

**Italian Cultural Institute of Strasbourg**

7, rue Schweighaeuser , F 67000, Strasbourg

**Terra, fuoco, ferro, legno. Maria Cristina Carlini/**

**Earth, fire, iron, wood. Maria Cristina Carlini**

during the Semester of the Italian EU Presidency

*curated by Martina Corgnati*

**from 2 to 22 September 2014**

**grand opening on Monday, 1 September at 6.30pm**

*press release, 25.08.2014*

After the great success in Cologne the exhibition of Maria Cristina Carlini “Terra, fuoco, ferro, legno / Earth, fire, iron, wood” curated by Martina Corgnati, launches the second stop of its expository journey in Europe in **Strasbourg**, on the occasion of the **Semester of the Italian EU Presidency**.

At the prestigious venue of the Italian Cultural Institute the visitor can admire a selection of works made in sandstone, wood, iron and corten steel, which are among the most meaningful pieces of the artistic career of the sculptress, who has been present on the international artistic scene for many years now.

The works on display highlight Maria Cristina Carlini's reflections on the fragmentation of modern society and the uncertainty of modern man who lacks direction in the present and for the future. As a result man lives an ambiguous existence and strives for a metaphorical closure which is continuously prevented by several circumstances. However in this feeling of disorientation one can find signs of light and truth.

From this perspective the artist expresses the coexistence of a prevailing unease and a positive energy oriented towards the future. In her works, next to splits and cracks, elements which remind us of destruction, there are also present signs of reconstruction such as the luminous golden brush strokes and the coloured enamels, a foreboding of a possible evolution of life on our planet.

The exhibition, open to the public from 2 to 22 September, is part of a tour hosted in four important cities and countries: **Cologne**, **Strasbourg**, **Zagreb** (30 September - 30 October 2014) and **Tirana** (27 February - 31 March 2015) each one with a selection of works that are site-specific for each venue.

The video “Sculptures. Maria Cristina Carlini”, made by Matteo Bernardini, accompanies the exhibition and retraces the phases of the artistic way of expression of the sculptress, describing the artist at work in her studio and her several works, from the monumental pieces to the smaller ones, with commentary by Martina Corgnati.

**Biographical notes**

Maria Cristina Carlini is an important contemporary Italian sculptress, her artistic career including solo and group exhibitions in several venues, public and private, national and international, e.g. Paris, Madrid, Miami, Denver, Beijing, Hong Kong, Shanghai; her works are permanently exhibited in several cities of **Europe**, **America** and **Asia**.

Among the last exhibitions worth mentioning are the solo ones at Villa Recalcati, Varese, at the Mudima and the Stelline Foundations in Milan, as well as the large anthological *Fare secondo Natura/Do according to Nature* at the Govone Castle (Cuneo) with about a hundred works, and the group exhibition at the Gallerie d’Italia in Milan.

**Details**

**Title** Terra, fuoco, ferro, legno. Maria Cristina Carlini/

Earth, fire, iron, wood. Maria Cristina Carlini

**curated by** Martina Corgnati

**no. of venues** four:

**Italian Cultural Institute of Cologne**

1 July - 28 August 2014

**Italian Cultural Institute of Strasbourg** - 7, rue Schweighaeuser , F 67000, Strasbourg

2 – 22 September 2014

Grand opening on Monday, 1 September at 6.30pm

**Italian Cultural Institute of Zagreb**

30 September – 30 October 2014

**Italian Cultural Institute of Tirana**

27 February – 31 March 2015

**For further info:**

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