

# Art for Tomorrow 2025 Draft Agenda

## Overcoming, Together

In 2025, the world is facing unprecedented challenges, many of them rooted in the inequalities that have only been exacerbated by the triple threat of political, economic and climate crises. These challenges can lead to fracture and isolation, to turning away from each other instead of coming together, and leaving the most vulnerable behind. But change will only come if we turn outward instead of inward, to our friends, our communities and our planet.

Art for Tomorrow 2025 is about tapping into this shared humanity to learn about creative solutions to the most entrenched problems. This May 12-14, we will convene influential figures from the arts, design and architecture in Milan, to explore the impact that these fields can and do have on society.

The iconic building of the Triennale Milano, where this year's event will be hosted, is the perfect setting in which to consider contemporary challenges. Art for Tomorrow is proud to be collaborating with both Triennale Milano, which will present the 24th International Exhibition titled "Inequalities" from May 13 to November 9, 2025, and Milan Art Week, whose theme is "Among Friends." Art for Tomorrow will take place right after the opening of the Venice Architecture Biennale so that delegates can take advantage of all of these critical events. We will also explore Milan's vibrant cultural landscape, venturing into museums, performance spaces and design studios to see the arts in action.

## MONDAY, MAY 12

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|----------------------|---|
| <b>14:00</b>         | <b>Registration opens</b>   |
| <b>15:00 - 15:10</b> | <b>Welcome Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Achilles Tsaltas, President, Democracy &amp; Culture Foundation</li><li>• Stefano Boeri, Urban Planner and President, Triennale Milano</li></ul> |
| <b>15:15 - 15:30</b> | <b>Lightning Talk</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stefano Boeri, Urban Planner and President, Triennale Milano</li></ul>  |
| <b>15:35 - 16:05</b> | <b>Opening Conversation</b>   |



- Koyo Kouoh, Curator, 2026 Venice Biennale and Executive Director, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa
- Simon Njami, Curator, Writer and Art Critic

**16:10 - 16:50**

**Opening Panel: Going Deep: Community-Based Arts**

In this era of division, wealth gaps and filter bubbles leave us further away from understanding one another. To bridge the divide, an increasing number of architects, artists and institutions are adopting a grassroots approach, deeply embedding themselves in the communities that will use or witness their work. What are some of the techniques being used to respond to real needs? Does some of the creative vision need to be sacrificed in the process?

**16:55 - 17:05**

**Performance Short**

**17:10 - 17:30**

**Keynote Conversation**

**Evening**

**Triennale Milano Opening Party**

## **TUESDAY, MAY 13**

**9:30 - 9:45**

**Welcome Remarks**

- Achilles Tsaltas, President, Democracy & Culture Foundation
- Kim Conniff Taber, Editorial Director, Democracy & Culture Foundation

**9:50 - 10:30**

**Opening Panel: Culture as Capital: Can the Arts Galvanize Economies?**

As nations rethink economic growth and development, creative industries have become strategic assets. From film and fashion to gaming and design, culture-driven economies are fueling innovation, shaping national identities, and redefining global influence. Governments worldwide aim to leverage the creative sector to diversify industries, attract investment, and foster social progress. But as culture is also increasingly seen as political, can creativity truly become a cornerstone of economic resilience?

**10:35 - 11:00**

**Visualizing Inequality**

A picture may be worth a thousand words, and it can also be worth a thousand numbers. We speak to experts in the growing field of data visualization, who use creative graphics and images to drive home the most salient statistics about inequality: from income to gender to climate.

**11:00 - 11:30**

**Coffee Break**

**11:30 - 11:45**

**Lightning Talk**

**11:50 - 12:20**

**Spotlight Conversation**

**12:30 - 13:10**    **Parallel Sessions**

**13:15 - 14:15**    **Lunch**

**14:15 - 14:25**    **Provocation**

**14:30 - 15:10**    **Panel: Worlds Imagined: Biodiversity and Tech**

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, more than 46,000 species are threatened with extinction, a colossal 26 percent of all species the organization tracks. That's a 12 percent deterioration in the last 20 years. As alarming as these statistics are, what if we could envision all that's at risk? Some artists are doing just that, using technology to recreate lost worlds or peer into alternative futures where biodiversity thrives.

**15:15 - 15:45**    **Spotlight Conversation**

**16:00 - 18:00**    **Cultural Tours\***

**Evening**        **Dinner at Palazzo Reale Milano**

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## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 14**

**10:00 - 10:05**    **Welcome Remarks**

- Achilles Tsaltas, President, Democracy & Culture Foundation

**10:10 - 10:50**    **Panel: Politics and the Art Market**

**10:55 - 11:10**    **Lightning Talk**

**11:10 - 11:40**    **Coffee Break**

**11:40 - 12:10**    **Spotlight Conversation**

**12:15 - 12:55**    **Panel: Through the Looking Glass: Inside the Creative Process**

**13:00 - 13:10**    **Lightning Talk: (Un)Tradeable**

**13:15 - 14:15**    **Lunch**



**art** for  
**TOMORROW**

**Milan**

**May 12-14, 2025**

**The 10th anniversary edition**

- 14:20 - 15:00**     **Panel: Art in a War Zone**  
With conflicts raging from Gaza to Ukraine, Sudan to Syria, one might assume that artistic production would be stifled when daily survival is in question. But often the opposite is true, with creativity enduring and even flourishing. How can art help people cope in dark times, and how might it help others understand both the horror and resilience in times of war?
- 15:05 - 15:35**     **Spotlight Conversation**
- 15:40 - 16:10**     **Closing Conversation: Visions for the Future**
- 16:15 - 18:00**     **\*Cultural Tours**
- 18:00**             **Public Lecture**

**\*Cultural tours include** (exact dates and times to be confirmed):

- Triennale exhibitions
- MASSIMODECARLO Gallery - private V.I.P. viewing and cocktail
- Tour of Pirelli HangarBicocca
- Museo del Novecento
- Fondazione Prada and Osservatorio

## **Confirmed Speakers**

Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani  
Khalid Albaih  
Nomi Bar-Yaacov  
Susanna Barla  
Alvaro Barrington  
Stefano Boeri  
Bjornstjerne Christiansen, SUPERFLEX  
Alessandro Cinque  
Massimo De Carlo  
Michele De Lucchi  
Martine d'Anglejan-Chatillon  
Federica Fragapane  
Antony Gormley  
Madeleine Grynsztejn

Anthony Huberman  
Koyo Kouoh  
Jeff Koons  
Pearl Lam  
Jiyoon Lee  
Courtney J. Martin  
Michael P. Nash  
Shirin Neshat  
Simon Njami  
Hans Ulrich Obrist  
Michelangelo Pistoletto  
Nicola Riccardi  
David Salle  
Audrey Teichmann  
Vicente Todolí  
Gayane Umerova