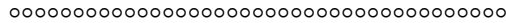




**ACCADEMIA
DI BELLE ARTI
MACERATA**



Accademia di Belle Arti di Macerata



ALFREDO JAAR

Laurea Honoris Causa and Svoboda Award

Auditorium Josef Svoboda
Via Vincenzo Berardi, 6 (MC)
Thursday 14th February, 10:30 am

The Academy of Fine Arts of Macerata is pleased to announce the opening ceremony of the 2018/2019 academic year and the Laurea Honoris Causa to Alfredo Jaar, who will also receive the Svoboda Award. The ceremony will be held in the Auditorium Josef Svoboda on Thursday, February 14th 2019, at 10:30, with the Laudatio by Ida Panicelli.

Since his first steps in the field of art (his first solo exhibition is organized at Galería CAL in Santiago, Chile in 1979), Alfredo Jaar has been at the center of attention with a communication program – «art is communication »warns the artist – where ethics and aesthetics meet to create biting thoughts through which to create reflective models on societies, global cultures and communities that populate the world. Intransigent towards political powers, irreverent in the face of any form of dictatorship and disruptive in a social landscape narcotized by indifference, Jaar has always developed projects where the idea is projected as an ideal showing and recording the real reality, researching the truth, eluding the history of the winners in order to listen and narrate that of the losers and the voiceless; an ideal which draws a constant passage from the individual to the species, from the individual analysis to the collective knowledge (consciousness). His art in fact asks questions and invites the public to reflect on social iniquities, to get out of the blindness of the world, to take sides and "to create new ways of thinking" (Gramsci), to break the chains of indifference and conformity, to get touched.

«Everything I Know about the world, everything I understand about the world, I started learning the day I became an artist. I can say that I became an artist in order to understand the world in which I live. In a way, I became an artist out of curiosity. And curiosity is perhaps the best antidote against obscurantism. Curiosity is the source of my insatiable inquisitiveness. Inquisitiveness leads to knowledge. And knowledge means enlightenment. The idea is to open your mind to the world. We are, after all, the result of all the stimuli we receive. The more stimuli we receive, the more complete our vision. How can I comprehend anything if I only know half of the story? Perhaps the true enemy of our intellect is apathy. Indifference. As we defeat our apathy, we expand our search and discover places, mental places, intellectual place where we have never been, that we didn't even know existed. In the process of becoming an artist, I took a journey that went from ignorance, that is darkness, to knowledge, meaning light. This knowledge has illuminated me. It is perhaps the reason why light, physical light, has become such an important device in my work. The process of making art is perhaps nothing more, and nothing less, than to shed light on our world» (Jaar).

Fur further info - Accademia di Belle Arti di Macerata
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BIOGRAPHY OF THE ARTIST

Alfredo Jaar was born on 5th February 1956 in Santiago de Chile, he spent his childhood in Fort-de-France, (Martinique) and then studied as an architect and a film-maker in Santiago. Since 1982 he has lived and worked in New York. He is known as one of the most intransigent, compelling and innovative artists of today. His work has been widely exhibited all over the world and over fifty monographs have been dedicated to him. He participated in several Biennals: Venezia (1986, 2007, 2009, 2013), São Paulo (1987, 1989, 2000), Sydney (1990), Gwangju (1995, 2000), Istanbul (1995), Johannesburg (1997), Shanghai (2018) as well as in two editions of Documenta, Kassel (1987, 2002). Several solo exhibitions took place at New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York, Whitechapel Art Gallery in London, Pergamon Museum of Berlin, Museum of Contemporary Art of Chicago, Moderna Museet in Stockholm, MACRO Museo d'Arte Contemporanea in Rome, Fundación Telefónica of Santiago de Chile, Musée Cantonal des Beaux-Arts in Lausanne, South London Gallery and YSP, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, UK. A large retrospective of his work was exhibited in summer 2012 in three institutional spaces in Berlin: the Berlinische Galerie, the Neue Gesellschaft für bildende Kunst and the Alte Nationalgalerie. In 2014 the Museum of Contemporary Art Kiasma in Helsinki dedicated to him the most complete retrospective in his career.

Between 2004 and 2005, he realized in Italy the *Gramsci Trilogy*, composed by *Cella Infinita* (Lia Rumma Gallery, Milan), *Che cento fiori sboccino* (MACRO, Rome), *Le ceneri di Gramsci* (Studio Stefania Miscetti, Rome), besides *Prologo: Alla ricerca di Gramsci* (Rome) and *Epilogo: Estetica della Resistenza* (Como). He was a Visiting Professor at the Corso Superiore di Arte Visiva at the Antonio Ratti Foundation in 2005. In 2008 he was dedicated a great personal exhibition at the Hangar Bicocca and at the Spazio Oberdan in Milan, where he also realized an important public intervention (*Domande, Domande*) in the urban space. In 2009 he presented the movie *Le Ceneri di Pasolini* at the Biennale of Venice. At the moment he is working at a *public memorial* for Antonio Gramsci in Turin.

In 1985 he received the Guggenheim Fellowship, in 2000 the MacArthur Award and in 2006 the Award Extremadura a la Creación, in Spain. In 2013 he received the Premio Nacional de Arte in Chile. In 2018 the Hiroshima Art Prize.

His work is part of the collections of: MAXXI and MACRO in Rome, the Museum of Modern Art and the Guggenheim Museum in New York, the MCA in Chicago, the MOCA and the LACMA in Los Angeles, the TATE in London, the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, the Centro Reina Sofía in Madrid, the Moderna Museet in Stockholm, the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Humlebaek, MASP in São Paulo, the Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokushima Modern Art Museum, M+ in Hong Kong and many other public and private collections all over the world. In Italy he is represented by Lia Rumma Gallery, Milan / Naples.

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