

# GLASSTRESS STOCKHOLM

FROM 27TH AUGUST 2011  
TO 15TH JANUARY 2012

MILLESGÅRDEN MUSEUM, STOCKHOLM

OPENING THURSDAY, 25 AUGUST 2011  
FROM 6 PM TO 10.00 PM

Berengo Studio 1989 and Venice Projects, in cooperation with the Millesgården Museum, announce Venice Summer in Stockholm, an event commemorating the 150 years of the Italian State organized by the Italian Institute of Culture (cultural office of the Embassy of Italy), which will celebrate this anniversary with the traveling exhibition Glasstress. Venice will be the central theme of the program in Stockholm: symbol par excellence of Italy's wealth of art and culture. The Glasstress exhibition will be introduced within this framework.

Glasstress is an exhibition centered on the use of glass in contemporary art and was conceived by the Venetian cultural entrepreneur Adriano Berengo in 2009, the year it was organized as a collateral event of the 53rd Venice Biennale of Art. In 2011, it has become a traveling exhibition. Glasstress-Stockholm is one of the stops on this journey of contemporary glass to the main countries that have cultivated a particular passion for this material in their own histories of art. Thus, Glasstress-Stockholm goes beyond and expands the original exhibition through its opening to contemporary Swedish artists and their representation in the world of international art. Bringing together the works in glass of an array of contemporary artists from different geographical and cultural areas, the exhibition offers a comprehensive analytical and critical view that looks beyond the boundaries of a material that until now has been imprisoned by clichés and confined to limited scopes and uses. This meeting of contemporary art and glass has freed the latter from being seen merely as a symbol of tradition by endowing it with new perspectives and horizons. The glass sculptures and installations presented at Glasstress Stockholm are works made expressly for the event by Domenico Bianchi, Monica Bonvicini, Jan Fabre, Michael Joo, Marya Kazoun, Atelier Van Lieshout, Liu Jianhua, Vik Muniz, Javier Pérez, Jaume Plensa, Bernardi Roig, Thomas Schütte, Koen Vanmechelen, Fred Wilson, and many others.

Berengo Studio is a cultural and production enterprise created in 1989 by Adriano Berengo with the intention of freeing glass from the Venetian tradition, which called for it to be decorative and functional, by making it a vital material in works of contemporary art. To achieve this objective, Berengo Studio regularly invites established and emerging artists to work alongside

master glassmakers, encouraging them to interpret their works in glass. Thanks to its uniqueness and its characteristics, glass lends itself – like and perhaps more than, any other material – to rendering the languages of contemporary art. In fact, over the last twenty years, more than one hundred and forty artists from around the world have come and worked at the Berengo furnace, contributing to the realization of this ambitious project.

Venice Projects was created to promote both internationally recognized and young emerging contemporary artists, united by a common interest in experimenting with materials and their innovative use in unexplored contexts, with a particular interest in those who occasionally or regularly have used glass as a medium of contemporary artistic expression.

Venice Projects is a dynamic and innovative force on the art scene, ready to seize upon innovations and trends in art. It develops important cultural projects with an international scope as a result of its partnerships with public and private institutions.

#### Information

##### **GLASSTRESS**

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##### **MILLESGARDEN MUSEUM**

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