



XEARTE, a non-profit cultural and community association,
 launches the third edition of the competition:
"ARTIST'S BOOK BIENNALE"
 in Padua (Padova), Italy.

This edition is dedicated to **Silvano Gosparini**, recently passed away, a leading figure in Venetian cultural and political life in the late 20th century and was a co-founder of the **Centro Internazionale della Grafica – Venezia Viva**.

XEARTE launches the "Artist's Book Biennale" competition/exhibition with prizes.

This group exhibition will be held **from May 22nd to June 21st, 2026**, at the former IAT (Tourist Information Office) in **Galleria Pedrocchi**, a prestigious location in the Padua center.

There will be two sections:

A - Free Artistic Theme

Each artist may participate with a work on a free theme, in any shape or material, using any technique.

B - Padua (Padova).

A special prize will be awarded to the "Artist's Book" that best expresses the theme: **"Aspects of the Padua City"**.

1 - Participants.

The competition is open to all, regardless of age.

Each artist may submit a work, which will be evaluated by a qualified jury appointed by the "XEARTE" Association.

The selections are final and unquestionable. Official notification of the selected works will be sent to the applicants via email.

All works selected for the group exhibition will be included in a **catalogue** accompanied by a critical introduction.

The submitted works must not contain direct or indirect advertising messages, nor discriminatory or offensive images or words.

The exhibited work will be returned at the end of the exhibition, on a date and time communicated to the individual artist, should they wish to collect it in person.

Otherwise, the work will be returned by courier (shipping costs must be paid in advance) to all artists who specifically request it on the admission form.

2 - Artwork Specifications

Each work must be created in the form of an "Artist's Book" or "Object Book."

Maximum dimensions allowed: 60x60x60 cm. when closed!

Books must not be made of dangerous, fragile, or perishable materials.

3 - Terms and Conditions of Participation

Participation in the selection process is free.

After the selection process, a participation fee is required.

The cost of participation in the exhibition - reserved for selected artists - is 60,00 Euros, including a copy of the aforementioned catalog.

4 - Applications, complete with a fully completed admission form and a minimum of 3 and maximum 6 electronic photos of the work, must be submitted online to the recipient by **Monday, April 13, 2026, via email to info@xearte.net.**

Specifications of the images of the submitted work.

A JPG file (high resolution, suitable for quality printing) with a file name consisting of: *surname_name_title_sequential number of the image*.

(Example: Rossi_Paolo_colorful-experiences_1) Max. 2 MB.

If these requirements are not met, the files will not be accepted for selection.

If the work is accepted, these requirements are also required for the catalog's print.

Artists admitted to the competition will be notified after selection by Saturday, April 18, 2026.

5 - Delivery and return of works.

Artists selected for the Exhibition must deliver their works, paying the registration fee, to the XEARTE Association, **Deadline: May 11, 2026**. The works must be adequately packaged for easy return.

The shipping address for works is:

MARIAROSA BELTRAME
Via SONDRIO 9/b
35142 PADOVA (ITALY).

The works may be picked up at the Association's headquarters after the event by making an appointment by telephone; or they will be returned to the authors upon payment of shipping costs by June 19, 2026.

Unsolicited books will remain in the possession of the XEARTE Association and will be auctioned off, with proceeds going to charity.

6- Prizes.

The following prizes will be awarded to the winners:

€ 1,000.00 for the first place winner;

€ 600.00 for the second place winner;

€ 350.00 for the third place winner.

€ 500.00 for the work that best addresses the theme: "Aspects of the Padua City."

On the opening day, **Friday, May 22, 2026**, the winners will be announced during a ceremony attended by city officials.

7- Declaration and acceptance.

Participants to the collective exhibition are to declare their full ownership of the artwork concerning both author's rights and the rights to economical profit; therefore no other exclusive rights can exist over it by third parties.

All artists declare their exclusive ownership of the works entered for the exhibition and that there are no third parties' rights on them. The organizers will therefore have no responsibility for any disputes to do with the originality and authorship of the works involved and for any unauthorised imitations or possible copies of them by third parties. All artists also declare to grant XEARTE the right to reproduce the images of their works, on the web or otherwise, for advertising or journalistic purposes. It follows that no permission will necessarily be asked to the individual artist for possible dissemination with promotional purposes of images of her/his work during or before the events of which we are discussing. All participating artists declare to have read the present regulations and to accept them all.

8 - Liability

The XEARTE Association, while ensuring the utmost care while looking after the works received for this exhibition, declines all responsibility for any theft, fire or damages of any nature, which may occur while they remain in its custody. Any insurances taken out will be care and at the expenses of the artists themselves.

9 - Authorization to process personal data

The candidate expressly authorized the XEARTE Association to process all personal data of the participating artists, also for the purpose of inclusion in databases managed by XEARTE and its occasional partners, according to our legislation.

For any information write to us at the following email address: info@xearte.net

Both this text and the *admission form* can be downloaded from our website www.xearte.net