

Patrocinio  
del Municipio 6



MUNICIPIO SEI



Comune di  
Milano

**MILAN, PIAZZA BERLINGUER**

## **OBELISCO BY MARIA CRISTINA CARLINI ON PERMANENT DISPLAY IN PIAZZA BERLINGUER, MILAN**

*curated by Flaminio Gualdoni*

**inauguration: Friday 21 June, 18:00**

*press release, 20.05.2024*

Internationally renowned Milanese sculptor Maria Cristina Carlini **is donating to Milan** her **monumental sculpture** *Obelisco* [Obelisk]. From 21 June 2024, the work will be on permanent display in Piazza Berlinguer, adjacent to Via Savona and within short walking distance from the artist's studio. The area has been recently redeveloped and is now a lively cultural hub.

The event, **sponsored by the Municipality of Milan – Municipio 6** and curated by Flaminio Gualdoni, offers an opportunity to become better acquainted with Carlini's work and enriches the city culturally and artistically.

The opening ceremony, scheduled for **Friday, 21 June at 18:00** in the presence of municipal officials, will be accompanied until June 30 by an exhibition in the rooms of Municipio 6 – Sala Arianna, where ten photographic panels will illustrate some of the highlights of Maria Cristina Carlini's career, including sculptures on permanent display in three continents. The looped projection of videos and interviews will outline important stages in Carlini's art.

*Obelisco* (2015), a work in reclaimed wood and Corten steel, is characterised by a soaring vertical momentum extending over four metres in height. The wooden core, marked by holes, curves and fractures that show its longevity and its previous use – part of an old structure used for milking cows – is wrapped in steel cladding with essential lines. The juxtaposition of such diverse materials creates a profound dialogue between them and a harmonious aesthetic balance.

Maria Cristina Carlini's work instils new life in materials such as reclaimed wood, whose past history is revitalised in the form of sculpture, generating a new, contemporary narrative.

The choice of this particular work is linked to the significance of the obelisk as an architectural element representing major celebrations, history and tradition. **Memory** is, in fact, a recurring theme in Carlini's art as an element inherent in human identity, not only with regard to the past but also because it lays the foundation for the future.

According to Flaminio Gualdoni: 'The title *Obelisco* refers to monumental celebration, but here it signifies a tribute to "a history without names": a past shaped not by heroes but by a community that recognises itself and unites around an ancient, shared value.'

The photographic panels displayed in Sala Ariadne illustrate Maria Cristina Carlini's propensity for monumental sculpture, a format that brings her great creative satisfaction. Many of her sculptures have toured the world, whereas others have remained permanently in America, Asia and Europe. Her connection to Milan is particularly evident in the images incorporated in *La porta della giustizia* [Door of Justice] (2007), *Vento* [Wind] (2013), and *La Nuova città che sale* [The New City Rising] (2014), respectively on permanent display inside the courtyard of the Corte dei Conti, in the Idroscalo

Sculpture Park, and at the Milan-Rho Fair. These major contributions reveal the artist's desire to honour a city of great art.

### **Biographical notes**

Sculptor Maria Cristina Carlini began her career as an artist in the early 1970s, studying ceramics in Palo Alto, California. She subsequently began to include various other materials in her work, among them stoneware, iron, Corten steel and reclaimed wood.

She exhibits in numerous solo and group exhibitions in various public and private venues, both nationally and internationally, and has been recognised with awards and honours. Numerous publications have punctuated Carlini's career and distinguished critics have reviewed her work, for example Paolo Campiglio, Luciano Caramel, Claudio Cerritelli, Vittoria Coen, Guo Xiao Chuan, Martina Corgnati, Gillo Dorfles, Carlo Franza, Maria Fratelli, Chiara Gatti, Flaminio Gualdoni, Yacouba Konaté, Frédérique Malaval, Laurence Pauliac, Elena Pontiggia, and Cortney Stell.

She lives and works in Milan.

[www.mariacristinacarlini.com](http://www.mariacristinacarlini.com)

### **PERMANENT MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE**

**ITALY:** 2006 Rome, Archivio Centrale dello Stato; 2007 Milan, Corte dei Conti; 2008 Cosenza, Piazza dei Valdesi; 2009 Loreto, Giardini di Porta Marina; 2010 Reggio Calabria, Lungomare Falcomatà; 2013 Varese, Villa Recalcati; 2014 Fieramilano Rho – Milan, Porta Sud; 2015 Milan, Parco dell'Arte all'Idroscalo; 2019 Portofino, Museo del Parco di Portofino.

**USA:** 2010 Denver, Auraria Campus; 2010 Denver, Rocky Mountain College of Art+Design; 2010 Miami, Dade College; 2011 Miami, Corpus Christi Catholic Church – Sculpture Park.

**ASIA:** 2010 Beijing, Italian Embassy in China; 2010 Beijing, NAMOC – National Art Museum of China; 2010 Shanghai, Sculpture Park; 2010 Jinan, Shandong University of Art & Design; 2010 Tianjin, Italian Cultural Institute; 2011 Rongcheng – Shandong.

### **Event Details**

**Title** *OBELISCO* by MARIA CRISTINA CARLINI ON PERMANENT DISPLAY IN PIAZZA BERLINGUER, MILAN

**Curated by** Flaminio Gualdoni

**Venue** Piazza Berlinguer, Milan

**Inauguration of the permanent sculpture** Friday, 21 June 2024, 18:00

**Exhibition venue** Sede Municipio 6 - Sala Arianna, via Savona 99, Milan

**Exhibition dates** 21 – 30 June 2024

**Opening hours** Monday – Friday 10:00-12:30 / 13:30-18:00, Saturday and Sunday 10.30-13:30 / 15:00-19:00

**Free entrance**

**Public information office** [M.Municipio6@comune.milano.it](mailto:M.Municipio6@comune.milano.it) - tel. 02 8845 8600

**How to get there:** Tram n. 14 via Giambellino – via Tolstoj | Bus n. 91 p.za Napoli | Metro M2 Sant'Agostino + tram n.14

**Information for visits to MC Carlini studio** via Savona, 97 – Milan

By appointment only Tel. +39 328 5910857

### **Press office**

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