

# GABRIELE BASILICO

## photographs from the MAXXI collections

70 images, a new documentary film by Amos Gitai  
and a book comprise the museum's tribute to the great master

28 November 2013 – 30 March 2014

[www.fondazionemaxxi.it](http://www.fondazionemaxxi.it)

*I cultivate the illusion and the hope that a willingness to observe  
and to accept the contemporary urban condition  
may be an effective starting point  
for imagining a better city and a better future.*

Gabriele Basilico

(from *ABITARE LE METROPOLI* Edizioni Contrasto, 2013)

Rome, 27 November 2013. MAXXI is devoting a major exhibition to the great master of Italian photography who passed away recently: **70 large format photographs** from the MAXXI collections that testify to the long and successful collaboration between the museum and **Gabriele Basilico**.

From the images of the Strait of Messina for the *Italian Atlas* project from 2003 to the photos of MAXXI for *Cantiere d'Autore* from 2009, from the photos of the Zanussi offices for *Contemporary Gazes* to the magnificent shots for the exhibition of the work of Luigi Moretti that inaugurated the museum in the May of 2010 (all MAXXI Architettura commissions), through to the urban portraits acquired by MAXXI Arte, the exhibition **Gabriele Basilico. Photographs from the MAXXI Collections** (28 November 2013 – 30 March 2014) curated by Giovanna Calvenzi and Francesca Fabiani, reconstructs a comprehensive biography of MAXXI itself as well as the story of a long and happy collaboration.

The MAXXI exhibition also features the preview of a new documentary film by the Israeli director and architect **Amos Gitai** devoted to the photographer.

Furthermore, the exhibition will also be the setting for the presentation of the book by Gabriele Basilico ***Abitare le metropoli***, published by Contrasto, that for the first time brings together the text written and presented by the photographer over two evenings at the Teatro N'hma-Teresa Pomodoro in Milan in 2010 and a selection of photographs.

The exhibition is configured in **five sections** that draw attention to Basilico's interest in the architectural idiom and his extraordinary ability to interpret the city and its continuous mutation.

***Italian Atlas Portrait of a changing Italy***, from 2003, is a research project focussing on landscape to which Basilico contributed an investigation of the two banks of the Strait of Messina between Sicily and Calabria, privileging an extended and raised viewpoint embracing the landscape in its entirety.

***Contemporary gazes. 50 years of Italian architecture***: a "game" for reinterpreting with new eyes the Italian architecture of the second half of the 20th Century in which Basilico participated by documenting with extreme perspectives the Zanussi offices at Porcia (PN) built by Gino Valle in 1957-61.

***Cantiere d'autore. Architecture and photography for MAXXI in progress***: a photographic project devoted to the MAXXI construction site, of which Basilico recorded the conclusive phase in 2009, creating an accurate and participatory portrait of the museum; photographs that shed light on the developing identity of the structure designed by Zaha Hadid.

***The architecture of Luigi Moretti***: a photographic survey focussing on the architect's built works on the occasion of the exhibition *Luigi Moretti: From Rationalism to the informal*, inaugurated in 2010. Images of an extraordinary composition rigour, emblematic of his morphological and formal interest in architecture.

***The cities***: this section comprises the series of 15 photographs from the MAXXI Arte Collection that bear testimony to Basilico's research into the transformations of the urban landscape between 1980 and 2003.

These are some of the photographer's most intense images, from the first explorations of *his* Milan to the shots dedicated to the Italian cities and his vision of Rome with its ancient ruins and new architecture, through to Beirut, to which the photographer turns in order to revive its identity above and beyond the wounds of a recently concluded war.

**A corpus of large format photographs** that reveal the "insistent" and reflective way of looking typical of the photographer as well as his habit of the walking the length and breadth of a city. Photography is for Basilico a device for understanding the complexity of the world, an instrument for decoding space, both urban and natural, shedding light on its constitutional elements, with a lucid vision that reflects a similar clarity of thought.

