



**Art for Tomorrow Conference**  
**April 26-30, 2023**  
**Florence and Solomeo, Italy**  
**Can the Arts Be a Way Out?**

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## Wednesday, April 26

Venue: *St. Regis Florence* | Address: *Piazza Ognissanti, 1*

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13.00 **Preregistration opens** – registration desk outside conference room “Salone delle Feste”

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18.00 - **Welcome Remarks**

18.10

**Achilles Tsaltas**, President, Democracy & Culture Foundation

**Kim Conniff Taber**, Editorial Director, Democracy & Culture Foundation

**Opening Remarks**

**Maria Tripodi**, Deputy Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy

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18.15 - **Opening Panel Discussion: The Arts as a Way Out**

18.50

In a moment when society, and democracy, are buffeted by war, disinformation, gaping inequalities and the climate catastrophe, the world needs creative ideas. Can the arts be a way out? This panel, with creative minds from varied disciplines and backgrounds, will set the tone for the event, debating whether and how culture can provoke reactions, shape public discourse and ultimately lead to real impact.

**Shouq Al Mana**, Artist

**Ibijoke Faborode**, Founder and C.E.O., ElectHER

**Låpsley**, Singer-Songwriter

Moderated by **Roslyn Sulcas**, Culture Writer, The New York Times

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18.55 - **Panel Discussion: Private Patrimony**

19.30

In this era of limited public budgets, private funds are increasingly being used to expand and refocus the collections of major museums, broaden the work of individual artists and make art accessible to wider audiences. In what ways have governments and institutions built partnerships with private funders and come to rely on them? Are these donors filling a gap in public financing, or paving new avenues for creation?

**Yana Peel**, Global Head of Arts and Culture, CHANEL

**Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudengo**, Art Collector

**Mariko Silver**, President and C.E.O., Henry Luce Foundation

Moderated by **Matthew Anderson**, European Culture Editor, The New York Times

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19.40 **Private Tour of “Reaching for the Stars” Exhibition**

**Welcome Cocktail at the Palazzo Strozzi**

*Venue: Palazzo Strozzi | Address: Piazza Strozzi*

*10 minute walk from the St. Regis to Palazzo Strozzi*

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# Thursday, April 27

Venue: *St. Regis Florence* | Address: *Piazza Ognissanti, 1*

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## 9.00 - Welcome Remarks

9.20

**Achilles Tsaltas**, President, Democracy & Culture Foundation

**Dario Nardella**, Mayor of Florence and President, Eurocities

## Message of Support

**Ernesto Ottone Ramirez**, Assistant Director General for Culture, UNESCO (*virtual*)

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## 9.20 - Opening Provocation

9.30

**Andrea Emelife**, Curator, Modern and Contemporary Art, EMOWAA (Edo Museum of West African Art); Art Historian and Author

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## 9.35 - Panel Discussion: Role of the Museum – Mirror or Megaphone?

10.10

As artists and the public at large become ever more engaged in tackling world problems, and social media pushes everything to new levels of amplification, what should the role of the museum be in 2023? Is it an institution that simply reflects what's happening in society, or does it have a responsibility to broadcast or even join in calls for change? Now that exhibitions can be viewed virtually worldwide, should their target audiences be local or global, virtual or IRL? And should the answers to these questions depend on who is providing the funding?

**Aric Chen**, General and Artistic Director, Het Nieuwe Instituut, Rotterdam

**Arturo Galansino**, Director General, Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi

**Adam D. Weinberg**, Alice Pratt Brown Director, Whitney Museum of American Art

Moderated by **Farah Nayeri**, Culture Writer, The New York Times

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## 10.15- Lightning Talk: The Future in Italics

10.30

The director of Gagosian Rome discusses how the challenges of the pandemic led her and Galleria Continua founder Lorenzo Fiaschi to create ITALICS, a hybrid platform and consortium of more than 60 Italian galleries.

**Pepi Marchetti Franchi**, Senior Director, Gagosian

In conversation with by **Roslyn Sulcas**, Culture Writer, The New York Times

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10.30 -

11.00

Coffee Break

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**11.00 - 11.35** **Panel Discussion: Gender and the Arts – Crises and Correctives**

Major festivals, exhibitions and performances have been giving women center stage in recent years, while museums and galleries have been auditing gender diversity in both their collections and their staffs in a purported effort to right past wrongs. Meanwhile, art is playing an important role in calling attention to the plight of women worldwide. Is this the trend of the moment, or a long-term development that will change the art world from the inside out?

