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# ANDREA BRANZI

MAAB Gallery  
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## ANDREA BRANZI

Andrea Branzi (Firenze, 1938 - Milano, 2023), è stato un architetto, designer e artista. Affascinato dal modo in cui l'uomo interagisce con gli oggetti, ha dato vita a una cultura del progetto come intreccio di narrazioni e di punti di vista, dove natura e cultura dialogano con attitudine sperimentale, poetica ed ironica, tra architettura, design, arti visive, urbanistica e didattica.

Dal 1966 al 1974 è stato membro fondatore del gruppo sperimentale Archizoom, prendendo parte al movimento di avanguardia dell'Architettura Radicale.

Dal 1974 ha vissuto e lavorato a Milano, dove ha sviluppato la sua attività di designer indipendente, che lo ha portato a divenire un membro chiave del movimento del Nuovo Design Italiano. È stato inoltre membro chiave dello Studio Alchimia, fondato nel 1976, e ha collaborato con il Memphis Group nei primi anni Ottanta.

Affascinato dal contrasto tra processi industriali e prodotti naturali, a metà degli anni Ottanta, Branzi si è allontanato dall'estetica del design postmoderno. Le sue opere, piatte come cerchi di eventi, di personificazioni e di gioco, contrappongono a un'idea immobile e autoritaria dell'umano una danza sottile che mette in scena e relaziona il sacro, la storia, la vita, la morte.

Branzi ha scritto numerosi libri sul design, come molte riflessioni filosofiche sull'urbanismo, cercando di conciliare il design e l'architettura con le sfide in evoluzione della società contemporanea.

Ha ricevuto molti premi e riconoscimenti, come il Compasso d'Oro per ben tre volte, di cui uno alla carriera.

Ha esposto in prestigiosi spazi museali tra cui la Triennale a Milano, la Fondation Cartier a Parigi, il MoMA e il Guggenheim Museum a New York, Musée des Arts Décoratifs et du Design a Bordeaux e il Musée des Arts Décoratifs a Montreal.

Numerose le partecipazioni a biennale internazionali. Tra queste si ricordano le numerose partecipazioni alla Triennale di Milano (1967, 1972, 1979, 1986 e 1992). Nel 1978 e nel 1984 ha esposto alla Biennale di Venezia e, nel 1997, a Documenta Kassel.

## ANDREA BRANZI

Andrea Branzi (Florence, 1938 - Milan, 2023) is an architect, designer and artist. Fascinated by the way man interacts with objects, the design culture he has created interweaves narratives and points of view in which nature and culture interact experimentally, poetically and ironically with architecture, design, the visual arts, urban planning and education.

From 1966 to 1974 he was a founding member of the experimental group Archizoom, and participated in the avant-garde movement of Architettura Radicale [Radical Architecture].

Since 1974, he has lived and worked in Milan, where he pursued a career as an independent designer. This led him to becoming a core member of the Nuovo Design Italiano movement. He was also a key member of Studio Alchimia, founded in 1976, and worked with the Memphis Group in the early 1980s.

Fascinated by the contrast between industrial processes and natural products, in the mid-1980s Branzi departed from the aesthetics of postmodern design. His works, piazzas that are like circuses for events, personifications and play, offset an immobile and authoritarian idea of the human being with a subtle dance that stages and relates the sacred, history, life and death.

Branzi has written numerous books about design, as well as many philosophical pieces on urbanism, in an attempt to reconcile design and architecture with the evolving challenges of contemporary society.

He has the distinction of being a co-founder of the Domus Academy, the first international post-graduate school of design, and was professor and president of the School of Interior Design at the Milan Polytechnic until 2009.

He has received many honours and awards, thrice winning the Compasso d'Oro, including a lifetime achievement award. In 2008, he was awarded the Laurea Honoris Causa in Design by the Sapienza University of Rome and was appointed Honorary Royal Designer in the United Kingdom.

His works are in collections in the world's most prestigious museums, such as the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, the MoMA in New York, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, the Vitra Design Museum in Weil am Rhein, the Italian Design Museum at the Triennale in Milan, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, The Israel Museum in Jerusalem and the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Montreal.