The exposition is completed by the new **documentary film by the Israeli director and architect Amos Gitai** devoted to the photographer. A long interview realised by Gitai during the 2012 Biennale of Architecture in which Basilico talks about his work and which is being previewed at MAXXI on the occasion of the exhibition. Starting out from their shared architectural training, as well as the friendship and joint projects that tied him to the photographer, in this interview Gitai draws attention to certain crucial documentary themes: the possibility of recounting the present, the implication of the auteur and the relationship with history.

**Gabriele Basilico. Photographs from the MAXXI Collections** not only pays tribute to one of the greatest interpreters of architectural photography in Italy, but also reveals the profound transversality of the art of photography. The eye of this great master has in fact succeeded in recounting the history and evolution of the Italian landscape and Italian architecture of recent decades while also offering through his photographs the suggestions, reflections and visions of a great artist.

It should also be noted that from 23 November 2013 to 26 January 2014, the Civic Gallery of Modena will be hosting the exhibition *Gabriele Basilico in the collection of the Civic Gallery of Modena*, curated by Silvia Ferrari in collaboration with Giovanna Calvenzi. An exhibition that presents not only Basilico's social gaze on his initial approach to photography, but also the photographer's ties to the city of Modena which features in many of his great documentary campaigns (<http://www.galleriacivicadi> )

**Gabriele Basilico** (Milan, 1944-2013). After graduating in architecture, Basilico gave the drawing board in the mid-Seventies to devote himself exclusively to photography. Starting out from an exploration of the periphery and the factories of his own city, over the years his interest shifted towards other cities, attracted both by zones of confine and monumental sites and their historical stratification. During the 1980s he developed an interest that led him from the city to the landscape, ratified by his participation as the only Italian in the Mission Photographique de la DATAR, before returning to the city and its architecture.

**The press pack and images of the exhibition may be downloaded** from the reserved area of the Fondazione MAXXI site at [http://www.fondazionemaxxi.it/?page\\_id=5176](http://www.fondazionemaxxi.it/?page_id=5176) inserting the password **areariservatamaxxi**

MAXXI - National Museum of XXI Century Arts  
www.fondazionemaxxi.it - info: 06.3201954; info@fondazionemaxxi.it  
opening hours: 11.00 – 19.00 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Sunday)  
11.00 – 22.00 (Saturday) closed Mondays, 1 May and 25 December

**MAXXI Press office** +39 06 3225178, [press@fondazionemaxxi.it](mailto:press@fondazionemaxxi.it)

**GABRIELE BASILICO**  
*Photographs from the Collections of MAXXI*



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## GABRIELE BASILICO

### ***Photographs from the Collections of MAXXI***

curated by Giovanna Calvenzi, Francesca Fabiani

*"What constantly interests me, almost obsessively, is the contemporary urban landscape, the social and aesthetic phenomenon of large, fast, uncontrollable transformations underway in cities around the planet, and I think that photography has been, and maybe still is, a sensitive and particularly effective means to record them". (G. Basilico)*

Drawing on the body of works present in the MAXXI collections, the exhibition pays tribute to a great artist, to his vision of architecture and landscape and to his way of perceiving photography as an active means of inquiry and knowledge. The series on show here are witness to a long and prolific collaboration between Gabriele Basilico and the Museum of architecture (MAXXI Architecture), starting with the first projects commissioned in 2003, up until the work performed for the inauguration of MAXXI in 2010. Divided into five units, the photographs highlight once again Basilico's interest in architectural language and his extraordinary capacity to interpret the city and its transformations. The use of large format camera corresponds to his "persistent", prolonged, reflective way of looking and marries well with his habit of walking at length in the city. Photography becomes a device to understand the complexity of the world, an instrument to decipher space, both urban and natural, shedding light on the constitutive elements, with a clear headed vision that reflects an equal clearness of thought.

A film-documentary by Israeli film maker and architect Amos Gitai integrates the exhibition.

#### ***Italian Atlas<sup>003</sup> . Portrait of a changing Italy***

The project – commissioned by MAXXI in 2003 – is a study on Italian landscapes arranged into ten themes, aimed at exploring the new aesthetics of the territory, with its contradictions and potentials, through the lenses of thirty photographers. Basilico contributed by examining the two shores of the Strait of Messina, between Sicily and Calabria, emphasizing a broad and heightened view that takes in the landscape entirely, which he had already experimented with in the reconnaissance for the DATAR and in the series *Bord de Mer*.