**Dana Dajani**, Actress and Poet

**Rachel Lehmann**, Co-Founder, Lehmann Maupin

**Christian Levett**, Art Collector

Moderated by **Matthew Anderson**, European Culture Editor, The New York Times

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**11.35 - 11.45** **Performance Short**

**Dana Dajani**, Actress and Poet

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**11.50 - 12.15** **Keynote Conversation**

**Redefining Architecture – An Art and a Tool for Action**

**Elizabeth de Portzamparc**, Architect

In conversation with **Yorgos Archimandritis**, Author, Cultural Radio and TV Host

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**12.20 - 13.00** **Panel Discussion: Heritage for Tomorrow**

Florence's historic city center has been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1982. But like many sites around the world, it faces challenges that are only accelerating in the current era, especially from climate change and mass tourism. What should Florence and other cities do to protect and promote their cultural heritage while still preserving their economic lifeblood? What are some ways that cities are creating new definitions of what heritage means?

**H.E. Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani**, Chairperson, Qatar Museums

**Irina Bokova**, Former Director General, UNESCO and Chair, Democracy & Culture Foundation

**Andreas Grger**, Secretary General, Federal Ministry for Culture and the Media, Germany

**Dario Nardella**, Mayor of Florence and President, Eurocities

Moderated by **Farah Nayeri**, Culture Writer, The New York Times

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**13.00- 14.20** **Lunch Hosted by St. Regis Hotel**  
**Featuring round-table discussions**

*Venue: Westin Excelsior Hotel | Address: Piazza Ognissanti, 3*

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**14.25 - 14.30** **Lightning Talk: Suzy Menkes on Fashion's Artistic Obsession**

**Suzy Menkes**, Journalist

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**14.30 - 15.00** **Keynote Conversation: Amos Gitai, Architect of the Past and Present**

**Amos Gitai**, Filmmaker

In conversation with **Farah Nayeri**, Culture Writer, The New York Times

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15.05 -  
15.40

### **Panel Discussion: NFTs Are Here to Stay. Why?**

The cryptocurrency market may have tumbled, with NFTs worth only a fraction of their former value. But the appetite for these works of digital art is still going strong. Artists and collectors are swayed by the guarantee of authenticity the blockchain provides, allowing virtual “editions” of artworks, which in turn is luring more traditional artists and museums to test out the platforms and experiment with new mediums. Meanwhile the debate over environmental concerns continues. What’s next for the world of NFTs?

**Audrey Ou**, Co-Founder and C.E.O., TRLab

**Serena Tabacchi**, Director and Co-Founder, Museum of Contemporary Digital Art

**Michaël Zancan**, Artist

Moderated by **Scott Reyburn**, Journalist

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15.40 -  
16.10

Coffee Break

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16.10 -  
16.45

### **Panel Discussion: Public Art, Digital Art and the Climate Crisis**

More and more artists are strategically creating and presenting works in very public places accessible to all – including the digital space – to raise awareness about the climate crisis. Some of these projects have garnered international attention, but to what extent have they led to action?

**Hans Ulrich Obrist**, Director, Serpentine Gallery

**Ernesto Neto**, Artist

**Giorgia Abeltino**, Senior Director, Public Policy, Google Arts & Culture

Moderated by **Matthew Anderson**, European Culture Editor, The New York Times

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17.00-  
18.00

### **Opening of “Reconciliation With the Living” Digital Art Exhibition at Aria Art Gallery, Florence**

**Address: Borgo Santi Apostoli**

*Meeting point: Entrance of the St. Regis Hotel, 15 minutes before start time, to walk to the event*

## **Experiential events**

(seats are limited - choice of one visit, per delegate, on a first come, first served basis)

*Please be at the meeting point 15 minutes before start time, to walk to the events*

17.30

### **Private visit of the old silk workshop of Antico Setificio Fiorentino**

*Meeting point: Entrance of the St. Regis Hotel*

18.00

### **Tour of collector Christian Levett’s home**

*Meeting point: Digital Art Exhibition at Aria Art Gallery | Address: Borgo Santi Apostoli*

18.00

### **Tour of Massimo Listri Foundation**

*Meeting point: Digital Art Exhibition at Aria Art Gallery | Address: Borgo Santi Apostoli*

