

DIALOGUES

Special project by Venice Conservatory Benedetto Marcello
Palazzo Contarini Polignac, Dorsoduro, 874
Hanji house – Venice

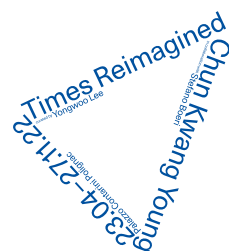
Dialogues is a special project proposed within the exhibition Times Reimagined. It starts from a collaboration between Korean artist Kwang Young Chun and Italian architect Stefano Boeri and is curated by Yongwoo Lee, Manuela Lucà-Dazio, Liyin Wang and Anastasia Kucherova.

Hanji house, a place for contemplation and meditation, is a contemporary architecture designed by SBA, conceived in dialogue with the historic frame of Canal Grande, Palazzo Contarini Polignac and the garden of Palazzo Balbi Valier.

From November 1st to 21st Hanji house will host a special project developed in collaboration with Venice Conservatory, a conversation between art, architecture and music. Just like the Hanji house itself dialogues with its historic surroundings, the sonar installation takes inspiration both from classical and contemporary, experimental music, in order to create an organic presence capable of filling the entire space of Hanji house.

The musical experience is conceived as a sequence of moments, starting with the opening live performance by saxophone and guitar, which will be hosted inside the Hanji house. For the following 20 days the pavilion will be filled with sound elaborations based on classical, modern and contemporary music, performed or composed by the students of the Conservatory.

To mark the conclusive moment of the exhibition Conservatory will present a live performance by two arch quartets in the suggestive frame of Palazzo Contarini Polignac.



*“Music is liquid architecture;
architecture is frozen music”.*

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Hanji House is a room to stop involuntarily, an experiment exploring the relation between space and time, in synchony with the artistic path of Kwang Young Chun. Hanji House is a container offering a pause to the visitors tired by the infinite flow of images and impressions of the Biennale and a space where time slows down and bends, based on your relationship with its content or void.

When the idea of hosting special projects at Hanji house came to the curators of the exhibition, we tried to imagine the most powerful, yet sustainable and delicate way of turning the space alive. In the picturesque context of Palazzo Contarini Polignac, unveiling, floor after floor, its own magnificence framing the intense artworks by the artist, of the luxurious surrounding garden and Canal Grande we thought of the most ephemeral and at the same time eternal artistic forms: of music. The historic quarters of Conservatorio is just across Canal Grande, facing the garden and Hanji House, so the collaboration is literally born out of reflection, out of a dialogue between music and its solid form, architecture.

Conservatorio is a term that might lead to a confusion for it is associated with conservative approach, while the true intention of the institution is to study the basis and traditions to encourage the students to push the limits through their artistic exploration.

“Dialogues” is an extraordinary occasion of cultural exchange and unique experience for the visitors to feel part of the synthesis of arts, to be overwhelmed by the presence and absence at the same time. The music doesn't leave any physical footprint after it is performed and experienced, yet it is capable of stimulating imagination by the very absence of materiality.

The first appointment of the special project Dialogues is a concert performed by duo Confluence, the Conservatorio students Teresa Gasparini e Michelangelo Ghedini, on saxophone and guitar. The program proposed by the duo explores the relationship between the artist and his origins, taking inspiration from the story of Kwang Young Chun. The works and the storytelling of the Korean artist are strongly connected with his origins and childhood memories in particular: the very artistic method he uses and the units composing his sculptures and canvases are a reminiscence of traditional Korean medicine, concentrating the knowledge of generations in a single laboriously tied paper package. The paper itself, produced by hand, the traditional mulberry paper called hanji is the link between the essence of the creative production of Kwang Young Chun and Stefano Boeri architect's intervention.

Another consideration that inspired the choice of musical pieces is related to the Time and its declinations as historical time and the time perceived by human beings. The ecological disasters and accelerated development leads to these two timelines juxtaposing and mixing up continuously. Once the human lifetime was so much far from historic events that people didn't perceive it as something related to their everyday life. Today in one lifespan we can face so many challenges and crucial occurrences, we hardly manage to separate our own path from that of the humanity, as it keeps melting into one.

How can the music tell all these stories through sounds? The concert starts with Antonio Vivaldi, a musician who truly personifies Venice worldwide, a composer who transformed its genius loci into the sounds. It then explores the reminiscences of homeland stories, patterns and rhythms through the pieces by Astor Piazzolla, Isaac Albéniz and Bela Bartok, this latter the pioneer of ethnographic musicology and scientific approach to the relationship between the artist's origins and his creative production.

