

Sotheby's Magazine

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Art & Fashion

MARIACARLA BOSCONO IN ATHENS

GRAND TOUR

WHEN IN VENICE

This May, the world's oldest and most prestigious art biennale returns for its 61st edition with "In Minor Keys," honoring the vision of the late curator Koyo Kouoh. Beyond the central exhibition, Venice comes alive with openings, events, and surprises around every canal.—James Haldane



INDAGARE

Masked Marvels

Collectors with a taste for *la dolce vita*, take note. Sotheby's and Indagare present a new Insider Journey to Venice, September 24-27—four days exploring Biennale highlights and the secrets of La Serenissima. Sotheby's expert Lorenzo Rebecchini will guide an intimate group through top pavilions, the Peggy Guggenheim Collection and AMA Venezia, including time with its founder, Laurent Asscher. With the storied Gritti Palace as your base, overlooking the Grand Canal and Santa Maria della Salute, expect Venetian splendor expertly unlocked.

LAGUNA-B

Masters of Murano

Laguna-B fuses centuries-old glassmaking knowledge with contemporary design under the vision of its art director, Venice-raised Marcantonio Brandolini d'Adda, continuing the studio that his mother founded in 1994. The brand will unveil installations at its Dorsoduro concept store, where visitors can experience the ritual of drinking from its distinctive vessels firsthand.

UAE PAVILION

Landscape Artist

The UAE has chosen Bana Kattan, curator and associate head of exhibitions at the eagerly awaited Guggenheim Abu Dhabi, designed by the late Frank Gehry, to lead its 15th Venice Biennale appearance. Born in Abu Dhabi and seasoned in Chicago, Kattan is crafting a showcase that, in her words, "reflects the UAE's vibrant artistic landscape while engaging with broader histories, complexities and conversations."



MARINA ABRAMOVIĆ

Past & Present

Marina Abramović will make history as the first woman honored with a major exhibition at the Gallerie dell'Accademia, marking her 80th birthday. "Transforming Energy" presents early performances alongside new works, exploring endurance, vulnerability and transcendence. Reflecting on her first encounter with Venice at 14, she remembers stepping off the train from Belgrade, weeping at the city's incomparable splendor: "It was so incredibly beautiful—unlike anything I had ever seen."



MATTHEW WONG

Interior View

Once a docent at the Hong Kong Pavilion, the late Chinese-Canadian painter returns to Venice posthumously with "Matthew Wong: Interiors," a solo exhibition at Palazzo Tiepolo Passi. Presenting some 35 rarely seen and never-before-exhibited works, curated by his former mentor, gallerist John Cheim, the show underscores Venice's enduring influence on Wong's celebrated synthesis of color, space and form.



FONDAZIONE DRIES VAN NOTEN

Palazzo Appreciation

Fondazione Dries Van Noten opens in April within the ornate rococo interiors of 15th-century Palazzo Pisani Moretta. Conceived by Dries Van Noten and his partner, Patrick Vangheluwe, the foundation celebrates craftsmanship across art, fashion and design. According to Van Noten and Vangheluwe, the palazzo was chosen "not as a monument frozen in time, but as a stage for creativity."

Right, from top: Photo by Sasha Feldman. Courtesy of Indagare. Courtesy of Laguna-B. Artwork: © 2025 Matthew Wong Foundation / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York. Photo by Alan Yudson. Photo by Daisuke Dandashi. Courtesy of National Pavilion UAE. Photos by Camilla Glorioso; Photo by Yu Jieyu.