

LE STANZE DEL VETRO  
A project of Fondazione Giorgio Cini and Pentagram Stiftung  
Venice, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore

Fondazione Querini Stampalia  
Venice, Santa Maria Formosa, Castello 5252

## A Furnace in Marseille. Cirva Centre international de recherche sur le verre et les arts plastiques

curated by Isabelle Reiher and Chiara Bertola

*The Spring exhibition at LE STANZE DEL VETRO will be dedicated to the Cirva - Centre international de recherche sur le verre et les arts plastiques of Marseille.*

*The exhibition will be at two venues, LE STANZE DEL VETRO and the Fondazione Querini Stampalia, and will present a selection of the most significant works of the Cirva collection.*

The next Spring exhibition at LE STANZE DEL VETRO, **A Furnace in Marseille. Cirva - Centre international de recherche sur le verre et les arts plastiques**, will open on the **9th of April 2018**. For the first time in the history of LE STANZE DEL VETRO, the project conceived by the Fondazione Giorgio Cini and Pentagram Stiftung, the exhibition will be at two venues: **LE STANZE DEL VETRO** and the **Fondazione Querini Stampalia**, with a total of **17 artists** exhibiting.

The two chapters of the exhibition, both curated by **Isabelle Reiher**, Director of the Cirva of Marseilles, and **Chiara Bertola**, Curator of Contemporary Art at the Querini Stampalia, will end on different dates: 24th of June 2018 at the Fondazione Querini and 29th of July 2018 at LE STANZE DEL VETRO.

The exhibition **A Furnace in Marseille. Cirva** will concentrate on a selection of **17** artists and designers, among those who have been in residence at the Cirva in the last thirty years, in an attempt to highlight the salient moments of creation.

The artists selected by the two curators, **Isabelle Reiher** and **Chiara Bertola**, have only occasionally come into contact with the glass world throughout their careers. For this reason, the results shown in the exhibition are original and surprising, extraordinary yet unpredictable. The meeting between the two seemingly distant realities, in this case **contemporary art** and **glass**, allows us to imagine and build a third one: a world in which glass is no longer simply a symbol of tradition, but a depiction of a new landscape and visionary nature.

At LE STANZE DEL VETRO in particular, the history of the Cirva will be presented through the works of 10 artists, who have contributed to forming an important part of its collection, succeeding through the instillment of creativity and experimental capacity. This is how **Larry Bell, Pierre Charpin, Lieven De Boeck, Erik Dietman, Tom Kovachevich, Giuseppe Penone, Jana Sterbak, Martin Szekely, Robert Wilson** and **Terry Winters** will find a space dedicated to their world: in each gallery of the exhibition, there will be an underlying detail on how the research and the exercise of each artist in the Marseille workshop have been fundamental to their work.

At the Fondazione Querini Stampalia, in the contemporary spaces of the third floor, the work of **eight** artists will be presented to show how glass is the translation of a thought, a passage from one state to another and a realisation of a form, which stem from an idea: **Dove Allouche, James Lee Byars, Giuseppe Caccavale, Hreinn**

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cirva

LE STANZE DEL VETRO  
Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore  
30124 Venezia, Italia  
T. +39 041 522 9138  
info@lestanzedelvetro.org  
www.lestanzedelvetro.org

FONDAZIONE  
QUERINI STAMPALIA  
Santa Maria Formosa  
Castello 5252, 30122 Venezia  
T. +39 041 2711411  
F. +39 041 2711445  
www.querinistampalia.org

**Fridfinnsson, Philippe Parreno, Remo Salvadori, Jana Sterbak and Francisco Tropa.** In order to give expression to the glass in as vivid as possible a manner, consonant with the space, **Giuseppe Caccavale** and **Remo Salvadori** have been invited to produce two new works at Cirva, which will be exhibited at the Querini Stampalia on the occasion of the exhibition.

In the design of **A Furnace in Marseille. Cirva** Isabelle Reiher and Chiara Bertola have attempted to combine glass with the natural elements that characterise the environmental system of their cities: Venice and Marseille, both lapped by water, living in light, engaged in the re-imagining of glass, and never oblivious to sound. The exhibition therefore stems from the awareness that glass is not a material but a condition: a visual device that helps to identify something other than its pure form. It allows us to imagine the translation of an idea, to grasp the concretion of a vision's inner energy, to touch the colour of a profound insight and to show the hardness of a solid that dissolves into brilliance. In this "frozen" landscape born from fire, light, reflections and transparencies are of course pivotal.

The display of the extraordinary relationship between contemporary art and glass proposed by Isabelle Reiher and Chiara Bertola will be further elaborated on a special occasion: on the **22nd of May 2018** a conversation is scheduled with some of the artists of *A Furnace in Marseille. Cirva*.

Designed as a research laboratory, the **Cirva - Centre international de recherche sur le verre et les arts plastiques** was established in Marseille in 1986 as a non-for-profit state entity to host international artists, designers and architects wishing to introduce glass to their creative process. These artists, who are often confronted with a difficult to master material for the first time, develop their designs assisted by the Cirva technical team.

Over thirty years, Cirva has hosted around 200 artists for various projects in the fields of contemporary art, design and decorative arts. It also owns a collection of 700 works exhibited in museums and art centers all over the world.

*A Furnace in Marseille. Cirva - Centre international de recherche sur le verre et les arts plastiques* will be accompanied by a **catalogue**, edited by Isabelle Reiher and Chiara Bertola, published by **Skira**.

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**Fondazione  
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info@lestanzedelvetro.org  
www.lestanzedelvetro.org

FONDAZIONE  
QUERINI STAMPALIA  
Santa Maria Formosa  
Castello 5252, 30122 Venezia  
T. +39 041 2711411  
F. +39 041 2711445  
www.querinistampalia.org

## USEFUL INFORMATION

PRODUCTION	Fondazione Giorgio Cini and Pentagram Stiftung
TITLE	<i>A Furnace in Marseille. Cirva - Centre international de recherche sur le verre et les arts plastiques</i>
CURATORS	Isabelle Reiher and Chiara Bertola
DATES	9 April – 29 July 2018 (LE STANZE DEL VETRO) 10 April – 24 June 2018 (Fondazione Querini Stampalia)
HOURS	10 – 19, closed on Wednesdays (LE STANZE DEL VETRO) 10 – 18, closed on Mondays (Fondazione Querini Stampalia)
VENUES	LE STANZE DEL VETRO, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore, and Fondazione Querini Stampalia, Santa Maria Formosa, Castello 5252
ADMISSION	Free entrance to LE STANZE DEL VETRO entrance by admission ticket to the Fondazione Querini Stampalia, which includes the Museum and temporary exhibitions
CATALOGUE	Skira
INFO	info@lestanzedelvetro.org, info@cini.it, manifestazioni@querinistampalia.org
WEB	www.lestanzedelvetro.org, www.cini.it, www.querinistampalia.org

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Fondazione Giorgio Cini

stampa@cini.it  
T: +39 041 2710280  
www.cini.it

### LE STANZE DEL VETRO

press@lestanzedelvetro.org  
T: +39 345 2535925  
www.lestanzedelvetro.org

### Fondazione Querini Stampalia

Sara Bossi  
s.bossi@querinistampalia.org  
T. +39 041 2711411  
www.querinistampalia.org

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