

**The Opening of Fondazione Maria Cristina Carlini**

**A new contemporary art centre in Milan**

scientific direction Flaminio Gualdoni

**INAUGURATION**

**Wednesday, 22 January 2025, from 18:00.**

 press release, 11.11.24

**Fondazione Maria Cristina Carlini** officially opens its doors to the public under the scientific direction of art critic and historian Flaminio Gualdoni, a profound connoisseur of contemporary sculpture.

The space is envisioned as **a place for meeting, study and conservation,** with the goal of promoting the vast artistic and documentary heritage of Maria Cristina Carlini’s eclectic career, which spans more than fifty years of artistic activity.

The non-profit Foundation, established in a neighbourhood the artist holds dear, collaborates with international and institutional entities and is intended as a **reference point** for scholars, enthusiasts, young artists, and all those who wish to broaden their knowledge in the field of sculpture.

The centre has been conceived as a multifunctional space that enables visitors to appreciate the work of Maria Cristina Carlini, on display in both the indoor area and the garden.

The programme includes events, conferences and temporary exhibitions, all aimed at encouraging a lively, interactive conversation on contemporary art, in keeping with Maria Cristina Carlini's artistic practice.

A continually updated archive of the sculptor’s entire production is available for consultation, accessed via catalogues and documents that illustrate her artistic career. Documentaries and video testimonies filmed over the years recount her world and deepen our knowledge of her personality and art, which are fundamentally inseparable.

Carlini has always been motivated by an intrinsically deep love of art. After completing her humanities studies, her career in art began in the 1970s, in Palo Alto, California, where she took a ceramics course. Throughout her career she has continued to explore new techniques and to expand her visual language by means of a variety of materials, such as stoneware, porcelain, sheet metal, iron, Corten steel and reclaimed wood.

Her work embodies implicit and explicit references which reflect the major themes of her personal aesthetic. Among these is her affinity with **natural elements**, such as **clay**, in which the origin and link with the past and ancestral memories is rediscovered. Clay, worked with care, dedication and strength, is closely connected to our individual and collective **memory**, which unites past, present and future. The symbols embedded in clay are traces of distant events that evoke emotions and sensibilities, leading viewers to recapture their own experiences, or to perceive a sense of belonging, **identity** and shared memory. Through their combinations of materials and compositions, Carlini’s sculptures, particularly her monumental works, reveal the subtle balance between lightness and power, an invitation to reflect on the fragility of nature and the crucial **protection of the environment**.

In the course of her career, Carlini has exhibited in major solo and group shows, and her permanently installed monumental sculptures have left a distinctive mark on the international art scene in **Europe**, the **United States** and **China**.

Maria Cristina Carlini lives and works in Milan, which is also home to the Foundation, located adjacent to her large studio at Via Savona 97, an area that was once the site of a factory but is today a culturally vibrant zone. Installed at a short distance from the Foundation is the monumental sculpture *Obelisk*, which the artist donated to the city in 2024.

[www.mariacristinacarlini.com](http://www.mariacristinacarlini.com)

**Event details**

Title THE OPENING OF THE MARIA CRISTINA CARLINI FOUNDATION: A new contemporary art centre in Milan

**Scientific director** Flaminio Gualdoni

**Location** via Savona 97, Milan

**Inauguration** Wednesday, 22 January 2025, 18:00.

**Free** entry

**Info – visits** by appointment only

tel. +39 349 1813179 - info@fondazionemariacristinacarlini.it

**How to get there: Metro M4** Tolstoj | **Metro M2** Sant’Agostino + tram n.14 | **Tram** n. 14 via Giambellino – via Tolstoj | **Bus** n. 91 piazza Napoli

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