

At the Venice Biennale, Diversity For Peace: a hymn to creative freedom

By Sabrina Fallea
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Inaugurated during the days of the Biennial, Diversity for Peace! is the artistic exhibition at the Procuratie Vecchie in San Marco, which celebrates the new Japanese era of "Reiwa". Among the artists, the Japanese Miwa Komatsu.

On the occasion of the Venice Biennale, the Karuizawa New Art Museum announced Diversity for Peace!, the art exhibition at the Procuratie Vecchie in Piazza San Marco, which until November 24th and it is an ideal showcase for ten young artists from all over the world with different cultural backgrounds. The review aims to investigate the concept of acceptance of diversity that is well associated with the new Japanese era of "Reiwa", which began on May 1st with the accession of the new emperor Naruhito.

"Art is the only expressive way of overcoming boundaries, be they of sex, religious or race. If we deny the differences, there can only be conflict. If we accept them, peace will prevail". The curator Koei Shiraishi says, hoping to propose the show again in 2020 in Tokyo.

Among the various artists, the award-winning Miwa Komatsu, born in Japan in 1984, exhibits 15 artworks in Venice, including paintings with acrylic painting and Arita porcelain sculptures, depicting her art.

Komatsu has the gift of making what is invisible visible through her works. This is why energy, spirit guides and nature are fundamental elements of her artworks, which are in fact constantly imbued with spirituality and mysticism.

For Miwa the creation is a cathartic moment in which she falls into a sort of trance that connects her with the universe and from which she awakens only when the work is done. Every morning there is a ritual of prayer and meditation to reconnect with the universe. Prayer is an absolute source of joy and the way through which it is possible to smooth out the differences to live in peace. And she says: "Everyone in the world can have a different idea or religion, but through meditation every human being is connected to something higher. This aspect, more than any other, connects men".

Meditation is therefore the fulcrum of everything, that invisible energy that the artist feels since she was a child, when she went to play in the woods. It often happened that she lost herself and later found her way back home as if it were a sort of lion dog, the komainu, which represents the stone guardian in Japanese culture. In a deep connection between soul and nature.

The same lion dogs that are present at the exhibition during the Venice Biennale and that always in pairs represent the moment of love, of the union of the spirits and the protection of humanity, as the lion of San Marco protects the city of Venice .

In her works we can see the depiction of the Serenissima, symbolized by a lion at sunset and at night and two animal figures that represent the yin and the yang, the moon and the earth in a constant dualism. The same dualism that exists between soul and body in which art protects her soul and dresses the body. A unique style that allowed Miwa Komatsu to recently conquer the Dior house too.