#### ***Contemporary looks. 50 years of Italian architecture***

A 'game' to re-interpret from new points of view Italian architecture of the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century: ten examples of excellence in architecture chosen by ten architecture experts and critics are portrayed by ten photographers (2004). Commissioned to document the Zanuzzi Offices in Porcia (PN) designed by Gino Valle in 1957-61, Basilico chose a highly perspective point of view that emphasizes the articulation of the building's casing created by the architect.

#### ***Construction site. Architecture and photography for the MAXXI in progress***

A photographic campaign dedicated to the MAXXI construction site and its evolution aimed at bringing back to life, through the multifocal perspective of twenty photographers, the changing appearance of architecture in a process of transformation. Basilico's shots portray the construction site in 2009, in the almost conclusive stage of works, resulting in an accurate and closely felt portrait: from the protrusion of the external volume, to the fragile inner skeleton, to flowing passage through the galleries, the photographs highlight the identity of Zaha Hadid's structure in progress.

#### ***The architectures of Luigi Moretti***

For the exhibition *Luigi Moretti. From rationalism to informalism* unveiled in 2010, MAXXI Architecture commissioned from Basilico a photographic campaign on projects designed by the Roman architect. The sculptural value and monumental and dynamic tension of Moretti's buildings are interpreted by Basilico with images of an extraordinary compositional rigour, emblematic of his morphologic and formal interest in architecture.

#### ***The cities***

The series of fifteen photographs of the Collection MAXXI Art covers a broad time frame (1980-2003) in Basilico's artistic production and testifies to his research on the transformation of the urban landscape. Starting with the first exploration of his hometown Milan, to the shots dedicated to Italian cities – Naples, Genoa, Palermo – and Rome, portrayed in the coexistence of ancient ruins and new buildings, such as the church *Dives in Misericordia* by Richard Meier that he photographed in 2003. And lastly the ones of Beirut, amongst the most intense and famous of Basilico's images, shot in 1991. The photographer turns to the city, soon after the end of the war, with an eye that lacks dramatic emphasis, interpreting the civil task of once again finding the persistent identity of the place, beyond the obvious wounds.

Press release

**LEZIONI DI FOTOGRAFIA**

**Gabriele Basilico**

**ABITARE LA METROPOLI**

**Curated by Giovanna Calvenzi**



SIZE: 21 x 15 cm  
BINDING: Paperback with flaps  
PAGES: 96  
PHOTOGRAPHS: 38 black & white and color  
PRICE: € 18,00  
Logos Series

*I was born in this city in 1944. The war was not over yet and Milan, in that month, was bombed again.*

*Gabriele Basilico*

These are the first lines of *Abitare la metropoli*, the text written by Gabriele Basilico in 2010 and gone on stage in two evening events at the No'hma-Teresa Pomodoro Theater in Milan. That experience and this text, presented for the first time in its entirety in this book published by Contrasto, have been for Basilico "the occasion to give shape and order to reflections that he had been organizing, in different ways, for years", as Giovanna Calvenzi, the curator of the edition, said.

Gabriele Basilico's words thus constitutes an intense testimony, a love declaration for his city and for all the cities, a deep reflection on his own work and the everyday activity of lucid observator of metropolitan spaces.

A conscious declaration about how photography “as an artistic experience, but above all in its documentary role and mission, inevitably deals with beauty, with a visual need for formal interpretation, for an aesthetic translation of the world.”

An excellent choice of images by and of Gabriele Basilico accompanies the text, that is followed by Giovanna Calvenzi’s afterword and a short biography.

**Gabriele Basilico** was born in Milan in 1944. After graduating in architecture in 1973, he has consistently dedicated himself to photography. His favorite areas of research have included the shape and identity of cities, the development of the metropolis and the ongoing changes in postindustrial landscapes. Considered one of today’s master photographers, Gabriele Basilico has been awarded many prizes and his work has been celebrated in many important private and public collections both in Italy and internationally.

