



HOMO FABER
Crafting a more human future

10 April-1 May 2022 V E N I C E FONDAZIONE GIORGIO CINI

**Homo Faber Event 2022, the groundbreaking cultural event
dedicated to contemporary craftsmanship,
is now open to visitors in Venice**

- **15 exhibition spaces dedicated to different aspects of craftsmanship, imagined by a team of world-class designers, curators and architects**
- **Unique work by over 400 artisans and designers from more than 40 countries**
- **More than 850 objects representing 110 different crafts**
- **A focus on Japan including pieces by 12 Japanese National Living Treasures**
- **65 artisans demonstrating their crafts live**
- **100 immersive experiences through Homo Faber in Città, a chance to explore craftsmanship across Venice**
- **Open daily from 10 April – 1 May; buy tickets on homofaber.com, limited tickets available on site**

9 April 2022 – the Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship and its partners welcomed journalists, cultural commentators and key figures in the international arts and design world to Venice to celebrate the opening of **Homo Faber Event 2022**. The second edition of this groundbreaking showcase of contemporary craftsmanship is now open to the public at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, San Giorgio Maggiore island, Venice, until 1 May.

The ribbon was cut by Professor Giovanni Bazoli, Chairman of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, and Franco Cologni, Co-founder of the Michelangelo Foundation, accompanied by some of the event's Young Ambassadors, students representing the future of craftsmanship, who will guide visitors around the exhibitions. Speakers at the opening ceremony included Simone Venturini, Deputy Mayor of Venice in charge of economic development; Judith Clark, fashion exhibition designer, Professor of Fashion and Museology at University of the Arts London, and a curator of Homo Faber Event; and Inès Mesmar, Director and Founder of La Fabrique Nomade, the French association which aids the professional integration of migrant and refugee craftspeople. They were joined by the curators of Homo Faber Event including general curator Alberto Cavalli, Executive Director of the Michelangelo Foundation.

Diverse stories by human talents

The artisans selected for this edition of Homo Faber Event represent the diversity of crafts, cultures, customs, human talents and life stories around the world and across the generations, from young talents taking over a family business to long-established masters sharing their knowledge with the next generation. Visitors will discover the work of a Franco-Beninese

ceramicist striving to connect diverse cultures, a young British leatherworker giving new life to traditional saddlery techniques, and a pair of woodworkers from Afghanistan whose hand carved tabletop games tell stories from their homeland. Together, the more than 400 artisans showcased in the event demonstrate the depth and breadth of craftsmanship in Europe, Japan and beyond, and its continuing relevance to all our lives.

An immersive event, it invites visitors to not only admire the objects on display, but to get up close to craftsmanship and witness artisanal skills in action. Meet master artisans and see how they are passing on their skills to young apprentices; turn a crank to set in motion automata created by design students and master artisans in Switzerland; step inside Japanese artisanal workshops through fascinating photographs; take refreshments in a 'crafted' tea room where every table, mug and vase tells a story; and discover the Michelangelo Foundation's growing community of artisans through an immersive audiovisual installation which transports visitors into workshops in Scotland, Norway, Lithuania, Greece and elsewhere.

Objects to enhance our lives

This second edition of Homo Faber Event urges visitors to reflect on the nature of craft and its place in our everyday lives: from our homes and our wardrobes to the wider worlds of theatre, music, cuisine and flower design. Not only does the event present unique decorative objects which would take pride of place on our mantelpieces, but it also shows how craft is essential to creating exquisite functional objects that enhance our daily lives better than any machine-made piece: tables made with Italian heritage stone, handcrafted porcelain dishes, glass vases made using traditional techniques from Murano, unique leather bags embossed by hand, and fountain pens carefully crafted using age-old French techniques.

Connecting cultures

In keeping with its mission to show how craft can connect cultures and people around the world, Homo Faber Event explores the entwining cultural relationship between Europe and Japan. It honours the official recognition that Japan gives to its finest masters, the National Living Treasures, who are considered keepers of important intangible cultural properties. A *fil rouge* running through the whole event demonstrates Japan's influence on European craftsmanship, from porcelain design to luxury goods, while visitors can get even closer to Japanese culture by participating in workshops demonstrating the art of *ikebana* and the Japanese tea ceremony.

Building a sustainable future

Guided by a philosophy of sustainability, the event highlights the importance of making craft businesses viable and safeguarding them for the future, showcasing the transfer of knowledge between master and apprentice and placing a strong focus on the next generation. The event's Young Ambassadors, carefully selected from Europe's top arts and design schools, are on hand to guide visitors around the exhibition spaces, imparting the knowledge, passion and enthusiasm that make them the faces of craftsmanship's bright future.

