and curated by Artsystem. Booking is necessary through the toll-free number 800-662477 (Monday – Friday, 10 am – 5 pm) or artsystem@artsystem.it.

It is also possible to visit the exhibition online with the **3D virtual tour** – both on computer or mobile device at www.lestanzedelvetro.org – to examine in detail, room after room, the extraordinary works on display thanks to the many **insights, photographic and video contributions** devoted to the production of glass animals in Venice.

The exhibition

In the 20th-century, Murano produced a vast repertoire of glass animals which, on the one hand, are fascinating because of the infinite interpretations of the subject and, on the other, bear witness to an age-old technique, and into which this exhibition offers a very personal and original insight.

Glass animals are distinct from bestiaries in other media for two main reasons: they never display fierce poses, which are typical of more traditional animalier sculptures, and above all they are never conceived as a toy.

Nevertheless, there is a certain playfulness attached to this unusually eclectic collection, which comprises renowned animal pieces and others from lesser-known or virtually unknown glassworks, following the criterion of technical quality but also that of irony and a completely personal taste not hindered by established patterns or expectations.

There are many examples of well-known series, such as the *pulegosi* of **Napoleone Martinuzzi** or the winged creatures by **Tyra Lundgren** or **Toni Zuccheri** for the Venini glassworks. Side by side with the well-known examples of the Seguso Vetri d'Arte firm, the *Zebrati* of Barovier & Toso and the Aquariums of **Alfredo Barbini**, the exhibition offers a vast selection of animals realised by less well-known glassworks but equally interesting with regard to the formal and technical experimentation of the Murano of the 20th century. As evidence of the inexhaustible inspirations of the *animalier* subject, **the exhibition will also include sculptures by living artists** such as **Cristiano Bianchin, Marcantonio Brandolini d'Adda, Franck Ehrler, Massimo Nordio, Isabelle Poilprez, Maria Grazia Rosin and Giorgio Vigna**.

The exhibition also includes an **animated video** by **Giulia Savorani** (www.giuliasavorani.com), visual artist and director who, starting from drawings on glass, has created a fairytale cartoon, based on an idea by Giordana Naccari for this occasion.

The Glass Ark. Animals in the Pierre Rosenberg Collection is accompanied by a **catalogue**, edited by Skira, which closes with the scientific cataloguing of all the pieces in the exhibition, often accompanied by period drawings, photographs and prints from public and private archives, such as the Glass Study Centre -Fondazione Giorgio Cini and ASAC - Archivio Storico, Biennale di Venezia.

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