“Milan. Portrait of Factories (1978-1980)” is his first long project centering on Milan’s industrial outskirts and marks his debut museum exhibit (at PAC, Milan, in 1983). He is the only Italian photographer to participate in the 1984-85 ‘Bord de mer’ project for the Mission Photographique de la DATAR. In 1991 Basilico takes part in the Beirut “mission” to capture a city devastated by a 15-year-long civil war.

Since then, Gabriele Basilico has produced and participated in countless documentary projects both in Italy and abroad, which have generated a whole host of books and exhibits. Among the most recent works: *Roma 2007*, *Silicon Valley '07* (appointed by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art), *Mosca Verticale*, *Istanbul 05 010*, Shanghai 2010, Beirut 2011, Rio 2011, *Leggere le fotografie* (2012). He participated to the XIII International Architecture Exhibition at the Biennale di Venezia (2012) with the project “Common Pavilions”

Gabriele Basilico died in Milan on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

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## ARCUS: INTERVENING IN SUPPORT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

In the month of February 2004, the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities was responsible for the constitution of Arcus SpA, a limited company devoted to supporting art, culture and the performing arts, in accordance with Law No. 291 of 16 October 2003. 291. The company capital is wholly underwritten by the Ministry of the Economy, while the company's day-to-day activities are based on the programmes established by annual decrees adopted by the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Activities – who also exercises the shareholder rights – together with the Minister for Infrastructures. Arcus may also develop independent projects.

**Arcus's** declared aim is that of providing innovative support for significant and ambitious projects within the world of cultural heritage and activities and its possible interrelations with the country's strategic infrastructures.

**Within the ambit of Arcus's mission**, supporting projects entails identifying important initiatives, contributing to the completion of planning, intervening in organizational and technical aspects, participating – where appropriate or necessary – in the financing of the project, monitoring its development and contributing to its successful outcome

**It is important** that Arcus's modus operandi is clearly understood, as explained above: the company intervenes to provide organizational and financial support for significant projects, but in no way is it comparable to an agency for the distribution of funding, nor may it be numbered among the "scattershot" distributors of public or private funds.

**Arcus** is, therefore, an original instrument for the support and launching of significant and innovative projects within the panorama of Italian culture. Economic support, where provided, must be seen as wholly instrumental within the ambit of a cultural project that is conceptually valid and operationally shared.

In more detail, Arcus provides assistance for initiatives relating, for example:

- to the establishment of projects for the restoration, redevelopment and improved fruition of the cultural heritage;
- to the preservation of the landscape and cultural heritage through actions and interventions also designed to mitigate the impact of existing or forthcoming infrastructures;
- to support the programming, monitoring and evaluation of interventions in the cultural heritage sector;
- to promote planning within the cultural heritage and activities sector and that of the performing arts;
- to identify and support projects valorizing and protecting cultural heritage through interventions with significant technological contents;
- to support projects relating to cultural tourism in the broadest sense of the term;
- to promote the birth and constitution of cultural catchment areas in relation to emblematic examples of cultural heritage within the ambit of an integrated and systemic vision capable of linking local cultural heritage, infrastructure, tourism, allied industries and transport;
- to intervene in the broad-based sector comprising initiatives designed to render the cultural heritage fully accessible to the differently able.



**To achieve its aims** Arcus draws on resources detailed in article 60 of Law 289 of 27 December 2002 (Financial Law 2003). The legislation provides for 3% of the funding for infrastructures being devoted to expenses relating to interventions safeguarding and in favour of cultural heritage and activities. Arcus is identified as the recipient structure for these funds. Furthermore, in accordance with article 3 of Law No. 43 of 31 March 2005, the above-mentioned percentage is increased annually by a further 2%. Moreover, the company may receive finances provided by the European Union, the state and other public and private bodies.

**Arcus** also works to bring potential stakeholders into contact with the various projects. When necessary, therefore, the company contacts foundations with banking origins or otherwise, local authorities, exponents of local bodies and civic society, the universities and private individuals in order to aggregate around the initiatives increasing resources and coordinated financing.

