



THE VENICE BIENNALE SESSIONS

57. ESPOSIZIONE INTERNAZIONALE D'ARTE

## VIVA ARTE VIVA

**Design School, Istituto Marangoni Milan**

Seminar: Lisa Hockemeyer

Seminar title: To All Humans Their Art; To Art Its Freedom

Seminar Date: 1:00 pm, 11. 11. 2017

Place: Venice, Arsenale Lecture Hall 'Sale d'Armi C'

### SEMINAR ABSTRACT

To All Humans Their Art; To Art Its Freedom

“Today, in a world full of conflicts and shocks, art bears witness to the most precious part of what makes us human. Art is the ultimate ground for reflection, individual expression, freedom, and for fundamental questions. Art is the last bastion, a garden to cultivate above and beyond trends and personal interests. It stands as an unequivocal alternative to individualism and indifference.”

Christine Macel ( Curator)

The title of this seminar recalls the famous Vienna Secessionists' proclamation of 1897 'To the Age its Art; To Art its Freedom' implying that contemporary art will always be subject to a natural change. The Venice Biennale documents just that. Since its first edition in 1895, the Venice Art Biennale has acted as a platform to source, unravel, understand and be contaminated by continuously changing international contemporary art and ideas. It is a place of inspiration and pleasure for the wider public, whether specialist or dilettante, to encounter, appreciate and debate the latest avant-garde artistic contributions from different countries.

This years' Venice Art Biennale, curated by Christine Marcel (Paris, France, 1969) and entitled VIVA ARTE VIVA differs greatly from the last that aimed to confront and challenge us with artistic contributions on global, geo-political, environmental and social change. Marcel's edition instead looks inside the intimate realm of the artists themselves and sets out to unravel what it means to be an artist, highlighting and evaluating the individual creative act and its personal experience. Every Individual human being their art.

This seminar entitled To All Humans Their Art; To Art Its Freedom sets out to investigate Christine Marcel's 57<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale edition against the background of its history, its origins and becoming over the past 120 years. It will highlight and introduce some of the key aesthetic proclamations and artistic encounters this manifestation has seen in the past and offer an interpretation of Christine Marcel's humanistic theme of the current exhibition that focuses on the "artists' creative act" itself.