



*Fondazione Giorgio Cini onlus*

Venice, 3 December 2012

## 2013 Cultural Activities Programme Approved

*Several exhibition projects – from glass to tapestries – complement the Foundation’s academic activities, while significant international partnerships have been set up and the “Arts of Piranesi” wings its way to San Diego, California*

The Giorgio Cini Foundation Board of Directors, chaired by **Giovanni Bazoli**, met today and approved the programmatic statement on **cultural activities planned for 2013**. In line with the cultural strategy in recent years and in addition to the regular events organised by its Institutes and Research Centres, the Cini Foundation programme for 2013 is rich in initiatives and major exhibition projects, thanks also to partnerships forged with leading international cultural institutions.

### Exhibitions

In 2013 there will be **two new exhibitions** in the *Stanze del Vetro* (“Rooms for Glass”), a long-term cultural project to study and showcase the art of Venetian glassmaking in the 20th century. Set up jointly by the Cini Foundation and Pentagram Stiftung, the project had a very successful launch in 2012 with the exhibition *Carlo Scarpa. Venini 1932–1947*. The aim is to hold two different kinds of exhibitions on the island of San Giorgio Maggiore every year until 2021: the first is devoted to the use of glass in the world of art and design in the 20th and 21st century; and the second focuses on the talented artists who drew and designed objects for the Venini glassworks in the 20th century. The upcoming exhibition entitled *Fragile?*, curated by **Mario Codognato** and due to open in **April 2013**, will illustrate uses of glass in the visual arts from the mid-20th century to the present day. The works on show will be by some of the most fascinating figures on the contemporary art scene: from **Michelangelo Pistoletto** to **Mario Merz**, **Gerhard Richter**, **Ai Weiwei**, **Rachel Whiteread** and **Yayoi Kusama**. In **September 2013**, on the other hand, a solo exhibition is planned. Curated by **Marino Barovier**, it will be dedicated to celebrated artist **Napoleone Martinuzzi’s** creations for the Venini glassworks.

The shows in the *Stanze del Vetro*, however, are not the only exhibitions being prepared for 2013 on the island of San Giorgio Maggiore. In conjunction with the Venice Visual Arts Biennale, the exhibition spaces on the island will host two very different shows. The first will be an anthology of sculptures, paintings, drawings and other art objects by **Marc Quinn**, one of the best-known and longest active members of the so-called Young British Artists movement. Previous exhibitions of Quinn’s work have been held at the Venice Biennale, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Tate Gallery (both London and Liverpool), and the MACRO, Rome.

The second exhibition, entitled *Le mythe d’Arachnée. Figures de la modernité et de la postmodernité*, will be staged by the Cini Foundation in collaboration with **Mobilier National de France**. Curated by **Françoise Ducros**, the exhibition will present a selection the most interesting and significant **tapestries** produced by the French national manufactories to designs by major artists, from the second half of the 19th century to the present day.

Next year the international tour of the Piranesi exhibition takes a surprise turn across the Atlantic. Designed by Michele De Lucchi and produced by the Cini Foundation and Factum Arte, *The Arts of*

*Piranesi. Architect, Etcher, Antiquarian, Vedutista, Designer* was first staged in Venice in 2010. Thanks to the very effective collaboration with the Obra Social “La Caixa”, in 2012 Spanish art lovers could then also appreciate the show in both Madrid (24 April - 9 September 2012) and Barcelona (9 October 2012 - 20 January 2013), where it was seen by over 200,000 visitors. Now the next venue for the exhibition will be the **San Diego Museum of Art**, where Americans will be able to admire Piranesi’s works from **28 March to 7 July 2013**. The exhibition has also been highly acclaimed by the international press. Writing in *El Pais*, Nobel-prize winner for literature Mario Vargas Llosa described it as an “extraordinary exhibition”. This comes after equally positive comments made elsewhere: “masterful” (*The Financial Times*), “spell-binding” (*Le Monde*) and “spectacular” (*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*).

