

26.05.11

Real Venice exhibition



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A group of leading international artists have been invited to photograph Venice to create a collection of new images of the city for a special initiative for the 150th anniversary of Italian Unity of the Italian Pavilion at the 54th International Art Exhibition of la Biennale di Venezia, as part of Venice in Peril's campaign to raise funds to save the city.

The artists are: Lynne Cohen, Philip-Lorca diCorcia, Antonio Gribés, Nan Goldin, Pierre Gonnord, Dionisio Gonzalez, Candida Höfer, Tiina Itkonen, Mimmo Jodice, Tim Parchikov, Matthias Schaller, Jules Spinatsch, Robert Walker and Hiroshi Watanabe.

Their work will be shown in the exhibition entitled Real Venice in the Abbey of San Giorgio Maggiore opening on Tuesday 31 May 2011 as a special initiative of the Italian Pavilion curated by Vittorio Sgarbi. The curator of the exhibition is Elena Foster.

This will be followed by a two-week exhibition at Phillips de Pury in London in November 2011. During the London exhibition, Simon de Pury will conduct a dedicated auction of selected works.

Each of the invited artists took a series of photographs of the city during a special visit and one in each edition has been donated to Venice in Peril. A book will be published by Ivorypress to coincide with the exhibition.

Lord Rothschild said: "This is the kind of creative international collaboration that Venice needs, not only to raise funds, but to get people thinking about why it should be saved."

The advisory board for the project includes Anna Somers Cocks, Chairman of Venice in Peril and Founder Editor of The Art Newspaper, Elena Foster, founder, Chairman and CEO of Ivorypress, who mounted a major photographic exhibition at the 2006 Architecture Biennale, and David Landau, collector, businessman and scholar.

The Venice in Peril Fund was created after the great flood in 1966, when the city's waters rose to nearly two metres above mean water level. Since then it has distributed millions of pounds for the restoration of Venetian monuments, buildings and works of art. The Fund is committed to ensuring the sustainability of Venice, acting as a lobby group, informing the international media and working with outside bodies such as the University of Cambridge to broker agreement on how to deal with some of the critical ecological, demographic and socio-economic issues facing the city.

www.veniceinperil.com