Numerous participations in international biennials. These include numerous participations in the Milan Triennale (1967, 1972, 1979, 1986 and 1992). In 1978 and 1984 he exhibited at the Venice Biennale and, in 1997, at Documenta Kassel.

## PRESENTATION

Born in 1938 in Florence, Italy  
Died in 2023 in Milano, Italy

## EDUCATION AND TEACHING

### 1966

Degree from Florence School of Architecture, Florence

### 1966–92

Co-founds the avant-garde groups Archizoom Associati (1966–74) and *Global Tools* (1974/75), and joins *Studio Alchimia* (1976–92)

### 1975

Joins forces with Ettore Sottsass, Alessandro Mendini, Clino Trini Castelli, Massimo Morozzi, and others to co-found the group *Consulenti Design Milano* (CDM)

### 1983

Co-founder of the Domus Academy, Milan

### From 1984

Lectures at universities in France, USA, Japan, and Brazil

### 1991-1995

Guest professor at universities of Palermo and Milan

### 1991

Founds the Domus Design Agency, Tokyo

### 1996

Director of Italian design exhibition at La Triennale di Milano

### From 2005

Professor and chairman of the school of interior design at the Politecnico

di Milano

### 2008

Named Honorary Royal Designer in the United Kingdom  
Honorary Degree in Design at La Sapienza University, Rome

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)

### 2024

*Andrea Branzi. Civilizations without jewels have never existed*, Corso Como 10, Milan

### 2023

*Andrea Branzi. Racconti di design*. CSAC - Abbazia di Valserena, Parma

### 2022

*Andrea Branzi. Mostra in forma di prosa*, La Triennale di Milano, Milan  
*Andrea Branzi. Grandi Legni and Etchings*, Nilufar Depot, Milan

### 2021

*La nuova stanza*, Pianca & Partners, Milan  
*Andrea Branzi: Metropoli Latina*, Archaeological Park of Pompei, Pompei

### 2019

*La Metropoli Latina*, Assab One, Milan  
*Glass-Oriented Design*, Center for Innovation and Design at Grand-Hornu, Hornu

### 2017

*Andrea Branzi: Sassi e legni*, Carpenters Workshop Gallery, London  
*Teatro*, Galleria Luisa Delle Piane, Milan

### 2016

*Andrea Branzi: Interiors*, Friedman Benda, New York  
*The Multicultural Metropolis*, Triennale di Milano, Milan

## ANDREA BRANZI

Bio Artworks Exhibitions

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*Andrea Branzi. Nel Regno dei Viventi*, Spazio 1929, Lugano

*Andrea Branzi. La metropoli primitiva*, Museo Nivola, Orani

*Andrea Branzi. Anime*, Fondazione Volume!, Roma

*Andrea Branzi. Opere recenti*, Al Blu di Prussia, Napoli

### 2015

*Papiers. Andrea Branzi*, Great Design Gallery, Paris

### 2014

*Andrea Branzi: Pleased to meet you. 50 ans de creation*, Musée des Arts décoratifs, Bordeaux

### 2013

*Oggetti, Territori, Volatili*, Isabella Bortolozzi, Berlin

### 2012

*Andrea Branzi: Trees & Stones*, Friedman Benda, New York

*The Ceramics of Andrea Branzi*, Triennale Design Café, Milan

*Objects and Territories*, de Singel International Arts Campus and Vlaams Architectuurinstituut, Antwerp