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19.30

Dinner by invitation only

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## Friday, April 28

Venue: *St. Regis Florence* | Address: *Piazza Ognissanti, 1*

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09.30 – **Welcome Remarks**

09.40

**Kim Conniff Taber**, Editorial Director, Democracy & Culture Foundation

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09.40 – **Keynote Conversation**

10.10

**The Art-Market Bubble – Does it Still Exist?**

**Marc Spiegler**, Former Global Director, Art Basel

In conversation with **Scott Reyburn**, Journalist

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10.15 – **Panel Discussion: Protest Art and the Art of Protest**

10.50

By now, millions of people have viewed videos or posts of protesters throwing soup on Van Gogh's "Sunflowers" or gluing themselves to Vermeer's "Girl With a Pearl Earring." What do the activists aim to accomplish? In fact, protest art has a long history, from Picasso's "Guernica" to Keith Haring's murals to Kara Walker's monumental "Fon Americanus." How should we reconcile artists' – and protesters' – need to garner attention to their cause, with their chosen mechanism? And just how effective are various forms of protest in resolving issues?

**Andrea Emelife**, Curator, Modern and Contemporary Art, EMOWAA (Edo Museum of West African Art); Art Historian and Author

**Clare Farrell**, Designer and Co-Founder, Extinction Rebellion

**Anne Pasternak**, Shelby White and Leon Levy Director, Brooklyn Museum

In conversation with **Farah Nayeri**, Culture Writer, The New York Times

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10.50 – **Lightning Talk: Clothing as an Act of Rebellion**

11.05

**Elka Stevens**, Associate Professor of Visual Culture and Studio Art, Howard University

In conversation with **Roslyn Sulcas**, Culture Writer, The New York Times

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11.05 –

11.35

Coffee Break

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11.35 – **Keynote Conversation: Revising Histories**

12.05

**Oliver Hermanus**, Writer and Filmmaker

In conversation with **Roslyn Sulcas**, Culture Writer, The New York Times

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12.10– **Panel Discussion: When Arts Education is a Luxury: New Ecosystems**

12.45

Studies have repeatedly shown that the arts can impact young students' cognitive development and help them both academically and socially. There are signs that the public is starting to recognize this, as the proposition passed in California can attest. But the reality is that, when times are lean, funding for classes in the arts is often the first to be siphoned off. At the same time, some institutions are creating platforms and programs to support emerging artists, fast tracking a few into art stardom. What challenges do the new generation of artists face, and what forms of support have been created to mitigate them? Is this structure shaping a new kind of artist?

**Amir Berbić**, Dean, Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in Qatar

**Alison Cole**, Art Historian, Author and Editor, The Art Newspaper

**Mariko Silver**, President and C.E.O., Henry Luce Foundation

Moderated by **Jelena Trkulja**, Senior Adviser for Academic and Cultural Affairs,  
Qatar Museums

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12.45 - Lunch

14.00 **Venue: Westin Excelsior Hotel | Address: Piazza Ognissanti, 3**

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## Experiential events

(seats are limited - choice of one visit, per delegate, on a first come, first served basis)

*Meeting point: Entrance of the St. Regis Hotel, 15 minutes before start time, to walk to the events*

14.30-16.00 **Visit of Handicraft Exhibition "Mostra dell'Artigianato," including a guided tour of the Fortezza da Basso**

14.30-16.00 **Private tour of Palazzo Spini Feroni and "Women in Balance" exhibition tour at the Ferragamo Museum**

14.30-16.00 **Visit of Handicraft Exhibition "Mostra dell'Artigianato", including a guided tour of the Fortezza da Basso**

14.30-16.00 **Tour of Palazzo Canevaro, the U.S. Consulate in Florence, designed by Giuseppe Poggi for Marquis Manfredi Calcagni Estense in 1857 – the last of a series of glorious Florentine Neo-Renaissance residences.**

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16.30 Participating delegates depart for Art for Tomorrow Weekend in Solomeo:  
The Heritage of Humanism

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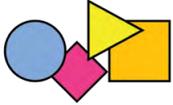
## Saturday, April 29 - Sunday, April 30

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**Art for Tomorrow Weekend in Solomeo: The Heritage of Humanism**  
**Hosted by Brunello Cucinelli**

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