



FIRENZE SUONA CONTEMPORANEA

X Edizione

Artistic Direction by **Andrea Cavallari**

Il Respiro delle statue

28 September > 2 October 2017

VANESSA BEECROFT

FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2017, 9PM | CORTILE PALAZZO STROZZI

MONDAY 2 OCTOBER 2017, 6PM | SALA DELLA NIOBE, UFFIZI

Tenth edition for Firenze Suona Contemporanea, the international festival directed by Andrea Cavallari, will be held from September 28th until October 2nd. During these ten years the event has become a valuable reference point for the public, continuing its mission of **combining music and art through unpublished experimentation.** This year they will present **first-class, special projects and international guests,** reviving Renaissance **museum spaces** in a contemporary way.

***Respiro delle statue*, title of this year's event, is the result of new collaborations between Palazzo Strozzi Foundation, Uffizi Galleries and the Center for Contemporary Art Luigi Pecci.**

“The exhibition focuses on the complex relationship between contemporary art and the past, responding to the needs of a new audience that is accustomed to enjoying the contemporary through multidisciplinary and almost multisensory events. Their experience of live entertainment is now defined by multimedia language and new technologies”, says Cavallari.

In this festival the spectator will be exposed to contemporary music outside of the usual schemes, being able to witness music concerts but also the latest audiovisual masterpieces, from music to live theater electronics to contemporary art, with **special participation by Vanessa Beecroft who for the first time will include a musical element in her work.**

Vanessa BEECROFT will be the exceptional guest and heart of FIRENZE SUONA CONTEMPORANEA 2017. She has been invited to interpret the city of Florence through two **site-specific installations**, around which all the other events will be held. Born in Genoa in 1969, **Vanessa Beecroft** has for many years been on of the most indisputable protagonists of the international scene. She is universally known for her works that concentrate on bodies, mostly feminine, which are ‘revealing creatures’ of the surrounding space, combining the artistic concept, social criticism and theatre. Beecroft’s interventions with young model-performers, along with the **FLAME Ensemble**, will converse over two different nights by

integrating classic and contemporary music with some of the most important spaces in the city's most important institutions.

The festival will open on **Thursday, September 28th** at 9.30pm at **CinemAnemico** Settignano with the screening of Vanessa Beecroft **VB Sud Sudan**, a project that began in 2005 during a journey by the artist in Sudan.

On **Friday, September 29th** at 9pm in the **Courtyard of Palazzo Strozzi**, the music of Santa Presenza by Joan d'Arc written in 1981 by the African American minimalist composer Julius Eastman (1940-1990) will be welcomed by Beecroft's living scenery, through a theory of over 30 models both black and white, modulated by the geometry of the courtyard.

On **Monday, October 2nd** at 6pm, the **Sala del Niobe, Uffizi** becomes the theater where the mute drama of a Greek tragedy will literally be breathed, subtle and dramatic, expressed by the composite bodies and choreographed by the artist according to the tradition of the tableaux vivants. Beecroft returns here to collaborate with designer Cristina Bomba and her Masion of Rome to form the garments from her imagination. The entrance will be free until no places remain, thanks to a contribution from Florence Musei.

The **performances of Vanessa Beecroft** are sponsored by Tod's, a brand that has always been engaged in the promotion of artistic and cultural heritage through a series of important initiatives.

Saturday September 30th at 5.00pm, Umberto Galimberti will hold a **lectio magistralis** titled **La Bellezza: legge segreta della vita** at the Center for Contemporary Art Luigi Pecci.

Through a double lens of the classic and contemporary, the festival invited the Finnish vocal ensemble **HELSINKI CHAMBER CHOIR** to perform in the Church of Santa Maria at Settignano, **Sunday October 1st at 9.00pm**, the madrigals of **Carlo Gesualdo from Venosa, Salvatore Sciarrino and Claudio Ambrosini**.

The group **HELSINKI CHAMBER CHOIR** was founded in 1962 as the choir of Finnish Radio and obtained its name in 2005. It is the only professional chamber choir in Finland and, in addition to its classical repertoire, boasts 50 first solo performances from 2005 to present, in addition to prestigious recordings.

FIRENZE SUONA CONTEMPORANEA is funded and supported by the Tuscany Region, the Municipality of Florence (within Estate Fiorentina 2017) and the Ente Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze. It is realized in collaboration with the Lia Rumma Gallery.

Project realized by Toscanaincontemporanea2017

INFO/ Bookings FLAME | Florence Art Music Ensemble

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