**Arcus's ambitious project** is therefore that of becoming the "glue" that renders operative the systemic capacity for the promotion and planned support of initiatives designed to enhance the cultural heritage and activities, with a view to ever better conservation, fruition and valorization. By taking appropriate measures, Arcus favours the necessary convergence of the various stakeholders, thus contributing to the success of the various cultural projects identified.

## **Alcantara and MAXXI: Artistic Excellence and Creativity**

A timeless material, unique of its kind and with vast expressive potential, Alcantara partners with art and architecture to open itself up to new interpretive languages.

After the success of the initiative *CAN YOU IMAGINE? Progetto Alcantara® - MAXXI*, an experimental research that became an exhibition open to the public from October 7 to November 13, 2011, the partnership between the Italian company that has been producing the homonymous trademark material for nearly forty years and the national Museum of 21st century arts goes on.

If the first phase of the multi-year project involved 11 top international designers who were asked to interpret the qualities of Alcantara in as many installations, the second step requires that the same qualities of the material are highlighted according to a specific topic by international designers under 35, chosen through a **contest by invitation that on May 15, 2012 announced the 8 finalists.**

**Sebastian Herkner** (Germany), **Lanzavecchia + Way** (Italy & Singapore), **Mischer' Traxler** (Austria), **Society of Architecture** (Korea), **Matteo Zerzenoni** (Italy), **Vittorio Venezia** (Italy), **Paradisi Artificiali** (Italy), **Mana Bernardes** (Brazil): these the eight finalists.

The projects will be exposed next November 2012 in the exhibition *Shape Your Life! Progetto Alcantara – MAXXI*, curated by **Giulio Cappellini** Art Director of Alcantara and **Domitilla Dardi** MAXXI Architecture Design Curator.

Considering the increasingly nomadic and dynamic concept of living, that sees us spend more time *out* of the house than *in* the house, the challenge of the exhibition is precisely to interpret the new scenarios of (con) temporary lifestyles, that “outside” where we now spend most of the time. The task of the young designers is therefore to create “equipped habitats”: objects and environment covered in Alcantara where people can “feel at home when they are out of the house”.

**SHAPE YOUR LIFE! Progetto Alcantara® - MAXXI** confirms the lively partnership between the interdisciplinary MAXXI museum and a company that firmly believes in research and in constant dialogue with creativity.

Alcantara was founded in 1972. The company's managing headquarters is in Milan while the manufacturing plant and the research centre are located in Nera Montoro, in Italy's Umbria region. Alcantara is a unique and innovative upholstery material, the result of a unique and proprietary technology that is the choice of companies which are leaders in their various fields of application.

It offers an extraordinary combination of sensorial experiences, aesthetics and functionality associated with an ethical and social awareness that define an extremely exclusive contemporary lifestyle: it is the lifestyle of those who want to completely enjoy the products they use every day, in full respect of the environment.

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Alcantara has attained “Carbon Neutral” certification: in order to do so, it recorded a 49% reduction of carbon dioxide emissions in one year derived from the material's entire manufacturing process and the balance was compensated for by financing international projects related to renewable energy. Furthermore, as of 2009, the Company Sustainability Report documenting the process carried out by Alcantara in regards to this theme has been made publicly available.

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## TELECOM ITALIA SUPPORTS CULTURE IN THE NAME OF INNOVATION

Contributing to the growth and development of the country including through support for activities and projects to disseminate culture, taking advantage of one of its core businesses: it is with this objective that Telecom Italia has chosen to exploit the web as a cultural vehicle capable of bringing together and distributing contemporary knowledge, at the same time providing access free from constraints of space and time.

In 2013 the Company renewed its relationship with one of the main cultural realities of Rome, **Fondazione MAXXI**. Together, they are organizing the second edition of MAXXlinWeb, the series of meetings with experts from the arts and architecture broadcast in live streaming and on demand from the Museum Auditorium, and it will also create a dedicated mobile App for the enjoyment of digital culture.

