PRESS RELEASE

# A.R.T.: NOURISHING AND PRESERVING ART

-EXHIBITION PROJECT BETWEEN MILAN AND VENICE, MAY/OCTOBER 2015

-YOUNG ARTISTS BESIDES MASTERS OF THE CONTEMPORARY ART, WORK ON THE SUBJECT OF NOURISHMENT AND STORAGE OF FOOD THROUGH THE ICON OF THE REFRIGERATOR

-ON MAY 19 THE OPENING IN MILAN AND THE CHARITY AUCTION BY CHRISTIE'S

Milan, 2 April 2015

In line with topics of Expo 2015, "A.R.T. (Advanced Refrigeration Technology): nourishing and preserving art", bridge-project between Milan and Venice, cured by Andrea Del Guercio, focuses on nutrition and food, its storage, sharing and consumption.

Iconic central image of the project is the refrigerator, chosen as representative of the theme of nourishment and conservation.

The exhibition develops between Milan and Venice, leveraging on different locations in both towns, and involves 36 artists, 8 of whom masters of contemporary arts and 12 young artists.

Banca Sistema, in cooperation with Lops Ritratti d'Arredo and Meson's, leader respectively in the sector of furniture and kitchens, organizes and promotes the exhibition itinerary that, by recalling the role of feeding as a specific human experience, also acts on the territory. Works reflect on the anthropological implications of nutrition, starting from the awareness of how keeping and sharing food is at the base of how human beings perceive themselves. The exhibit activates a look into spiritual and religious sides of food, in so justifying the patronage of the Venice Patriarchate and the choice of church Sant'Andrea della Zirada as a location, re-opened to the public on this occasion after being closed for more than 20 years and partially restored.

In Milan, the exhibition will be held in Banca Sistema's headquarters, in the city center. Other refrigerator-icons will show in the headquarters of Lops. Thanks to the cooperation with the Milan Diocese, moreover, other locations will host the artworks, enriching the exhibition itinerary for citizens, tourists and art lovers. Banca Sistema will host the preparatory sketches realized by artists, and a personal exhibition by the very young artist Lucrezia Zaffarano on the theme of the food sharing.

Also in Venice the exhibit, open from May 7 to June 30, will be hosted in different locations, thanks to the contribution of the Venice Patriarchate: Sant'Andrea della Zirada, starting point of the Venice itinerary, with its single nave free of columns and benches, will host 20 icon-refrigerators.
In the choir of the church will also show some paints, inspired by the theme of food.
Churches of Santa Sofia and Tolentini will host *site-specific* works: in particular the areas of the altar and ambo realized in OKITE®.

THE OPENING AND THE CHARITY AUCTION BY CHRISTIE'S

- 19 May 2015 at Banca Sistema in Milan: opening of the Milanese exhibition and charity auction by Christie's with the sale of the 20 refrigerator-icons exposed in Venice. Proceeds of the auction will totally devoted to the final restoration of the church of Sant'Andrea della Zirada.
It twill be possible to take part to the auction, managed by Renato Pennisi (Senior Specialist & Head of Sale, Modern and Contemporary Art at Christie's), in person and through written and phone offers. No auction fees will be required.
The exhibition in Banca Sistema will be hosted until October 28, 2015 (visits by appointment every Friday afternoon).

The catalogue of the whole project, realized by Banca Sistema and published and distributed by Vanillaedizioni, will also be available online -as usual- on "bancasistemarte.it" website.

Curator and coordinator of the exhibition is Professor Andrea Del Guercio, tenured Professor of History of Contemporary Art at the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera in Milan.

The full project has been made possible thanks to the support and cooperation of different entities offering, in different ways and each by virtue of its own business mission, the resources necessary to its fulfillment.

Main sponsors are Banca Sistema, Lops Ritratti d'Arredo and Meson's. Technical sponsors are Electrolux and OKITE®.

The project has been realized in cooperation with the Diocese of Milan and under the aegis of the University and Culture Pastoral Office as well as the Office for the Promotion of the Cultural Patrimony of the Church of the Venice Patriarchate.

**THE ARTISTS – who chose to support the restoration project by giving their works-:**

**Letizia Cariello, Giorgio Cattani, Christian Costa, Antonio Ievolella, Ivano Sossella, Aldo Spoldi, Tarshito, Elisa Bertaglia, Bros, Sofia Cacciapaglia, Daniela Conte, Giuseppe De Siati, Debora Fella, Riccardo Garolla, Alberto Gianfreda, Chen Gong, Irene Dioli, Ilaria Forlini, Laura Renna, Mauro Marcenaro, Emiliano Rubinacci, Carmine Sabbatella, Federico Unia, Nicole Bacchiega, Viola Ceribelli, Lorenzo Fioranelli, Ania Galli, Chiara Lupi, Ottavio Mangiarini, Simone Masetto, Gianmaria Milani, Isabella Mottini, Luca Ovani, Sara Somaini, Valentina Sonzogni, Lucrezia Zaffarano.**

**Banca SISTEMA ARTE**

Within the field of no-profit activities, Banca Sistema decided to give life to Banca SISTEMA ARTE, a project devoted to art and creative heritage of youth Italian artists, appraising in such a way their emerging value within the artistic field and giving them privileged ways of visibility. The project, born at the end of 2011, offers to artists the opportunity to exhibit their own work at the headquarters of the Bank: a significant appointment where are promoted creativeness and work of each artist through a new logic of support, pointed at increasing their potentiality.

www.bancasistemarte.it

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