

AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME

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AMERICAN ACADEMY IN ROME'S MCKIM MEDAL GALA SUPPORTING ITALIAN ARTISTS AND SCHOLARS AAR celebrates the achievements of Giuseppe Penone, Dante Ferretti and Francesca Lo Schiavo

ROME AND NEW YORK - The American Academy in Rome will honor artist **Giuseppe Penone**, set designer **Dante Ferretti** and set decorator **Francesca Lo Schiavo** at the McKim Medal Gala on June 7 in Rome at Villa Aurelia. The comedian and television personality **Rosario Fiorello** will present the McKim Medal to Mr. Ferretti and Ms. Schiavo, while Mr. Penone's will be presented by **Laurent Le Bon**, director of the Musée Picasso in Paris.

One of the highest-profile cultural events of the spring season in Rome, the annual benefit will celebrate honorees for their exceptional contributions to Italian culture, while raising funds to provide fellowships for Italian artists and scholars to live and work at the Academy. The funds also help support public programming, in which Italian Fellows participate, including exhibitions, concerts and conferences.

"The Academy is delighted to recognize this year's McKim Gala honorees for their outstanding contributions to Italian culture," said **Mark Robbins, AAR President**. "We are immensely grateful to the Roman and Italian community for their continued support of our Italian Fellows. In particular, we want to recognize **Tiffany and Co Italia** for joining us as Presenting Sponsor, as well as their support of a new Italian Fellowship in Design."

For the third year, the McKim Gala is chaired by **Ginevra Elkann Gaetani**, who also serves on the AAR Board of Trustees. An international audience from the world of the arts and humanities, including design, literature, visual art, music, fashion and business will converge on Villa Aurelia for cocktails before dinner. Honorary Dinner Chair for the evening is **Valentina Moncada di Paternò**, along with Founding Dinner Chair **Verdella Caracciolo de Benedictis**.

Presenting sponsor for the evening is **Tiffany and Co. Italy**.

Among the sponsors of the 2017 McKim Gala are: Corporate Patron Moncler SpA; Corporate Supporter Bloomberg, Suzanne Deal Booth, Credit Suisse, Dior, Fendi, Gagosian Gallery, Generali, Gianni, Origoni, Grippo, Cappelli & Partners, Gucci, Pinacoteca Giovanni and Marella Agnelli, Tommy Hilfiger, Valentino SpA; And Sponsor Ludovica Amati, Mercedes T. Bass, Thomas Blount, Jim and Katie Brennan, Nicola and Beatrice Bulgari, Mary and Howard Frank, Daniela Memmo d'Amelio, Mirella Petteni Haggiag, Prince and Princess Domenico Orsini, Louisa Stude Sarofim, Brian S Snyder, Baron Alexander Thyssen-Bornemisza, among many others. Wine for the evening is being provided by Poderi di Capo d'Uomo and FIOL Prosecco.

"The marvelous artist Giuseppe Penone expresses so well the relationship between art and nature, revealing to us its core," said Gala Chair Geneva Elkann Gaetani. "Dante Ferretti and Francesca Lo Schiavo have put at the service of cinema their great eye and talent, using the most minute details to recreate worlds. They are true masters of their craft."

The Gala presents an opportunity for the Italian community to support an institution that contributes fundamentally to the growth of Italian artists and scholars in Rome through the Italian Fellowship, a scholarship dedicated to developing Italian talent in the visual arts, architecture, design, music composition and the humanities. The Fellowships provide the opportunity for ongoing creative and intellectual exchanges with American artists and scholars in residence at the Academy. During their stay, Italian Fellows become an integral part of the AAR's vibrant community.

The McKim Gala also funds a variety of cultural programming at the Academy, and is part of an annual week of special public events, including the Fellows' Open Studios, Concerts, and Readings. Please visit www.aarome.org for the schedule of events.

In addition to celebrating the McKim Medal honorees, AAR is pleased to announce the launch of the **Fondazione Sviluppo e Crescita CRT Italian Fellowship**, in collaboration with **CRT Foundation**, a private nonprofit organization based in Turin. The CRT Foundation is one of the greatest advocates of contemporary art, with particular attention to those working in the Piedmont region.

The Academy is also pleased to announce a collaboration with **Tiffany & Co. Italy** to launch a new fellowship for Italian designers. This fellowship integrates the multidisciplinary environment of the American Academy in Rome, the excellence in craftsmanship and design of Tiffany & Co. and their legacy in the field of Italian design.

These new Italian Fellowships join the recently established **Enel Italian Fellowship for Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, and Architecture**. A partnership with the Enel Foundation, the research arm of the Rome-based multinational energy group Enel, the fellowship will support one three-month Fellow over five years, beginning with the 2016–17 fellowship period.

