

"The idea behind the *Third Paradise* is to lead artifice - that is science, technology, art, culture and politics - to restore life to the Earth. [...] The *Third Paradise* involves a transition to a new level of planetary civilization, essential to the survival of humankind. [...] This 'New Infinity Sign' is formed by three circles, the two opposite circles signify nature and artifice, while the middle one joins the two and represents the generative womb of the *Third Paradise*."

Michelangelo Pistoletto

Can art change the state of affairs? Michelangelo Pistoletto's answer is Yes, and his body of work, along with his performative actions and the foundation he created, Cittadellarte, confirms it. At a time when culture and the arts are perceived marginal to politics, here is an artist who for the past half century has incessantly brought the world into his studio, and his art into the streets. His guiding principle was and remains that art is socially responsible. Over the past few years, his symbol Third Paradise has travelled the world and engaged diverse communities in processes of social transformation. The fact that during the Italian Presidency of the European Council the monumental version of this symbol will occupy the hall of the Justus Lipsius is a sign that a new renaissance for Europe is possible, and investing and believing in the arts and sciences is the golden rule to achieve it.

Starting in September, an artistic bridge will connect the Justus Lipsius building to the Centre for Fine Arts (BOZAR) in Brussels, the venue for the exhibition The *Yellow Side of Sociality. Italian Artists in Europe*. The exhibition celebrates the transformative and migrant power of art and adds a page to this new narrative for Europe. Join us, all are welcome.

Nicola Setari Curator The Yellow Side of Sociality

The Yellow Side of Sociality is co-produced by the Centre for Fine Arts (BOZAR) and the Dena Foundation for Contemporary Art on the occasion of the Italian Presidency of the European Council.

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Michelangelo Pistoletto, Third Paradise 2005-2013. Courtesy: the artist and GALLERIA CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Les Moulins