From the partnership with **Fondazione Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia** there comes the *PappanoinWeb* project, which is committed to bringing symphonic and chamber music to a wider audience and which, during its three years of activity, has registered over 1 million visitors to the project website, also thanks to the listening guides to concerts, the exclusive interviews and the opportunity to comment live shows on social network channels, by interacting live with an expert musicologist of the Academy.

In the wake of the success of past editions, this year too Telecom Italia and **Fondazione Musica per Roma** organized, once again the *MIT – Meet In Town*, an electronic music festival, and *Luglio suona Web*, the festival dedicated to the great concerts of the summer season which allowed the Net fans to watch live performances by Mario Biondi, Ludovico Einaudi and Baustelle.

Always in the field of music, the collaboration with **Fondazione Lirico Sinfonica Petruzzelli e Teatri di Bari** has opened the doors of the Petruzzelli Theatre in Bari to the web audience, by broadcasting the Premiere of *Rigoletto* and the Premiere of *La Sonnambula* as part of the new 2013 *OperainWeb* project.

In the field of visual arts and architecture Telecom has collaborated with some leading international organisations, like the **Fondazione Biennale di Venezia**, making available to the Net audience all the contributions of the last edition of the *International Architecture Exhibition* in a virtual path marked by the testimonies of its protagonists.

The new 2013 collaboration with **Galleria Borghese** fits in this context. Indeed it led to the development of the project *Candida Höfer per la Galleria Borghese*: an exhibition dedicated to a personal re-interpretation of the Gallery museum spaces by the German artist and an exclusive interview with Candida Höfer which became an opportunity for discovery and discussion for the audience connected to Net.

In the field of theatre and contemporary dance Telecom Italia has been collaborating for several seasons with **Fondazione Romaeuropa** supporting the international Romaeuropa Festival, of which it offers a selection of events called *Metamondi di Telecom Italia* broadcast in live streaming, which brings to the Net the artistic avant-garde shows projected towards a future rich in technological suggestions. As part of that same partnership, Telecom Italia also presents *Digital Life*, a polycentric exhibition path that explores the potential of the relationship between the arts and the new technologies.

Moreover, it supports the **Festivaletteratura di Mantova** (the Mantua literature festival), with the aim to sensitize readers to the new digital forms of enjoyment of literature; during the edition that just ended it presented *scrittori in web (writers on the web)*, a series of meetings with some of the most popular international authors broadcast in live streaming directly from Mantua, and *Tracce (Traces)*, 23 meetings open to the Festival audience that ranged from the classical culture to the most current topics and that are available also on demand on the Telecom Italia website.



To conclude, it promotes the *Italiax10* series together with its partners: a series of meetings where 10 "talents" in the field of innovation, arts and literature, who have been carefully selected by the partners, are brought to the forefront of the web in a virtual arena where they can present their ideas and experiences interacting in real time with the audience connected on the Net.

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Telecom Italia develops infrastructures and technological platforms on which voice and data become advanced telecommunications services, ICT solutions and cutting-edge media: development tools for the Group and for the entire country. Telecom Italia, TIM, MTV Italia and Olivetti are the main brands of the Group, familiar icons to consumers and a guarantee of reliability and competence.

Customer proximity and technological innovation are the hallmarks of the Group, with a streamlined organization that focuses on quality of the service, simple offers, attention to moments of contact with customers and ongoing research in the TILab laboratories.

In addition to its domestic leadership, Telecom Italia has a significant international presence in the large South American market with TIM Brasil and Telecom Argentina, which now account for 34% of Group revenues.

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## SKY ARTE HD

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### **ART AND KNOWLEDGE ARE THE HEART OF THE PLATFORM**

**SKY ARTE HD** it's the first Italian TV channel dedicated to art in all its forms and it's now available to all Sky subscribers (who have HD in their subscription) on channels **110, 130** and **400** of the platform. Painting, sculpture, architecture, music, literature, theater, design and all forms of artistic expression are found within a single schedule dedicated not only to the fans who have the opportunity to deepen their interests, but also to the curious ones than can get closer to art in a brand new way, through both the major international productions (Sky Arts, BBC, Channel 4, Arte, PBS, Sundance Channel) and the original ones of the channel. Sky Arte HD tells the infinite resources of the world's artistic heritage, with a special consideration for the Italian extraordinary tradition and our artists' talent and it uses a contemporary and never didactic language, characterized by the contamination of genres.