One of the world's most important living artists, Giuseppe Penone lives and works in Turin. Through his sculptures and installations, dating back to 1967, the creative process is an integral part of his work. He has exhibited at exhibitions and museums all over the world, most recently at the Château de Versailles (2013), the Musée de Grenoble (2014), the Nasher Sculpture Center (2015), and the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam (2016). In 2007 he represented Italy at the 52nd Venice Biennale. "Matrix," a survey exhibition of Penone's work curated by Massimiliano Gioni, is currently on view at the Palazzo della Civiltà Italiana in Rome through July 16. Penone's new monumental sculpture, *Foglie di Pietra*, has been on view as a permanent installation at Largo Goldoni in Rome since May 23. His sculptural installation, *Germination*, which addresses the relationships between humanity, art and the natural world, will be on permanent display at the Louvre Abu Dhabi.

Born in Macerata, Dante Ferretti knew by the age of 13 that he wanted to make movies. He has worked as a Production Designer with legendary directors such as Federico Fellini with whom he made 5 films; Pier Paolo Pasolini, with whom he made 8 films; and Elio Petri, Marco Ferreri, Liliana Cavani, Ettore Scola, Anthony Minghella, Franco Zeffirelli, Julie Taymor, Francis Ford Coppola, and Tim Burton. His long-term collaboration with Martin Scorsese in the U.S.—designing 9 of Scorsese's films—has brought him critical acclaim and a wide audience through such films as *Gangs of New York* and *Shutter Island*. In total Ferretti has served as production designer on over 50 feature films, 24 opera productions, and numerous television, museum, fashion, and festival projects. His highly inventive designs have been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Cooper

Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum as part of the permanent collection. Ferretti is the recipient of 4 David di Donatello awards and he has been nominated for 10 Academy Awards and has

won 3 Oscars in Art Direction.

Francesca Lo Schiavo was born in Rome, where she pursued her studies in art and design. She has worked in the film industry as a Set Decorator since 1980, with such acclaimed directors as Lilliana Cavani, Federico Fellini, Jacques Annaud, and Terry Gilliam. Her work with Gilliam on *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen* earned her first Academy Award nomination for Art Direction. In 2012, in recognition of her outstanding achievements, Lo Schiavo was awarded the title of Grand Officer of the Italian Republic by President Giorgio Napolitano in 2012. She is also a recipient of a Critics' Choice Award, a BAFTA, and a Golden Ribbon. Lo Schiavo has been nominated for 8 Academy Awards, and has won 3 Oscars in Set Decoration.

The McKim Medal

The McKim Medal is an annual prize that honors individuals whose work internationally, most particularly in Italy and in the United States, has contributed significantly to the arts and humanities and exemplifies creative and intellectual exchange. The Medal is named for Charles Follen McKim (1847–1909), noted architect who founded the Academy. Proceeds from the McKim Medal Gala support Academy programs in Rome and fellowships at the Academy for Italian artists and scholars, providing them with important opportunities to pursue their individual studies, to participate in and contribute to international discourse in their fields and disciplines, and to gain experience that will be invaluable throughout their careers.

Previous McKim Medal laureates include Patrizia Cavalli, Giorgio Moroder, Paolo Sorrentino, Carlo Petrini, Zaha Hadid, Renzo Piano, Cy Twombly, Umberto Eco, Franco Zeffirelli, Ennio Morricone, Miuccia Prada, Luigi Ontani, Riccardo Muti, and Bernardo Bertolucci. The McKim Medal was designed by Cy Twombly and handcrafted by Fabio Salini.

The American Academy in Rome

The American Academy in Rome supports innovative artists, writers, and scholars living and working in a dynamic international community.

Founded in 1894, the Academy is the premier American overseas center for independent study and advanced research. A not-for-profit, privately supported institution, the Academy annually offers the Rome Prize Fellowship and Italian Fellowship to approximately 36 individuals, following a competition in which independent juries select candidates across the disciplines of Literature, Music Composition, Visual Arts, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Design, and Historic Preservation and Conservation, as well as Ancient, Medieval, Renaissance and Early Modern, and Modern Italian Studies. The Academy community also includes a curated group of Residents, Affiliated Fellows, and Visiting Artists and Scholars. This exceptional group of artists and scholars live and work at the Academy campus located in the Janiculum, one of the highest points in the city of Rome. To learn more, please visit: www.aarome.org.

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For information on participating as a Gala sponsor, and/or how to support an Italian Fellowship, please contact: [Inga Clausing](mailto:Inga.Clausing); +39 06 584 6474, i.clausing@aarome.org