### **Other activities**

In 2013 the Cini Foundation aims to maintain its excellent academic reputation through the activities of its Institutes and Research Centres. As usual, they will organise conferences, seminars and workshops, some of which have become reference points for the international scholarly community.

These events include the 18th International Ethnomusicology Seminar, entitled ***Prospects for Comparative Musicology in the 21st Century: Ethnomusicology or Transcultural Musicology?***, organised by the Intercultural Institute for Comparative Music Studies (IISMC) from **24 to 26 January 2013**. This important annual seminar sets out to reflect on whether – after a century of ethnomusicology – we should try and identify ways of freeing ethnomusicology from the burden of its founding myths and from the delay in updating the ideological canons based on the anthropological revolution that took place last century, now widely superseded in the current situation, without, however, ruling out the possibility of making historical studies of the various musical cultures. These issues will be at the centre of discussions involving leading international experts invited to attend the seminar, such as Timothy Rice (UCLA University), the philosopher Wolfgang Iser, Svanibor Pettan (Ljubljana University), Lars Christian Kock (Berliner Phonogramm Archiv) and Giorgio Battistelli (composer).

**From 22 to 24 March 2013** the Institute for Music, directed by **Gianmario Borio** will hold an international study conference on ***Listening to Music in the Age of Technological Reproducibility***. This is the first of the Institute’s events in the year that will include a series of initiatives dedicated to the memory of **Giovanni Morelli**. During the conference, due to be attended by musicologists of various nationalities, an exhibition of some of the most interesting documentary sources held in the Institute for Music will be officially opened. There will also be three musical moments: a concert by the Ex Novo Ensemble featuring composers whose bequests are kept in the Cini Foundation; the inauguration of an open-air sound sculpture made by Mario Bertoncini (*Sails*, the first version was installed in the hall of the Nationalgalerie, Berlin in 1973) and a performance of Fausto Romitelli’s *An Index of Metals*.

**From 15 to 20 April 2013**, the island of San Giorgio Maggiore will host the second edition of the ***Bîrûn Ottoman Music Seminars***. These advanced workshops in Ottoman music were created last year and are directed by renowned musician Kudsi Erguner, who aims to make San Giorgio a centre for the study and cultural development of the musical heritage of the Ottoman Empire in the Mediterranean basin. The topic of the seminar in 2013 is ***Armenian Composers at the Ottoman Court***. A group of scholarship-winners specialised in various instruments (ney, ûd, tanbûr, kanûn, kemençe, percussion and voice) will explore the theme from both the theoretical and practical points of view during the week. The *Bîrûn* seminar will be preceded by *Prelude to Bîrûn*, a study day organised by Giovanni De Zorzi at Ca’ Foscari University, Venice.

**From 7 to 8 May 2013**, the Department of Linguistic and Literary Studies at the University of Padua, in collaboration with the Giorgio Cini Foundation, the Veneto Institute of Science, Letters and Arts, and Ca’ Foscari University, Venice, will hold an international conference on **Vittore Branca** in both Padua and Venice; this year is the centenary of the birth of the eminent scholar and historic secretary

general of the Cini Foundation. Entitled *Vittore Branca (1913 – 2004). Scholar, Master and Cultural Organiser*, the conference will bring together significant testimonies to commemorate the intellectual stature of Branca, his fundamental rootedness in the Veneto of the last half-century and of today, and his overall rich cultural legacy.

Events in the month continue, **from 6 to 9 May**, with the traditional **Historical Studies Seminar**, this year entitled *Pane e il Companatico* (“Bread and Spread”), which will focus on the subject of maize in the history of the Veneto. In the form of polenta, maize fed the hungry peasants in the 17th and 18th centuries and was introduced as food on ships and galleys in stocks of cereals and flour. Bread was physically indispensable but also had ulterior implications and complex metaphorical significances.

