

ENGLISH

GALLERIACONTINUA

SAN GIMIGNANO BEIJING LES MOULINS HABANA ROMA SAO PAULO PARIS DUBAI



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THE ABILITY TO DREAM

24/09/2022 – 30/10/2022

International film premiere of the documentary produced and created by **Sky Arte and Tiwi. Saturday 24 September 2022, Via del Castello 11, 5pm.**

Watch on **Sky Arte** on **25 September at 9.15 pm**, streaming on NOW tv and also available on demand

Adel Abdessemed, Etel Adnan, Ai Weiwei, Leila Alaoui, Juan Araujo, Kader Attia, Daniel Buren, Cai Guo-Qiang, Alejandro Campins, Iván Capote, Yoan Capote, Loris Cecchini, Elizabet Cerviño, Chen Zhen, Nikhil Chopra, Marcelo Cidade, Carlos Cruz-Diez, Jonathas De Andrade, Berlinde De Bruyckere, Leandro Erlich, Carlos Garaicoa, Osvaldo González, Antony Gormley, Gu Dexin, Shilpa Gupta, Subodh Gupta, Carsten Höller, JR, Ilya & Emilia Kabakov, Zhanna Kadyrova, Kan Xuan, Anish Kapoor, André Komatsu, Jannis Kounellis, Luis López-Chávez, Jorge Macchi, Ahmed Mater, Cildo Meireles, José Manuel Mesías, Sabrina Mezzaqui, Moataz Nasr, Hans Op de Beeck, Ornaghi & Prestinari, Giovanni Ozzola, Susana Pilar, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Qiu Zhijie, Tobias Rehberger, Arcangelo Sassolino, Manuela Sedmach, Serse, Kiki Smith, Nedko Solakov, Marta Spagnoli, José Antonio Suárez Londoño, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Sun Yuan & Peng Yu, Ana Maria Tavares, Pascale Marthine Tayou, Armando Testa, Nari Ward, Sislej Xhafa, José Yaque

Opening of the exhibition Saturday 24 September 2022, 4pm – 9pm.

Open until 30 October 2022, Monday – Sunday 10am – 1pm / 2pm – 7pm.

It's necessary to book your visit via the form on galleriacontinua.com.

To protect everyone's health and well-being, the event will be held in strict compliance with all the rules set by the anti-Covid regulations.

Galleria Continua is pleased to host, in its most long-established location – the cinema/theatre of San Gimignano, the **international preview** of **"Galleria Continua. The Ability to Dream"**, a documentary produced and made

by Sky Arte and TIWI that tells the story of the gallery.

Mario Cristiani, Lorenzo Fiaschi and Maurizio Rigillo, founders of Galleria Continua and Associazione Arte Continua APS,

would like to thank **Sky Arte and TIWI** for wanting to tell the story of over thirty years of activity through the images, memories and voices of some of the protagonists of this incredible adventure. Together with the **artists, artisans, curators** and all the people who have supported the Continua project in recent years, they also wish **to thank the entire team**, both from the gallery and from the association, for their passionate work and unreserved participation, they are the engine that feeds "the ability to dream" every day.

Speaking of Continua, **Dino Vannini, Sky's Head of Documentary and Factual Channels** writes: "Telling the story of Galleria Continua, one of the most influential international contemporary art galleries, founded thirty years ago in San Gimignano, was in many ways like telling the story of a rock group or the epic tale of a great sports team : the penchant for risk, the courage, the strokes of genius and the kindness of founders Lorenzo, Mario and Maurizio have made Continua unique in its kind, an example of vision, hard work and passion, which over the years has allowed it to become both a promoter and a reference point for many of the most important artists in the world. For this reason, but also for its ability to demonstrate that nothing is impossible for those who pursue a dream with commitment, it is easy to understand why Sky Arte has decided to dedicate a documentary to this adventure. Of course, it's just one part of the adventure, because it's not over yet!".