*Andrea Branzi: Trees*, Carpenters Workshop Gallery, Paris

### 2009

*Grandi Legni*, Azzedine Alaïa Gallery, Paris

### 2010

*Andrea Branzi. All eras come to a head*, Fondazione Plart, Naples

*Andrea Branzi: Epigrammi*, Galleria Clivio Calvi Rudy Volpi, Milan

### 2008

*Open Enclosures*, Fondation Cartier, Paris

### 2000

*Objects and Territories*, Cultural Center Scharpoord, Knokke

*Età del Bronzo*, Design Gallery, Milan

### 1998

*Passaggi*, Design Gallery Milano, Milan

*Silver and Gold*, Argentaurum Gallery, Museum of Arts and Crafts, Ghent

### 1997

*Fuzzy Design*, Design Gallery Milano, Milan

*Wood & Stones*, Argentaurum Gallery at Galleria Seno, Milan

### 1996

*Wireless*, Design Gallery Milano, Milan

*Wood & Stones*, Argentaurum Gallery, Knokke

### 1994

Galleria Colombari, Milan

*Andrea Branzi*, Galleria Niccoli, Parma

Showroom Erregi, Parma

### 1992

*Luoghi*, Design Gallery Milano, Milan

### 1991

*Musée des Arts Décoratifs*, Montreal

Amnesie, Design Gallery Milan

Gallery Objecte, Munich

### 1989

Fort Asperen, Holland

### 1988

Centre Cayc, Buenos Aires

Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

Tokyo Design Agency, Tokyo

### 1986

*Il grande tappeto ibrido*, Installation, Musée Saint Pierre, Lyon

*Case a Pianta Centrale*, Documenta, Kassel

**1985**

Exhibition products designed for Memphis, Seibu Department Store, Tokyo

**1982**

*Mussolini's Bathroom*, Installation at Centro Domus, Milan

**1978**

*Interno urbanistico*, Palazzo dei Diamanti, Ferrara  
*Assenza-Presenza nell'architettura moderna*, Museo d'Arte Moderna di Modena, Modena

**1968**

*Gazebo e stanche vuote*, with Archizoom Associati, Mana Art Market Gallery, Rome

**1967**

*Superarchitettura*, Galleria Comunale, Modena  
*Centro di cospirazione eclettica*, XIV Triennale di Milano, Milan

**1966**

*Superarchitettura*, Galleria Jolly, Pistoia

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTED)**

**2024**

*Illuminati*, Galleria Luisa delle Piane, Milan  
*Nature intérieures*, Villa Savoye, Poissy  
*The New Poetic Activism*, ADI Design Museum, Milan

**2022**

*Mimesis. A living design*, Centre Pompidou-Metz, Metz, Lorraine  
*La tradizione del nuovo*, XXIII Esposizione Internazionale, La Triennale di Milano, Milan

**2021**

*The Voice of Things*, Centre Pompidou-West Bund Museum, Shanghai

**2021**

*Andrea Branzi / Francesco Arena*, Villa San Michele, Fondazione Axel Munthe, Anacapri  
*Futurissimo: L'utopie du design italien*, Hôtel des Arts, Toulon

**2020**

*What Would Have Been*, Friedman Benda, New York  
*Radical: Italian Design 1965-1985*, The Dennis Freedman Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
*Comfort*, Friedman Benda, New York

**2019**

*Memphis Plastic Field*, Musée des Arts Decoratifs et du Design, Bordeaux  
*Andrea Branzi / Chiaki Maki / Andrea Mastrovito – 1+1+1 2019*, ASSAB ONE – Ex Gea, Milan  
*La Ceramica Disegnata*, MIDECC – Museo Internazionale Design Ceramico, Civica Raccolta di Terraglia, Laveno Mombello

**2018**

*Thinking Machines. Art and Design in the Computer Age, 1959–1989*, MoMA – Museum of Modern Art, New York  
*Design et Merveilleux*, Musée d'art moderne, Saint-Priest-en-Jarez

**2017**

*Builders of tomorrow. Immaginare il futuro tra design e arte*, MIC - Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Faenza  
*Paesaggi urbani. Disegni&dipinti di architettura*, Al Blu di Prussia, Napoli  
*Space Oddities: Bowie / Sottsass / Memphis*, Modernism Museum of Mount Dora, Mount Dora

**2013**

*Cut 'n' Paste: From Architectural Assemblage to Collage City*, MoMA – Mu-

seum of Modern Art, New York

**2012**

*Mutatis Mutandis*, The Secession, Wien  
*9 + 1 Ways of Being Political: 50 Years of Political Stances in Architecture and Urban Design*, MoMA – Museum of Modern Art, New York

**2010**

*People Meet in Architecture*, XII International Architecture Biennale, Venice

**2009**

*In Situ: Architecture and Landscape*, MoMA – Museum of Modern Art, New York

**2007**

*Handmade in Albisola*, La Triennale, Milan

**2004**

*Architecture and Design: Inaugural Installation*, MoMA – Museum of Modern Art, New York

