



ARTEART PRIZE LAGUNA 11.12

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NOT ONLY CINEMA AT LIDO OF VENICE: sculptures and installations with the artists of Arte Laguna Prize and Open14

Press release

Venice, 1st September 2011 – Today at the press conference inaugurating the 14th edition of OPEN, exhibition of sculptures and installations in Venice, the Arte Laguna special prize has been assigned. For the second consecutive year, the jury has been asked to choose the winner among the projects of young artists, this year of the Finnish Academy of Fine Arts.

The winner is a duo made up of **Mika Helin and Matti Koskinen** who presented and created at San Servolo island a tree made of Lego over two meters high. **The two artists will be among the finalists of the 6th Arte Laguna Prize** and will exhibit in the collective exhibition at Arsenale of Venice, on March 2011.

Igor Zanti, curator of the Arte Laguna Prize describes the choice of the jury:

“Arte Laguna Prize decided to award the installation Tree, created by Finnish artists Mika Helin and Matti Koskinen, for the interesting qualities of the artwork which, through the use of bricks of Lego, describes the theme of the relationship between the natural and the artificial that, in a time where the virtual dimension prevails, assumes a value of great actuality.”

The collaboration between **Arte Laguna Prize and Open** continues for the second year, with the commitment of discovering and promoting emerging artists. As a matter of fact, **Shendra Stucki**, finalist artist of the 5th edition of the prize, will exhibit at OPEN14 her tree made of iron, cement and electric cables, for the second time in the Lagoon, after the collective exhibition at the Arsenale, last March.

The artworks of the 27 artists from eight different countries will be **on display until 2nd October** at Lido of Venice and San Servolo Island. Among them there is the *enfant prodige* Mahdiyar Arab, the youngest Iranian sculptor, who at the age of seven has created numerous solo and collective exhibitions in his country.

Info

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Arte Laguna Prize

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