This year the annual **Egida Sartori and Laura Alvini Early Music Seminar** will be held **from 10 to 16 May**. Curated by Pedro Memelsdorff, the seminar entitled *More Hispano. Tomás Luis de Victoria between Rome and Madrid* is dedicated to the repertoire of motets and antiphonals devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary composed by Tomás Luis de Victoria (1548-1611). There will be a special focus on various interpretive traditions, principally Italian and Spanish. One of the most important composers of sacred music in late 16th-century Europe, Tomás Luis de Victoria combined the influence of the best Spanish polyphonic composers who preceded him at Avila – Espinar, Ribera, Navarro and Cabezón – with the Italian composers whom he came across in his twenty-year stay in Rome, where he may even have studied with Palestrina.

Two conferences will be held in the summer on San Giorgio. In **June**, to mark the celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the death of Pope John XXIII (Angelo Roncalli; 3 June 1963), the Cini Foundation, in collaboration with the John XXIII Foundation for Religious Sciences, is organising an international study conference entitled *Roncalli’s Language: Diplomacy, Theology and Spirituality*. Curated by **Alberto Melloni**, the conference will commemorate Angelo Roncalli, who was also the Patriarch of Venice and a key figure in the process of creating and consolidating the Cini Foundation. The aim is to make a systematic, comparative reinterpretation of the various registers in Roncalli’s discourse. Speakers at the conference will include Giuseppe Ruggeri, Christoph Theobald, Walter Kasper, Mauro Velati, Rowan Williams, Barbara Duden, Haim Baharier, Dina Porat, Kenan Gürsoy, Giuliano Amato and Romano Prodi.

The second summer event will be held in **July**. In collaboration with the Institute for Music, the Cini Foundation Drama Study Centre is promoting *Giuseppe Verdi and Director’s Theatre*, a conference on Giuseppe Verdi’s operas in the bicentennial year of his birth. Among the themes will be the relationship between the dramaturgy as indicated by the composer and his collaborators – in scores, librettos, stage instructions, *livrets de mise en scène*, correspondences – and the contemporary trend to the so-called “director’s theatre”. The invited speakers are Alessandra Campana, Gerardo Guccini, Gundula Kreutzer, David Levin, Clemens Risi, Emilio Sala, Robert Carsen, Mario Martone, Damiano Michieletto and Francesco Michieli.

As part of the activities of the new Giorgio Cini Foundation **Centre for Comparative Studies of Civilisations and Spiritualities**, a conference will be held from **6 to 8 September 2003**. Entitled *Geographies of Pilgrimage, Past and Present: Ideology, Functions and Motivations*, the conference, curated by **Antonio Rigopoulos**, will focus on pilgrim routes and circuits, exploring the overall significance of various areas and their interwoven relations forming a dense network of interests. In addition to the theological and mystical dimension of the practice of pilgrimage, the underlying motivations and its social, economic and political functions will also be investigated. The speakers will contemplate Western and Eastern Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and will extend their view as far as the Asian worlds – India, China and Japan – and the religions of Mesoamerica. In a multidisciplinary approach, specific cases will be considered and duly contextualised with reference to the ancient, mediaeval, modern and contemporary ages. Lastly, “lay” pilgrimages to concentration camps, the theatres of the Nazi-Fascist massacres, will also be considered along with “pilgrimages of the mind”, made possible through the Internet and widely found among the new Japanese religions.

**From 20 to 21 September 2013**, the traditional **International Conference on the Future of Science** will be held on the island of San Giorgio Maggiore. Organised in collaboration with the Umberto Veronesi Foundation and the Silvio Tronchetti Provera Foundation, the conference is now into its **ninth edition**. This year entitled *Longevity*, the conference begins from the fact that life expectancy has grown considerably over the last century. There is thus a need to tackle the theme of the ageing population and to try and understand how people can grow old tranquilly, since it is not enough simply to add on years of life, they must also be interesting years. From this point of view the conference is an invitation to reflect on lifestyles with due emphasis on nutrition and physical and mental activities – an initial attempt to trace a map showing the route to the secrets of human longevity.

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