**2003**

*Blossoming the Gap*, Studio Rendl & Spitz, Cologne

**2001**

*Italia Giappone: Design come stile di vita*, Japan-Italy; Yokohama and Kobe

**1997**

*No-Stop-City*, Documenta X, Kassel

**1996**

*Il Design Italiano dal 1964 al 1972*, Triennale di Milano, Milan

**1995**

VI Bienal Internacional de Arquitectura de Buenos Aires  
*Italian Metamorphosis*, Guggenheim Museum, New York

**1993**

*Citizen Office*, Vitra Museum, Weil am Rhein

**1992**

XVIII Triennale di Milano, Milan

**1991**

*Camere con vista. Abitare il tempo*, Fiera di Verona, Verona  
*Il Dolce Stil Novo della Casa*, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence  
*Il design Italiano*, Mitsubishi co., Tokyo

**1990**

*Les Capitales Européennes du Nouveau Design: Barcelone, Düsseldorf, Milan, Paris*, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; and Kunstmuseum, Düsseldorf

**1989**

Yatai, International Expo, Nagoya

**1986**

*La Casa Telecomandata*, XVII Triennale di Milano, Milan

**1984**

Biennale di Venezia, Magazzini del Sale, Venice

**1980**

*Record e Paradiso*, San Lorenzo Church, Biennale di Venezia, Venice

**1979**

XVI Triennale di Milano, Milan  
*In mostra*, Galleria Zen Italiana, Naples

**1978**

Biennale di Venezia, Venice  
*Global Eye '78, 7 new design towers, Tokyo*

**1977**

*Il Design italiano degli anni '50, Centrokappa in Noviglio, Milan*

**1975**

*Decorattivo, Fiera di Milano, Milan*  
*A proposito del Mulino Stucky, Biennale di Venezia, Venice*

**1973**

*L'invenzione della superficie neutra. Abet Print, Archizoom Associati, Florence*

**1972**

XIV Triennale di Milano, Milan  
*Italy: the new Domestic Landscape, MoMA - Museum of Modern Art, New York*

**1971**

Biennale dei Giovani, Paris

**1970**

*Eurodomus, Turin*  
*Print Environment, Paris*

**AWARDS (SLECTED)**

**2018**

*Rolf Schock Price in Visual Arts, Sweden*

**1997**

First Price, Pirelli Energy competition, Italy

**1995**

*Compasso d'oro for Domus Academy's activity, Italy*

**1991**

Baden Württemberg Award, Germany

**1989**

Robert Maxwell Prize at Royal College of Art, United Kingdom

**1988**

First prize, International Competition for Development of the Berlin Wall Area, Germany

**1987**

*Compasso d'oro for individual body of work, Italy*

**1983**

International Award at First Biennial of Design, Buenos Aires, Argentina

**1979**

*Compasso d'oro, for Fibermatching 25, with Massimo Morozzi and Clino Trini Castelli, Italy*



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Bio Artworks Exhibitions

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**COLLECTIONS (SELECTED)**

MoMA Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA  
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France  
Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France  
Musée des Arts décoratifs et du design, Bordeaux, France  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA  
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England  
Denver Museum of Art, Denver, CO, USA  
Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York, USA  
France Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX, USA  
Museo del Design Italiano, Triennale Milano, Milano, Italy  
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel  
Musée des Beaux-Arts, Montreal, Canada  
MAD Musée des Arts décoratifs, Paris, France  
MAK Austrian Museum of Applied Arts, Vienna, Austria  
Design Museum Shenzhen Society, Nanshan, Shenzhen, Guangdong, China  
SMASH Modern Art and Design, Vancouver, Canada  
CIRVA Centre International de Recherche sur le Verre et les Arts, Marseille, France  
FRAC Centre Val de Loire, Orléans, France  
CNAP Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Paris, France  
Cité de la céramique Sèvres & Limoges, Sèvres, France  
Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany  
VAi Anversa Vlaams Architectuure Instituut, Antwerp, Belgium  
Design Museum Gent, Gent, Belgium  
Groninger Museum, Groningen, The Netherlands  
MUDE Museo del design e della moda, Lisboa, Portugal  
CSAC Centro Studi e Archivio della Comunicazione, Parma, Italy  
Museo Fondazione Costantino Nivola, Orani, Italy  
Fondazione PLART, Napoli, Italy  
Museo della Sedia, Goito, Italy  
Fondazione Aldo Morelato, Museo MAAM, Cerea, Italy

