

## Shifting Waters

Collateral Event of the 61st International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia

As a contribution to the Biennale Arte 2026, the ERES Foundation is presenting the group exhibition *Shifting Waters*. Based on seven internationally established artistic positions, it will highlight aspects of the **changing relationship between humans and water cycles**, which are the basis of all life.

No other city in the world is as defined by water as Venice. Everything seems to converge in the lagoon: heaven and earth, illusion and reality, man and sea. For centuries, its inhabitants have sought ways to transform the hostile environment into inviting splendour with ingenious technical inventions and to triumph over the forces of nature. Exposed to tides and storm surges and built on unstable alluvial soil, Venice is a prime example of the **need to adapt to water**. In view of globally changing water cycles with increasing flash floods, high water levels and droughts, this aspect makes the lagoon city the vanguard of a changing relationship between the hydrosphere and the anthroposphere.

In a fluid interplay, the group show *Shifting Waters* combines various aspects of the coexistence of humans and water. The artistic positions are reminiscent of the permanent struggle with the forces of nature or enchant with the poetry of the liquid. The beauty of pearls, the wondrous texture of scales, enormous structures from the hidden realm and the remains of dismantled architecture create a melody of connection and repulsion. The exhibition features images, sculptures and thoughts that give an idea of how to deal with the fluidity of water, how to respond to it and how to benefit from it. **A constant flow of change that will also shape our future.**

**Sonia Leimer's** glass sculpture refers to Venice's position as a former leading trading and maritime power, while **Giorgio Andreotta Calò's** installation draws attention to the fragile structure below sea level: a memorial to a sinking city. **Mike Bouchet's** work also revolves around the effects of climate change on human existence. Gutai artist **Sadamasa Motonaga**, on the other hand, emphasises the playful, light-hearted component of water. A magical, dark underwater world beyond human perception awaits visitors in **Anne Duk Hee Jordan's** multisensory installation. In her filigree work, reminiscent of delicate fish skin, **Pamela Rosenkranz** weaves technology and nature together with a touch of blue. In the end, **Lawrence Weiner's** flag sums it all up: *Water finds its own level*.

## **ERES Foundation**

This institution based in Munich, Germany, **fosters dialogue between science and the fine arts**. The foundation was recognised as a nonprofit organisation in 2004. It operates independently of any economic and political interests, sets its own key topics and seeks integral views that unite art and science. Its exhibitions have included works of art by both young and internationally acclaimed artists. Ed Adkins, Yael Bartana, Julius von Bismarck, Petrit Halilaj, Anna Jermolaewa, Ayoung Kim, Martin Kippenberger, Meret Oppenheim and Robert Rauschenberg, to name just a few, were among them. It selects art that opens up sensual, associative approaches to natural science topics. The focus is not on the illustration of facts, but on the independent and free exploration of the respective subjects. The emotional access to science that art can provide is one of the foundation's central concerns. Accompanying the exhibitions, renowned natural scientists from institutions such as the Max Planck Institute or the Munich Centre for Quantum Science and Technology give lectures.

For the second time, the ERES Foundation will be present at the Biennale Arte as a Collateral Event, and this in the immediate vicinity of Giardini and Arsenale.

### **Curator**

Dr. Sabine Adler, ERES Foundation

### **Artists**

Mike Bouchet  
Giorgio Andreotta Calò  
Anne Duk Hee Jordan  
Sonia Leimer  
Sadamasu Motonaga  
Pamela Rosenkranz  
Lawrence Weiner

### **Venue**

Fondazione ERES  
Castello 1228, Ca' Sarasina  
30122 Venezia

### **Opening Hours**

9 May to 28 June 2026  
4 Sept to 1 Nov 2026

Fri / Sat / Sun, 11 am – 6 pm

### **Admission free**

### **Press Contact**

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