Alongside the viewing of the film, Galleria Continua opens the group exhibition, "The Ability to Dream", which is intended to be a tribute

to all the gallery's artists. It is thanks to each individual artist, to the mark they have left, to their contribution, to the roads they have opened and embarked upon, that this story has taken shape and has been able to develop and unfold over the years as a fresh and colourful storyline.

Galleria Continua opened in San Gimignano in 1990, on the initiative of three young friends who began their adventure with a space in Via della Rocca in San Gimignano, in the middle of Tuscany, aiming to bring contemporary art to a rural context, away from busy metropolises and cultural centres. **The name of the gallery comes from the desire of the three founders to sublimate the link between past, present and future:** San Gimignano is today known as a city of art thanks to the historical-artistic heritage that the city has preserved for centuries and which includes masterpieces of Italian art including works by **Benozzo Gozzoli, Ghirlandaio and Pollaiuolo.** However, this legacy that today we would define as "ancient" was contemporary in its time and for this reason it is essential to **"continue" to support, promote and enhance today's artistic experiments** in order to make new stories and memories.

The project carried out by the **gallery** has developed over the course of 32 years and today has **8 locations on 5 continents:** Galleria Continua was the first foreign gallery with an international program to **open in China in 2004**, and then, after three years, to inaugurate a new space in **Les Moulins, in the Parisian countryside**, used for **major interventions and exhibitions.** In 2015, the gallery embarked on a further journey in **Havana, Cuba**, with the aim of transcending all types of borders. In **2020**, the

gallery opened a **new exhibition venue in Rome**, inside The St. Regis Rome Hotel as well as one in **Brazil, Galleria Continua São Paulo**, located within the **Pacaembu sports complex** with an inclusive space, far from the canon of the "white cube". In **2021**, the gallery arrived in **the heart of Paris**, in the **Marais** district, where it is possible to visit exhibitions, buy **food and wine products** from all of the Galleria Continua locations and enjoy delicious ice cream thanks to the collaboration with the **San Gimignano-based Gelateria Dondoli**. Also in 2021, the gallery opened a **new space in Dubai at the Burj al-Arab**, the iconic sail-shaped building located off Jumeirah beach.

The **exhibition "The Ability to Dream"** presents a nucleus of **works that includes the work of all the artists** who, from the beginning, have accompanied the gallery on this journey, but also of those who have come aboard in more recent times.

Each selected work testifies to the unique bond that has been created over the years between Galleria Continua and its **sixty-six artists**. This immersive journey, which includes the documentary "Galleria Continua. The Ability to Dream", promises to be **an explosion of stories and tales from all over the world**, a concrete representation of a goal shared by Continua: to be a meeting point for everyone through art.

The **relationship with space** is of fundamental importance as it evokes visions and sensations belonging to other eras. In the past, The **Cinema Teatro Nuovo in San Gimignano** was a very popular place for the local community and, after a long period of inactivity, it also risked being transformed

into housing and accommodation for tourists. Since 1995, the year the gallery came to the site, **this building has inspired many artists over the years, becoming itself the protagonist of some works that are revived today in this exhibition**. Today the cinema has become an incubator of avant-garde artistic projects capable of overcoming the difficulties of such an original and characteristic space and transforming them into a unique opportunity to hold **major exhibitions and cultural events**.

The exhibition was conceived with the intention of creating an **immersive experience** capable of drawing the public into a place where the visitor can encounter unusual objects, fantastic characters and **installations that play with light and colour** or that defy the laws of physics, space and time.

Galleria Continua represents a desire for continuity between the centuries, an aspiration to participate in the writing of the history of the present day, demonstrating its awareness of contemporary creative practices and **preserving the link between past and future while celebrating the diversity** of places, cultures, individuals and communities.

"All'Arte, all'Amore, all'Amicizia. L'unica tripla A per cui vale la pena impegnare il grande dono di essere al mondo."

(Lorenzo, Mario e Maurizio)

"To Art, to Love, to Friendship. The only three things for which it is worth committing the great gift of being in the world."

(Lorenzo, Mario and Maurizio)

For further information on the exhibition and photographic material:
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