



Venice, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore  
5 May – 26 November 2023  
Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Manica Lunga Library

## ***Luciano Baldessari. Architetture per la scena***

**An exhibition narrating the work and vision of Luciano Baldessari: architect, designer and set designer as well as an eclectic and free figure. The exhibition features drawings and projects of his, including his *Luminator* mannequin-lamp.**

***Luciano Baldessari. Architetture per la scena* is the exhibition hosted at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini from 5 May to 26 November – in conjunction with the **Biennale Architettura 2023** – in the spaces of the **Manica Lunga Library**.**

A project designed to recount the history, the artistic career and the innovative contribution of **Luciano Baldessari (1896–1982): one of the most interesting – and partly forgotten – architects and designers** of the twentieth century, a courageous and nonconformist experimenter, whose life and career spanned the historical avant-gardes, from **Europe to the United States**.

Curated by **Anna Chiara Cimoli**, lecturer at the University of Bergamo and **president of the Fondazione CASVA**, the rich exhibition consists of drawings in which dance, theatre, painting and music converge in an ever-spatial vision.

Baldessari's **visual culture** indeed constitutes **a dynamic and composite framework**, whose design method discards nothing of what is experienced, reworking it and bringing it into the present.

**This way of looking at the world and at architecture** is also expressed in one of Baldessari's most interesting projects: the *Luminator* mannequin-lamp-sculpture, presented at the **1929 Universal Exhibition in Barcelona**, which encapsulates the architect's tribute to the **Futurist season** and the **sedimentation of Bauhaus culture**, which he frequented during his years in Berlin. The object was created as a support for textiles, but it rotates like a dancer, illuminating the space and creating light refractions. It is on show here in the Manica Lunga Library thanks to the collaboration with **Codiceicon**, today the manufacturer of the *Luminator*.

The works on display, part of the collection of **CASVA-Centro di Alti Studi per le Arti Visive del Comune di Milano**, are here enhanced by the installation project curated by **Baldessari and Baldessari**: an overview of Baldessari's scenery production between the 1920s and 1940s that bears witness to illustrious commissions – **Max Reinhardt, Erwin Piscator, Giuseppe Visconti di Modrone, Tatiana Pavlova, Enzo Ferrieri, Riccardo Gualino**, right up to his work for New York theatres.

### **Info for the press:**

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