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Museo del Design Italiano I Triennale Milano, Milano MI, Italy  
CSAC Centro Studi e Archivio della Comunicazione, Parma, Italy  
Museo Fondazione Costantino Nivola, Orani NU, Italy  
Fondazione PLART, Napoli NA, Italy  
Fondazione Aldo Morelato, Museo MAAM, Cerea VR, Italy  
Museo della Sedia, Goito MN, Italy  
MOMA Museum Of Modern Art, New York, USA  
Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York, USA  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA  
Denver Museum of Art, Denver, CO, USA  
France Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX, USA  
Musée des Beaux-Arts, Montreal, Canada  
SMASH Modern Art and Design, Vancouver, Canada  
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England  
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel  
CIRVA Centre International de Recherche sur le Verre et les Arts, Marseille, France  
Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France  
Musée des Arts décoratifs et du design, Bordeaux, France  
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France  
MAD Musée des Arts décoratifs, Paris, France  
FRAC Centre Val de Loire, Orléans, France  
CNAP Centre National des Arts Plastiques, Paris, France  
Cité de la céramique Sèvres & Limoges, Sèvres, France  
Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germania  
MAK Austrian Museum of Applied Arts, Vienna, Austria  
VAi Anversa Vlaams Architectuure Instituut, Antwerp, Belgio  
Design Museum Gent, Gent, Belgio  
Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Groninger Museum, Groningen, The Netherlands  
MUDE Museo del design e della moda, Lisboa, Portogallo  
Design Museum Shenzhen Society, Nanshan, Shenzhen, Guangdong, Cina

## NELLE PIAZZE

*Nelle piazze si colma il vuoto della narrazione contemporanea, espresso in modo diretto e spontaneo da chi la percorre.*

*Le piazze quindi non solo come luogo di passaggio, ma palcoscenico in cui si rappresentano la vita e l'incontro tra le persone, gli animali, gli arredi urbani.*

*Le quinte sono le case, le vetrine, gli alberi dei viali.*

*Lo spettacolo avviene fuori dagli schemi e dalla programmazione.*

*Gesti e riti della tradizione si intrecciano con l'imprevedibilità.*

*Consapevoli o meno, tutti si trasformano in attori e spettatori di una rappresentazione diffusa e senza confini.*

*Andrea Branzi*

## PIAZZAS

*In the piazzas the void of contemporary narrative is filled, expressed in a direct and spontaneous way by those who walk along it.*

*The piazzas are therefore not only a place of transit, but a stage on which life and encounters between people, animals and street furniture are represented.*

*The backdrops are the houses, the shop windows and the trees on the boulevards.*

*The performance is unplanned and unconventional.*

*Traditional gestures and rituals are interwoven with the unpredictable.*

*Knowingly or not, everyone becomes both actor and spectator in a far-reaching, borderless performance.*