Another piece that truly stands out is Ciaran Farrell, who's a living Irish composer and his trilogy about the Irish lakes, the sounds of nature both peaceful, melancholic and sometimes alarming, drawing our attention to the climate change and water basins metamorphoses related to its effects.

Finally, collaboration with Conservatorio of Venice has a symbolic meaning related to the idea of Times reimagined: it unites overseas with local, historic with contemporary and draws a thread of union from glorious musical and artistic past to the yet unknown but definitely inspiring future, thanks to the energy and passion of the young generation of students.

31.10 – 21.11

2022

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NOVEMBER 1ST – H: 16.00

Antonio Vivaldi (1678 – 1741)
Sonata, G minor
Jacques François Ibert (1890
–1962)
Entr'acte

Astor Piazzolla (1921 –1992)
*Histoire du Tango: Bordel
1900, Nightclub 1960*
Isaac Albéniz (1860 –1909)
*Suite Española: Granada,
Cataluña, Cadiz*

Ciaran Farrell (1969)
The Shannon Suite
Béla Bartók (1881 – 1945)
*Romanian Folk Dances
Duo Confluence*
Teresa Gasparini, Chitarra
Michelangelo Ghedini,
Saxofono



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Times Reimagined soundscape

The audio broadcast inside the Hanji House at Palazzo Contarini Polignac is an infinite flow of variations on the title of the exhibition "Times Reimagined. The installation superimposes a series of recordings of classical chamber music pieces processed in real time on the sounds of the Venetian soundscape.

The classical pieces, performed by the students of the "B. Marcello" in Venice, are mounted without solution of continuity and are processed in real time in the domain of time and space: pseudorandom accelerations and slowdowns, 'backwards' reproductions, movements of the sounds diffused between the loudspeakers of the quadraphonic system that change continuously speed of movement between one loudspeaker and another and spatial location, are ways of re-imagining the times of the use of music which, superimposed on the sounds of the soundscape of Venice (taken from www.venice-soundmap.eu), create ambiguity and relationships between inside and outside, fast and slow, near and far, ancient and contemporary.



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Times Reimagined soundscape explained

“Salieri: Music I

Dissected like a corpse. Proved its harmonies

Like higher mathematics”.

Alexander Pushkin, Mozart and Salieri

Quadraphonic sound – equivalent to what is now called 4.0 surround sound – uses four audio channels in which speakers are positioned at the four corners of a listening space. The system allows for the reproduction of sound signals that are (wholly or in part) independent of one another.

Four channel quadraphonic surround sound can be used to recreate the highly realistic effect of a three-dimensional live concert hall experience in the space. It can also be used to enhance the listener experience beyond the directional limitations of ordinary two channel stereo sound. Quadraphonic audio was the earliest consumer product in surround sound.

The installation Times Reimagined soundscape uses quadraphonic sound, in order to propose to the visitors a full immersion experience. The sound coming from different directions, various tracks overlapping with each other, the origin and the intensity of the soundscape components - all these aspects can be unveiled to the visitors in a didactic event. The student Giuseppe De Benedittis (the one who has developed and installed the system in all its phases) will illustrate how it works and demonstrate its further potential; followed by two guided listenings (*Phoné* and *Turenas* by John Chowning) that make the most of the quadraphonic system present in the Hanji house). The event will thus become a moment of deep exploration of different ways of broadcasting and enjoying the music and a possibility for public to understand more of the quadraphonic system, its relation with the space. The visitor shall discover the multitude of ways of creating the harmony and proving it with algebra.

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The concert

NOVEMBER 20TH – H: 14.00

H: 17.00

Franz Joseph Haydn
(1732 - 1809)

*Quartet op. 76 n. 2 "delle
quinte"*

Allegro (D minor)

*Andante o piu tosto Allegretto
(re major)*

*Menuetto (re minore) e Trio
(re major)*

Finale. Vivace assai (re minor)

Anton Webern (1883 - 1945)

Quartet for arches, op. 28

Mäßig

Gemächlich

Sehr fließend

Sebastiano Menardi, violin

Aurora Ferro, violin

Elena Da Pieve, viola

Anna Trapani, cello

Ludwig van Beethoven
(1770 - 1827)

*Quartet for arches n. 4 in C
minor, op. 18 n. 4*

Allegro, ma non tanto

Andante scherzoso, quasi

Allegretto (C major)

Minuetto. Allegretto

Allegro

Giovanni Di Giorgio, violin

Fabio Pez, violin

Leonardo Bellin, viola

Costanza Battistella, cello