THE “UTOPIE DI BELLEZZA” AWARD

In Memory of Giuliano De Minicis

CALL FOR ENTRIES

3rd Edition

Article 1 – Purpose and Aims

The Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi and the Casasanvito Association, in collaboration with the Fondazione "Succisa Virescit – Maria Baldassarri" of DMP Concept, are pleased to announce the third edition of the **"Utopie di Bellezza" Award**, established in memory of Giuliano De Minicis.

The Award aims to encourage reflection on art and provide a platform for recognising and nurturing the creativity, vision and talent of emerging artists.

It also seeks to honour the memory of Giuliano De Minicis, a multifaceted artist and gifted communicator who devoted his boundless energy to promoting the Marche region, its cultural heritage and its artistic life.

Deeply committed to the value of people and human relationships, he was also the driving force behind numerous meaningful initiatives rooted in genuine solidarity. He brought together businesses that shared a commitment to the growth and well-being of their local communities, and supported numerous non-profit organisations and associations with generosity, humanity and outstanding professionalism.

Article 2 – Eligibility

The Award is open to artists aged between 18 and 35 inclusive on the date of publication of this Call for Entries.

Article 3 – Medium and Theme

The third edition of the Award is exclusively dedicated to **painting**.

Works may be created using any style or technique, with complete artistic freedom.

The maximum permitted dimensions are **100 × 100 × 100 cm**. These limits also apply to works consisting of several individual components. In such cases, detailed assembly instructions must accompany the work.

Mixed-media works are also eligible, provided that painting remains the predominant medium. Failure to meet this requirement will result in disqualification. In all cases, the overall dimensions of the work, including any individual components, must remain within the prescribed limits.

All works must be equipped with appropriate hanging fixtures and mounting systems, ensuring that they are ready for exhibition.

Article 4 – Awards and Opportunities

The third edition of the Award will culminate in a group exhibition featuring the **10 shortlisted finalists**. The exhibition will be held in the Virna Lisi Exhibition Hall at Palazzo Bisaccioni, home of the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi, from **23 April to 30 May 2027**.

Award Ceremony: 23 April 2027. The exhibition featuring the finalist works will open on the same day.

Online Visibility: All artists who enter the competition will be featured on the websites www.utopiedibellezza.it and www.fondazionecrj.it.

Artist Residencies for the Two First-Prize Winners

The two artists awarded first prize will each receive a **one-month artist residency at Casasanvito**, running from **29 August to 26 September 2027**.

The residency constitutes the entirety of the prize and will be provided free of charge by the Casasanvito Association to both winning artists, with no participation fee or accommodation costs whatsoever.

In addition, each winner will receive a **gross contribution of €500 towards expenses**.

What the Residency Includes

Casasanvito will provide each artist with:

- A private bedroom with en-suite bathroom;
- Utilities;

- Basic art-making and production materials;
- Access to a shared 35 sqm studio;
- A small kitchen and communal living space;
- Transfers to and from Ancona railway station or airport, if required.

Expenses to Be Covered by the Artists

The following expenses remain the responsibility of each artist:

- Travel to and from Casasanvito;
- Meals;
- Shipping of artworks at the end of the residency;
- Any additional production materials beyond those provided;
- Personal travel and transport during the residency.

Throughout the residency, Casasanvito will introduce the two artists to the surrounding area, fostering opportunities to meet and engage with the local community and to connect with the cultural and social fabric of the Marche region.

At the conclusion of the residency, on **25 September 2027**, a public closing exhibition will be held at Casasanvito, showcasing the works created by the two winning artists during their stay.

Copyright and Use of Images

Artists shall retain full ownership of all moral and economic copyright in the works created during the residency.

Artists also grant the Casasanvito Association permission to create, use and share photographs, videos and/or audio recordings featuring the artists and/or documenting their artworks and activities throughout the residency.

Such material may be used exclusively for non-commercial information, documentation and promotional purposes through Casasanvito's communication and promotional channels, including, but not limited to, its website, social media platforms, catalogues, press releases and institutional materials.

Artists waive any right to financial compensation from the Casasanvito Association for the use of their image and the recordings produced, within the terms and for the purposes set out above.

Article 5 – How to Apply

Artists may submit their applications **until 31 January 2027**.

Each artist may enter **one artwork only**.

Applications must be submitted by completing the online application form and following the instructions provided:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSexhyg6rOrTPOFGfFrMhA-47Aiy_5z6O54SuSDLUNheokepvg/viewform

The following materials must be included with the application:

- **High-resolution image of the submitted artwork:** JPG or PDF format, 300 dpi, with the longest side measuring between 1,000 and 4,000 pixels;
- **Artwork details:** artist's name, title, technique, materials and dimensions;
- **Artist's statement / concept:** a description of the work and its underlying concept (maximum 2,000 characters);
- **Artist portfolio:** a concise, high-resolution portfolio outlining previous work and providing details of exhibitions and artist residencies in which the applicant has participated.