The event's sustainable approach is also evident in its selection of hospitality partners, which showcase artisanal food and offer visitors an elevated hospitality experience. The gardens and outdoor spaces of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, as well as the yacht club of San Giorgio Maggiore island, become beautiful settings for the event's carefully curated food and beverage outlets, which

present a range of local, sustainable dishes and drinks reflecting the craftsmanship behind Italian gastronomy.

ALMA, the School of Italian Culinary Arts, invites visitors to the ALMA Circle – *Experience the taste of art*, a unique gastronomic experience connected to art, culture and the great Italian craftsmanship of taste. Created in collaboration with San Giorgio Cafè, this journey through flavours offers a choice of themed tasting sessions and a fine dining menu in the enchanting setting of the Compagnia della Vela. Master artisans in its exclusive lounge tell stories through their iconic artisanal creations.

Presenting a new side of Venice

For the first time, Homo Faber Event goes beyond the walls of Fondazione Giorgio Cini to allow visitors to experience the craftsmanship hidden between Venice's canals. More than 100 artisanal workshops, businesses and museums across the lagoon city will open their doors as part of **Homo Faber in Città**. Using the app or website, visitors can create bespoke self-guided craft tours according to their interests. Whether they chose to witness the age-old process of gold leaf beating, step behind the scenes at a costume maker's workshop or visit the last furnace operating with fire in Venice, visitors will experience the city in a completely new way.

The Homo Faber experience

Seven specially devised experiences are available to book in advance. Ideal for private groups, these special packages encompass craftsmanship, entertainment, gastronomy and memorable moments across Homo Faber Event and Homo Faber in Città, and can be tailored according to visitors' interests. See the website for details.

The 15 exhibitions

The Ateliers of Wonders curated by Rinko Kawauchi

12 Stone Garden curated by Naoto Fukasawa and Tokugo Uchida

Masterful Gestures curated by the Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship.

Italy and Japan: Marvellous Liaisons curated by Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte

Mechanical Marvels curated by Nicolas Le Moigne, co-curated by Simon Kidston

Magnae Chartae curated by Michele De Lucchi and his studio AMDL CIRCLE

Porcelain Virtuosity curated by David Caméo and Frédéric Bodet

Pattern of Crafts curated by Sebastian Herkner

Tracing Venice curated by De Castelli and Zanellato/Bortotto

Blossoming Beauty curated by the Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship

Next of Europe curated by Jean Blanchaert and Stefano Boeri Interiors

The Artisan: a crafted tea room curated by Tapiwa Matsinde

WAITING with peace and darkness curated by Robert Wilson



Details: Genealogies of Ornament curated by Judith Clark

Eilean curated by Panerai

Notes for editors

homofaber.com

Discover Venice the #HomoFaberWay

  @homofaber

The Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship is a non-profit institution based in Geneva, Switzerland, which champions contemporary craftspeople worldwide with the aim of promoting a more human, inclusive and sustainable future. The Foundation seeks to highlight the connections between craft, the wider arts and the design world. Its mission is to both celebrate and preserve craftsmanship and its diversity of makers, materials and techniques, by increasing craft's everyday recognition and its viability as a professional path for the next generations. From engaging educational programmes such as the Summer Schools, to its signature digital project the **Homo Faber Guide** and the international exhibition **Homo Faber Event**, the Foundation is fostering a cultural movement centred on master artisans and rising stars. michelangelofoundation.org

Patrons

Homo Faber Event 2022 is an initiative of the Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship under the high patronage of:

UNESCO

President of the European Parliament

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Swiss Confederation

City of Venice

Region of Veneto

Consulate General of Japan in Milan

Italy Japan Foundation

Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Italy

Partners

Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte

Fondazione Giorgio Cini

Japan Foundation

Fondation Bettencourt Schueller

Special thanks to [our sponsors](#) for their support.

Official carrier

Thanks to the event's partnership with Frecciarossa by Trenitalia, who have been chosen as the official carrier, visitors can travel in comfort and make an eco-friendly choice to reach Venice by train.

Contacts

Worldwide

e plus e + GA - +39 02 34538354

Giuditta Amisano

giuditta.amisano@eplusestudio.com

Federica "Guga" Fratoni

guga@GA.works

Japan

Daily Press - 03 6416 3201

Nao Takegata

naotakegata@dailypress.org

info@homofaber.com - homofaber.com

Organised by



**MICHELANGELO
FOUNDATION**
FOR CREATIVITY
AND CRAFTSMANSHIP

Under the high patronage of



In partnership with