The channel hosts all the languages of art. On the one hand, the Sistine Chapel, which was presented on Sky Arte HD in all its expressive power thanks to the original production *Michelangelo - The heart and the stone*, broadcast on Sky 3D with an exclusive documentary on the Sistine Chapel, on 1<sup>st</sup> November. On the other hand, the channel tells the provocations of Marina Abramovic and the charm of conductors such as Daniel Barenboim, or rock legends as Jim Morrison, eclectic talents as Tom Ford and the queen of photography Annie Leibovitz.

Among the **original productions**, there are programs especially created for children, such as *Art explained to kids*, which uses cheerfulness to help children and parents to discover art as an element that can be part of everyone's life; furthermore, there are travels in the contemporary world, as *Potevo farlo anch'io* hosted by Alessandro Cattelan and Francesco Bonami, who travel with us among the wonders and the paradoxes of the greatest masterpieces of contemporary life, with an ironic approach. Local events have a great relevance on the channel: exhibitions, shows and retrospectives will be told in the report *Great Exhibitions*, which describes step by step the complex mechanism of an exhibition, from the transport of works to the vernissage.

On the occasion of the Salone and Fuorisalone 2013, Sky Arte HD realized the original production *De.sign*, which led the audience in the heart of Milan design week with **daily capsules** dedicated to the **Fuorisalone**, with a **final report** on the whole **2013 edition** and an important doc series on the history of design. Another Sky Arte HD original production is *Bookshow*, a show entirely dedicated to books that tells their story through a simple but in-depth tripartite structure: **a book, a place, a guest**. *The crossed destinies hotel* is a carefree colorful cartoon which talks about particular meetings that have changed history; the set is a hotel where the room doors open and close on the fate of the protagonists. In June, Sky Arte HD presented *Contact*, another

original production that takes an extraordinary and fascinating journey in the forbidden city of photo proofs, near the **famous photographers of Magnum Photos**, the legendary agency founded in 1947.

In October, Sky Arte presents **Unveiled Masterpieces: Greta Scacchi** will explain how a great artist, as well as an extraordinary artistic interpreter, can also be a **real storyteller of her time**. In November a new season of **Contact** and **Street Art**, an original production dedicated to the world of street art, will be broadcast on Sky Arte.

Sky Arte HD relies on the contributions of Enel, main sponsor of the channel and of its flagship shows, as *Michelangelo - Il cuore e la pietra*. Enel participates actively in the creation of ad-hoc productions, such as *Corti di luce* and the specials dedicated to *Enel Contemporanea*, the contemporary art project sponsored by the company, now in its 6th edition.

Sky Arts HD has also signed some important partnership with the Istituto Luce-Cinecittà and with festivals, exhibitions and fairs to tell the main Italian cultural events, such as the Festivalletteratura of Mantova, the RomaEuropa Festival and Artissima. Sky Arte HD will be a media **partner of the MAXXI**: starting from the month of October, there will be some original productions which will describe the main exhibitions of the season of the National Museum of the Arts of the XXI century (MAXXI).

In line with modern language of programming, the channel has a strong presence on the web and on social networks (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram), thanks to the website [www.skyarte.it](http://www.skyarte.it) and Sky Go, the **streaming service program that allows you to watch Sky on PC and smartphones. The main contents of Sky Arte HD are also available on the Sky on Demand service.**

*«We are making a big commitment – says Roberto Pisoni, head of of Sky Arte HD – because talking about arts on television, with all its facets and in a brand-new and original way is a great bet. Art, in its various expressions, both ancient and contemporary, both cultured and popular, is a life-changing experience, that offers an infinite source of exciting stories. We are proud to offer it to the Sky audience.»*

Sky Arte HD Press Office

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