Selection Process

An initial screening of all submitted works will be carried out by the organising institutions by **28 February 2027**.

A maximum of 10 works will be shortlisted for the final stage of the competition and may be exhibited in the Virna Lisi Exhibition Hall at Palazzo Bisaccioni, home of the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi.

Only applicants selected for the final stage will receive written notification.

All applicants must ensure that their works comply with the dimensions and technical requirements specified in this Call for Entries. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide a personal email address and mobile phone number to ensure that they can be contacted by the organising committee.

The Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi reserves the right to use the submitted materials (texts and images) in connection with future events and initiatives, provided that the artist and/or original source is duly credited and the authors or copyright holders are informed.

Such materials will be used exclusively for non-profit cultural and educational purposes.

Article 6 – Key Dates and Deadlines

- **Application deadline:** 31 January 2027
- **Deadline for submission of all required documentation:** 31 January 2027
- **Initial selection:** 28 February 2027
- **Delivery of the 10 finalist artworks:** 2 April 2027
- **Award Ceremony:** 23 April 2027

Jury and Final Selection

The jury is composed of:

- Laura Feliciotti – Head of Artistic Heritage, Intesa Sanpaolo
- Paola Capata – Founder, Galleria Monitor
- Francesca Tilio – Artist and Photographer
- Maria Chiara Salvanelli – Press Office & Communications
- Riccardo Fornezza – Casasanvito

The jury will convene by **23 April 2027** to select the two winning artworks.

Award Ceremony and Exhibition Opening

The finalist works will be exhibited in the Virna Lisi Exhibition Hall at Palazzo Bisaccioni.

The Award Ceremony will take place on **23 April 2027** in the main conference hall of the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi.

Programme

- 5:00 pm – Award Ceremony
- 5:30 pm – Official opening of the exhibition

Article 7 – Delivery of Finalist Artworks

Artists selected for the final stage must deliver their original artwork, either in person or by courier, at their own expense, to the offices of the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi, Piazza Colocci 4, Jesi (AN), Italy, **by 2 April 2027**.

The Foundation's offices are open Monday to Friday during the following hours:

- 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
- 3:30 pm – 7:30 pm

All finalist artworks must be equipped with appropriate hanging fixtures.

The reverse of each work must be clearly labelled in block capitals with the following information:

- Artwork title;
- Artist's first and last name;
- Technique and materials;
- Year of creation.

Any artwork delivered in packaging must be accompanied by clear instructions explaining how it should be repacked for return.

The organising committee will repack the works using the original packaging materials and following the artist's instructions.

Article 8 – Return of Artworks

Artworks submitted for the Award may be collected from the offices of the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi by the artist in person, by an authorised representative holding written authorisation, or through an express courier service.

All artworks must be collected **by 14 June 2027**.

After this deadline, any uncollected artwork will become the property of the Foundation.

Artists who originally submitted their works by express courier must arrange and pay for their return shipment, appointing a courier of their choice.

All packaging must be suitable for the safe return of the artwork and reusable.

The return of each artwork is the sole responsibility and expense of the artist and must be arranged in advance with the administrative office of the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi, agreeing on the collection date, time and method.

Article 9 – Liability Waiver and Image Rights

While the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi undertakes to exercise the utmost care in handling and safeguarding all submitted artworks, it accepts no liability for theft, fire or damage of any kind to artworks or persons that may occur at any stage of the event.

Artists are solely responsible for arranging any insurance coverage they consider appropriate to protect their artworks against potential damage or loss. Any such insurance policy must be taken out directly by the artist.

By entering the Award, artists authorise the publication and use of their image and artworks in magazines, newspapers, websites, social media and other communication channels, as well as their display in exhibitions. No financial compensation may be claimed for such uses.

The Foundation also reserves the right to reproduce images of the winning artworks in promotional and informational materials for future editions of the Award, as well as for other purposes consistent with the Foundation's mission and activities.

Article 10 – Acceptance of Terms and Conditions

The decisions of the Award jury are final, binding and not subject to appeal or review.

By submitting an online application, artists fully accept the terms and conditions set out in this Call for Entries and assume full personal responsibility for all images and materials submitted.

Artists declare that the submitted artwork is their own legitimate creation and that its production and submission do not infringe any rights protected by law or any third-party rights.

Artists further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Jesi against any liability, claims, demands, legal actions or adverse consequences arising from or relating to any allegation of infringement, however and whenever such claims may be brought.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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