

INVITATION-ONLY EXHIBITION

HOLY VASES, ART AND DESIGN International production scenario

"Like the woman who anointed Jesus in Bethany, the Church has feared no "extravagance", devoting the best of her resources to expressing her wonder and adoration before the unsurpassable gift of the Eucharist. No less than the first disciples charged with preparing the "large upper room", she has felt the need, down the centuries and in her encounters with different cultures, to celebrate the Eucharist in a setting worthy of so great a mystery... Could there ever be an adequate means of expressing the acceptance of that self-gift which the divine Bridegroom continually makes to his Bride, the Church, by bringing the Sacrifice offered once and for all on the Cross to successive generations of believers and thus becoming nourishment for all the faithful? Though the idea of a "banquet" naturally suggests familiarity, the Church has never yielded to the temptation to trivialize this "intimacy" with her Spouse by forgetting that He is also her Lord and that the "banquet" always remains a sacrificial banquet marked by the blood shed on Golgotha. The Eucharistic Banquet is truly a "sacred" banquet, in which the simplicity of the signs conceals the unfathomable holiness of God: O sacrum convivium, in quo Christus sumitur! The bread which is broken on our altars, offered to us as wayfarers along the paths of the world, is "panis angelorum", the bread of angels, which cannot be approached except with the humility of the centurion in the Gospel: "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof" Mt 8,8; Lc 7,6) ... Within this context of an art aimed at expressing, in all its elements, the meaning of the Eucharist in accordance with the Church's teaching, attention needs to be given to the norms regulating the construction and décor of sacred buildings. As history shows and as I emphasized in my Letter to Artists, the Church has always left ample room for the creativity of artists. But sacred art must be outstanding for its ability to express adequately the mystery grasped in the fullness of the Church's faith"

JOHN PAUL II, ECCLESIA DE EUCHARISTIA, 48-50

"Simplicity is a richness that avoids the superfluous and welcomes only that which is necessary, a gift that absorbs all others", and therefore, "the simplicity and sobriety of the place of worship must be illuminated by the light of good taste and of elegance born of true Christian humility."

MONS. GIOVANNI FALLANI

The items used for worship within the Christian Catholic church are many and meet the many needs of the congregations who gather inside churches to celebrate the Eucharist. These include the very important holy vases and specifically, the chalice and the paten in which the bread and wine of the Eucharist are consecrated and consumed. In the Eucharistic cult, the chalice and paten are joined by the pyx, shrine and monstrance. The exhibition, which will show a panorama of selected holy vases made in Europe, aims to highlight the influence of post-Council policy directions on the current production in different countries. As well as the specifically invited artists, ateliers and manufacturers, other invitations will be extended to manufacturers taking part in the trade fair, which will be creating holy vases specifically for the exhibition. Koinè is organised by Italian Exhibition Group Spa. The event is curated by Prof. Angelomaria Alessio, who can be contacted for all information about the event by writing to angelo@angelolessio.it

SUBJECT AND AIM OF THE EVENT

The subject of the event is contemporary holy vases selected from the creations of artists, designers and specialist ateliers, and it will be held as part of the next Koinè, which is being held in Vicenza from 13-15 February 2023. The exhibition, intended for a public of visitors to Koinè, is an invitation to artists, ateliers and manufacturers which are showcasing liturgical items and furnishings in line with the direction expressed by the Catholic Church as part of Vatican Council II. The holy vases exhibited will be selected by the Scientific

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Committee of Koinè Ricerca from those in the catalogues or among sketches of items to be made especially for the exhibition, for the purpose of presenting the most innovative experiences of the artists, artisans and businesses in this sector. Set-up costs for the exhibition and insurance for the items on display will be met by the organisers of Koinè. Shipping or transport of items to Koinè will be at the expense of the participating artist or atelier; Koinè will be responsible for returning the items after the event.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection will be based on holy vases that seek a dialogue with the contemporary world, its many stimuli, different languages, and current expressive values through original aesthetic research and using a balanced expressive register. As well as the original nature of the aesthetic research, the directions expressed by Vatican Council II documents and later will also be taken into account. Specific attention will also go to the sobriety, nobility and beauty to be sought in the shape and materials used, as well as in the splendour of the decoration. Attention will also be paid to the materials used and their aesthetic qualities that must not, in any case, exceed the limits of decorum and the balanced "register" in keeping with liturgy.

MATERIAL REQUIRED FOR SELECTION

Participants should send their participation form with relevant annexes, completed and signed, to the curator of the exhibition and Italian Exhibition Group, **no later than Monday 31 October 2022**. The descriptions and high-definition photos of the material for selection must be send to the curator of the exhibition and to Italian Exhibition Group **no later than Wednesday 30 November 2022**.

The items sent for selection must be:

HOLY VASES

Chalice, paten, pyx, shrine and monstrance.