*Andrea Branzi*



***Piazzette n. 7***, 2023  
alluminio, rame  
aluminium, copper  
36 x 35 x 35 cm





**Piazze n. 3**, 2023  
alluminio, rame  
aluminium, copper  
31,5 x 35 x 35 cm

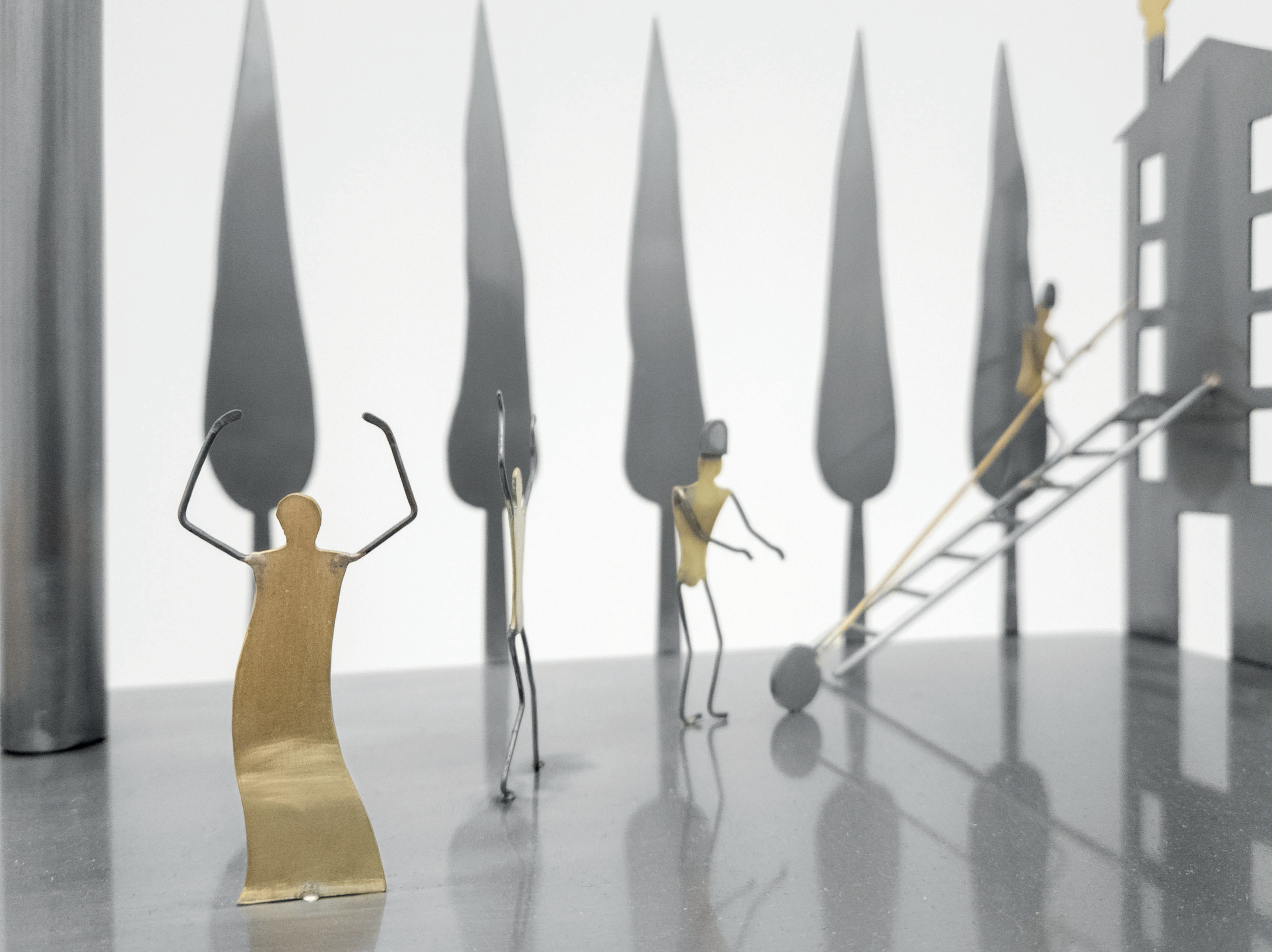


***Piazzes n. 4***, 2023  
alluminio rame  
aluminium, copper  
32 x 35 x 35 cm





***Piazze n. 6***, 2023  
alluminio rame  
aluminium, copper  
31 x 35 x 35 cm





***Piazzette n. 5***, 2023  
alluminio rame  
aluminium, copper  
31,5 x 35 x 35 cm



***Piazze n. 2***, 2023  
alluminio rame  
aluminium, copper  
32 x 35 x 35 cm



***Piaze n. 8***, 2023  
alluminio rame  
aluminium, copper  
31,5 x 35 x 35 cm





*Solo exhibition*

