

Lace & Design 2013
Exhibition Pavilion di corte San Rocco

Cantù- via Matteotti, 39

The 11th edition of the Biennial intends to continue the project set up in the last edition, aimed at merging the creativity of the most significant Italian designers with the skill of Cantù lacemakers to create unique works.

For the current edition the Lace Promotion Committee has invited the participation of various architects and designers, among whom Andrea Branzi.

Active in Milan since 1973, Branzi was one of Archizoom Associati, the first avant-garde group to become known in the international field, and is the author of various studies on the history and theory of design as well as associate professor at the Faculty of Architecture and Industrial Design at Milan Polytechnic.

Alongside these design objects will be shown works and artefacts on the theme of lace, coming from other creative and craft areas of the territory.



*Comitato per la
Promozione del Merletto*

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Città di Cantù



*Comitato per la
Promozione del Merletto*

Preview of the 11th International Lace Biennial 6th-20th October 2013

6 - 20 Ottobre 2013
Cantù



*Associazione
Merletti d'Arte
Cantù*



Handkerchiefs: stories, decoration and feeling

Cantù-Villa Calvi via Roma, 8

The theme of this edition is the handkerchief, an object which has been used since time immemorial and which is rich in multiple meanings: a symbol of elegance and luxury, an important accessory in female and male dress, a token of love in various civilisations ranging from East to West, a fundamental wedding present. The handkerchief has accompanied countless moments in life, always linked to emotions and feelings. Its form and size have changed over the centuries, but the tendency to create it with the finest fabrics and decorate it with the most precious ornaments, embroidery and lace have remained. More than one hundred examples of the art here tell the story of this fortunate accessory. Costly symbols of frivolity and feminine status symbols, the handkerchiefs shown here include refined lace coming from the chief lacemakers of Belgium, France, Malta, Britain and Italy. Designs, documents and lace created by Cantù lacemakers, never exhibited before, will give a unique insight into the production system for these borders.

Designing lace and patterns

Villa Calvi-Cantù via Roma, 8

This exhibition includes designs and projects realized during the course organised in Cantù in February 2013 by the Lace Promotion Committee, dedicated to the design of patterns without ruler and pencil and the pricking of patterns, held by Thesy Shoenholzer Nichols and Elena Arienti.

The artefacts shown will be accompanied by fully realized products in order to show all the creative phases of bobbin lace.

Bobbin design: an interlacing project

Villa Calvi-Cantù via Roma, 8

Six young designers, skilful lacemakers from the area, a collection of 'border' bags and the desire to mix creativity, knowledge and experience, innovation and tradition: a female initiative which has arisen from the POLI.design consortium of Milan Polytechnic in the area of E.CH.I – Swiss-Italian Ethnography for the appreciation of the immaterial crossborder heritage.

The "travelling bag" thus expresses the will to cross not only the spatial borders of countries but also cultural and temporal ones. In this project, the creativity of a group of designers - Elena Ascari, Elena Enrica Giunta, Ilaria Guglielmetti, Giulia Pils, Alessandra Spagnoli and Raffaella Trocchianesi, who are part of the Research Unit Design for Cultural Heritage, from the INDACO department of Milan Polytechnic – joins forces with the heritage and knowledge of designers and lacemakers coming from ABC Lace (Albate), from the Novedrate Association for the Promotion of Lace and from various sectors in Cantù: the Lace Academy, the Lace Promotion Committee, the Lace Production Committee and the Lace training course (ENAIP, a Christian Vocational training agency).

Bobbin lace schools

Villa Calvi-Cantù via Roma, 8

As usual there will be an itinerary dedicated to the bobbin lace work created during the last two years (2012-2013) by the skilful hands of the lacemakers who attend the amateur schools of the Cantù area. A collective work dedicated to the theme of this Biennial, that is the handkerchief, has also been proposed. The schools will present one or more lace works relating to this accessory.

CREATIVITY Exhibition

Cloister of Santa Maria
(Cantù town hall), piazza Parini 5
Saturday 12 and Sunday 13th October 2013
(from 10.00 to 18.00)

The Creativity exhibition seeks to combine the commercial aspects linked to the materials for the creation of lace, of embroidery and other and cultural aspects of great topicality, linked above all to female creativity. Within this review exhibitors coming from various Italian and international areas will find a place, and the connecting thread is precisely creativity in handicraft. The public will be able to find a specialized offer of products linked to the craft of bobbin lace: threads, equipment, patterns and everything necessary for the manufacture of these precious items.

To enrol in the Creativity Exhibition fill in the form below and send it to the Lace Promotion Committee,

via Matteotti 39/A, Cantù (Como)
info@merletti.it

Name Surname _____

Company _____

Telephone _____

Website _____

e-mail _____