For selection, it is possible to send the exhibition coordinators JPEG images, photos and catalogues with images of holy vases, made by the artist, atelier or manufacturer. Those intending to create pieces especially for the exhibition can send, for each proposal:

- At least one drawing/sketch in colour, showing the item from different viewpoints.
- Brief outlines of the materials and techniques that will be used for the creation.

The exhibition curator will submit each sketch to the Scientific Committee and send the reply and any other instructions from the Committee to participants.

DESIGN NOTES

Current liturgical texts for this subject are limited to providing general guidelines and to recommending attitudes to be followed rather than actual rules and regulations.

Specifically, those intending to design items for worship must ensure that:

- a) they are worthy, decorous and beautiful to look at (to contrast the actual risk of them becoming trivialised);
- b) they are current in terms of material, shape and decoration (no to fixity, reproduction or traditionalism);
- c) they are simple (not too elaborate) and they perform their intended function during celebrations (avoiding the risk of decorativism).

These are general indications that leave a good deal of room to creativity. Today the Catholic Church does not exclude current expression as a rule; on the contrary, it welcomes this.

Any further guideline may stem from the precious nature of materials: it is not necessary for items for worship to be made in precious materials (although this choice is not excluded); on the other hand, not all of the ma-

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materials currently in use are accepted for this same reason and each choice needs to be made with great rigour and realism. Even the use of symbols and images for decorative purposes must be assessed with care, since they can be misunderstood or provide arbitrary choices of form. The meaning of items must be evident and, as a rule, there is no need to emphasise them using symbols or images.

EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

There will be an exhibition catalogue, which will be available during and after Koinè 2023. For the catalogue, participants must provide the exhibition coordinators with the following:

- Text presenting the artist or atelier behind the selected items.
- The length of the text must be one sheet (1800 characters, spaces included).

High-resolution digital images of the selected items and/or of other important holy vases or liturgical items made by the artist or atelier.

PROMOTION

The event is being promoted in the specialist press as well as in daily and weekly publications. The photos of holy vases and liturgical items will be added to the website for the event (www.koinexpo.com), in the section dedicated to exhibitions.

PARTICIPATION FORM

The participation form must be completed, signed and sent, together with the annexes, to the curator of the exhibition and to Italian Exhibition Group Spa, the organisers of Koinè, **no later than 30 October 2022**. As well as the participation form, each artist is requested to send a short presentation piece (one thousand characters, spaces included) and a photo portrait that will be used on the Koinè website and in the catalogue. By signing the participation form, artists accept the participation rules and undertake to provide the original items to be displayed in the exhibition, no later than the deadline which will be provided at a later date. The artists will read the privacy policy statement and sign the release for the use of their images and short presentation, as well as the photos and/or images of their works, which they send in. Therefore, the artists authorise the organisers to display the selected items at the exhibition and to reproduce same in photographic format for the purposes of promoting the event (press and Internet) without requesting payment of any kind.

COORDINATION

The exhibition is curated by Prof. Angelomaria Alessio, coordinator of the Scientific Committee of Koinè Ricerca: Cell. **+39 351.9591535** - e-mail: angelo@angeloalessio.it

ANNEXES

- Participation form.
- Information sheet accompanying the selected works (indication of insurance value and collection method).
- Privacy Policy
- Release for the use of photos, images, and authorial products.

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PARTICIPATION FORM

Please complete by PC or in block letters

I, the undersigned, _____

in my capacity as _____

of the Company/Atelier _____

address _____ post code _____

town _____ province _____

website: _____

tel. _____

fax _____

e-mail _____

hereby declare that I would like to take part in the initiative, as stated in the annexes, and that I have read the privacy policy for the processing of my data as set down in articles 13 and 14 of the EU-GDPR and sign, in acceptance, the release for the use of the images and/or photos of my work, together with a brief presentation. (see annexes)

date _____ signature _____

This form, together with the relevant annexes is to be sent to the curator of the exhibition and to Italian Exhibition Group Spa, organisers of Koinè: **angelo@angeloalessio.it - chiara.fizzotti@iegexpo.it**

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INFORMATION SHEET ACCOMPANYING THE ITEMS

Please complete by PC or in block letters

I, the undersigned _____

am sending the following items for display in the exhibition:

ITEM DESCRIPTION

INSURANCE VALUE*

_____	€ _____
_____	€ _____
_____	€ _____
_____	€ _____

* the items, suitably accompanied by this form, completed in all sections, will be insured for the period from their arrival at Fiera di Vicenza until the end of the exhibition. They are not covered by insurance for any damage during transport.

Collection of items (place a cross next to the chosen method).

- Collection from Fiera di Vicenza on the days following closure of the exhibition
- Via courier, carriage paid (shipping by Koinè)
- Donation of the item to the Catholic Church in Ukraine, affected by war

date _____

signature _____

This form shall accompany items sent to the exhibition and a copy must be sent to:
chiara.fizzotti@iegexpo.it

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