**Andrea Branzi: Metropoli Latina**  
Parco Archeologico di Pompei, Pompei, 2021



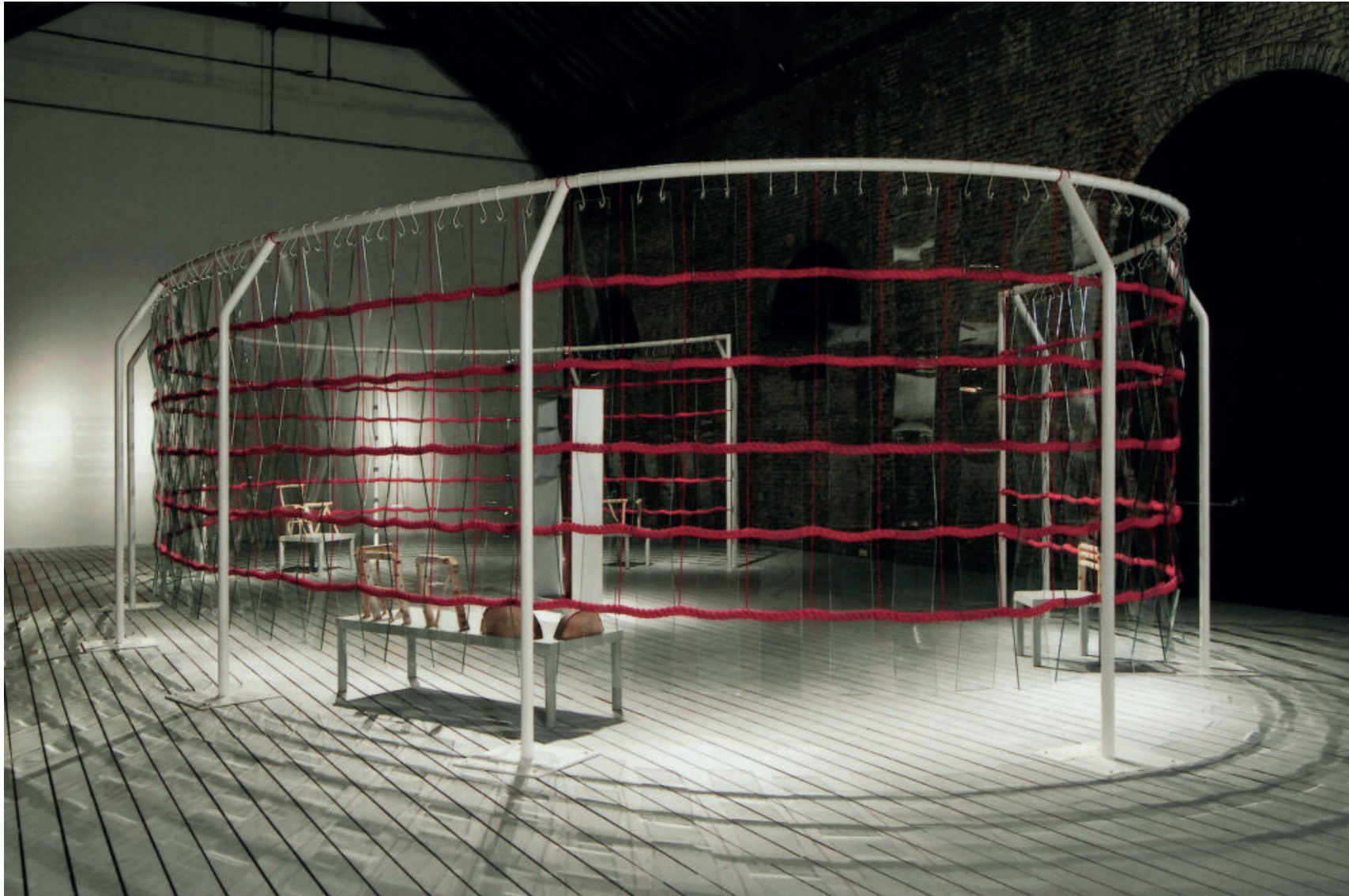






*Solo exhibition*

**Andrea Branzi. Please to meey you. 50 ans de création**  
Musée des Arts Décoratifs et du Design, Bordeaux, 2015



*Solo exhibition*

**Andrea Branzi. *Open Enclosures***  
Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, 2008



Group exhibition

*Handmade in Albisola*  
La Triennale, Milano, 2007



*Group exhibition*

**Citizen Office**  
Vitra Museum, Weil am Rhein, 1993



*Group exhibition*

***Il progetto domestic. La Casa Telecomandata***  
XVII Triennale di Milano, Milano, 1979



*Group exhibition*

XVI Triennale di Milano, Milano, 1979