

Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship announces the decision to postpone to 2021 the event *Homo Faber:* Crafting a more human future. Living treasures of Europe and Japan.

The international cultural event dedicated to fine craftsmanship, which was planned to take place September 10 to October 11 2020 at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini and was welcoming Japan as a guest of honour, will now return to Venice at a later date in 2021. This decision is due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Visual Homo Faber- Robilant©Michelangelo Foundation

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HOMO FABER at Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice

Organised by

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The health of humankind comes first, so does the safety of our crafts community: artisans, curators, designers, collaborators, partners, craft enthusiasts, followers and visitors, with our special thoughts extended to our friends in Japan and our partners in Venice.

"The founding principle of Homo Faber: Crafting a more human future is to place the human, the man and the maker, at the very centre of the event. This includes protecting not just cherished livelihoods but human beings themselves. Therefore, we choose to put the safety and wellbeing of our master artisans and wider community first, and welcome a new event in 2021", Johann Rupert, co-founder of the Michelangelo Foundation.

"During the plague that took place in the 14th century, Giovanni Boccaccio wrote the Decameron, a timeless masterpiece of literature: a series of artful tales that sought to preserve a sense of beauty, of humanity, and of love. I am sure that in 2021, when the time comes, Homo Faber will contribute, too, to the telling of beautiful and authentic stories, to mark the renaissance of our world: the inspirational stories of master craftspeople. Homo Faber will once again be an opportunity to revel in beauty". Franco Cologni, co-founder of Michelangelo Foundation.

Our mission is one that is lived out every day through encouraging, enabling and valuing the humans: the hands, the hearts and the minds behind each creative process and new creation. Craftspeople are the driving force behind our cultural movement, and it is in them we continue to place our faith. We look forward to celebrating with them and all our community, a newfound respect for the human spirit in 2021.

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Master artisan, Emma Bourke at work in her studio in Ireland- ©Alice Ward

The exact date for the second edition of **Homo Faber:** Crafting a more human future. Living Treasures of Europe and Japan will be confirmed in May 2020.

We would like to extend our appreciation to all our European and Japanese participating artisans, curators, partners and collaborators for their understanding and for sharing with us an optimistic vision for 2021 and beyond.

Notes for editors

Homo Faber

Crafting a more human future Fondazione Giorgio Cini, San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice homofaberevent.com

Homo Faber is the main event organised by the Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship, an international non-profit organisation based in Geneva, Switzerland, which was set up to celebrate and preserve master craftsmanship around the world and strengthen its connection to design. Rooted in a tradition of culture and excellence

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and in the realities and challenges of today's global economy, the foundation aims to support those who dedicate themselves to the pursuit of master craftsmanship and to foster a new cultural movement built around the values that are essential for their work. The Foundation focuses on Europe as a starting point for its activities, in recognition that craftsmanship has been a vital part of the economic and cultural fabric of the region for centuries, providing both a rich heritage and a competitive advantage in a global world. michelangelofoundation.org

Collaborating on **Homo Faber** with the Michelangelo Foundation are partner organisations that share its vision including: the **Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte**, the **Fondazione Giorgio Cini**, and **The Japan Foundation**.

Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte

The Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte is a private, non-profit institution founded in 1995. Based in Milan, it promotes cultural, scientific and educational initiatives for the protection and diffusion of artistic crafts. The Fondazione Cologni's mission is to inspire a "new Renaissance" of the artistic crafts and rescue them from the threat of extinction. Many of its initiatives focus on young people and training future generations of artisans. fondazionecologni.it

Fondazione Giorgio Cini

The Fondazione Giorgio Cini is a non-profit cultural institution based in Venice, Italy. Established by Vittorio Cini in 1951 with the aim of creating an international cultural centre re-integrating the San Giorgio Maggiore Island into the life of Venice and the region, today it is an important centre of humanistic studies and encourages the creation and development of educational, social, cultural and artistic institutions in the surrounding territory. cini.it

The Japan Foundation

The Japan Foundation, established in 1972, in Tokyo develops international cultural exchange programmes globally. The foundation's aim is to promote Japanese culture to the world through programmes and activities in the following categories: art and cultural exchange, Japanese-language education and Japanese studies and intellectual exchange. The foundation has a global network, with 25 overseas branches in 24 countries. As part of their cultural programme, the foundation offers successful applicants support in the form of grants, research scholarships and training opportunities. jpf.go.jp

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