



MA **XXI**

Museo nazionale
delle arti del XXI secolo

AN OASIS OF GREEN AT THE MAXXI

**the green regeneration of the MAXXI Piazza has begun
and will be ready by the summer**

tuesday 17 march at 6:00 p.m.

**the project will be presented to the public and citizens
together with other projects for the renewal of the Flaminio district**

<https://www.maxxi.art/grande-maxxi/>

Every leaf counts
Bas Smets

Rome, 17 March 2026. Greener, fresher, livelier, more welcoming.

Piazza Alighiero Boetti, the beating heart of the Museum and the Flaminio district, is at the centre of the green regeneration of the MAXXI.

Here, nature will substitute concrete to create a green and cool environment, ready for use this summer.

This intervention, together with the new park being created along Via Masaccio, is part of the **Grande MAXXI** masterplan, the project to expand and renew the Museum, and the work of Bas Smets, one of the leading contemporary landscape architects, renowned for his conception of greenery as not merely aesthetic but above all environmental.

To mark the beginning of works, the green actions for the new Piazza Boetti will be presented to the public and citizens on **Tuesday the 17th of March at 6:00 p.m.**, inside the MAXXI Auditorium (free admission subject to availability). This event will also be used to present other important initiatives that will contribute to the urban regeneration of Flaminio, strengthening its vocation as a district of culture, the arts, green spaces and all things contemporary.

Following an introduction by **Maria Emanuela Bruni**, President of the Fondazione MAXXI, **Christian Rocchi**, President of the Ordine degli Architetti Pianificatori Paesaggisti e Conservatori di Roma e Provincia (OAR), and **Francesca Del Bello**, President of the Municipio II Roma, **Margherita Guccione**, Scientific Director of the Grande MAXXI, and **Pierfrancesco Malandrino**, agronomist of the project, will describe the look and feel of the new plaza, the plants that will inhabit it, and the benefits this transformation will bring to the Museum, the local area and the city.

In the second part, the perspective will broaden to the entire Flaminio district, currently at the centre of significant changes. **Renata Cristina Mazzantini**, Director of the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea (GNAMC), will speak about the redevelopment of the Gallery's Cosenza Wing, entrusted to the architect Mario Botta; **Massimo Alvisi** of Studio Alvisi Kirimoto will illustrate the green regeneration of the outdoor areas of the Auditorium Parco della Musica; **Lorenzo Busnengo**, Vice President of the OAR, will provide an overview of the area's historical and architectural landmarks. The event will be concluded by **Maurizio Veloccia**, Councillor for Urban Planning of the Municipality of Rome, who will provide an update on ongoing and planned interventions.

As **Maria Emanuela Bruni**, President of the Fondazione MAXXI, tells us: "Today the MAXXI plays an important role for the neighbourhood and for the city, opening its spaces to a wide range of audiences and promoting encounter, dialogue and social cohesion. The green regeneration of its Piazza strengthens this role, creating a landscape where art and play, education and creativity, cultures and people of all ages meet. The new Piazza will also engage in a dialogue with the pavilions designed by Studio TAKK in the Museum's hall, playful, animated and enriched by vegetation, creating an even stronger connection between interior and exterior".





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Margherita Guccione, Scientific Director of the Grande MAXXI, adds: “It is remarkable how the intertwining of architecture and nature can improve the quality and fruition of places.

The green regeneration of the Piazza, which by the summer will be more welcoming, comfortable and liveable, redefines the public space of the Museum, which the Grande MAXXI project will expand even further with the new park and the spectacular rooftop garden of the new building”.

A stroll through the new MAXXI Piazza

The planting of new trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants with extended flowering periods, will triple the green areas of the Piazza. A fragment of Mediterranean scrub enters the heart of the Museum, creating a mosaic of colours, scents, and leafy textures.

The result is a more natural, comfortable and welcoming environment in every season of the year.

Plants regulate the microclimate, mitigate heatwaves, improve air quality and contribute to our wellbeing.

Everything is in harmony with the fluid lines and pathways designed by Zaha Hadid, made softer and more inviting by the presence of greenery.

Trees are concentrated primarily towards Via Guido Reni, making the entrance to the Museum greener and more shaded, and an invitation to step inside. Here we find Mediterranean maples, Judas trees and holm oaks, together with intensely scented myrtles, strawberry trees with their colourful fruits, and other species typical of the Mediterranean environment.

Then there is the great lime tree, a living memory of the Museum, standing on the site long before the MAXXI was born. Moving on, along a gentle undulation of the ground that appears as if shaped by the wind, we find Aleppo pines, holm oak and manna ash.

Proceeding towards the heart of the square, the trees and plants gradually thin out to make way for an open space, an agora for events, installations and performances, but also for play, meeting and rest.

Looking up, the eye is drawn to the theatrical and surprising Gallery 5, the Museum’s most iconic space. To the right, three jacarandas with broad canopies that blaze purple when in bloom frame the square, while behind them, towards Via Masaccio, the row of poplars originally conceived by Zaha Hadid has been recreated to shelter the cavea, a green amphitheatre with five large trees whose shady crowns turn red, yellow, orange and brown in the autumn foliage.

In the new Piazza Boetti, visitors stroll along the pathways designed by Hadid to reach the museum hall, the Extra MAXXI spaces, the library, the restaurant and café, and the centre of the square, which thus strengthens its vocation as a public space, now also green, open to the neighbourhood and the city.

In collaboration with the Ordine degli Architetti Pianificatori Paesaggisti e Conservatori di Roma e Provincia. Participation in the event grants 2 professional training credits to architects registered with an Italian Order, subject to registration on the OAR Portal.

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