



MAGAZZINO **ITALIAN ART**

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Dedalo Minosse International Prize Jury Presents Special Award to Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu for Commissioning of Magazzino Italian Art Foundation

Venice, Italy – September 21, 2019 – Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu, founders of Magazzino Italian Art Foundation in New York, were recognized this weekend by the jury of the Dedalo Minosse International Prize with the Veneto Region Special Award for their commissioning of Miguel Quismondo of MQ Architecture for the museum, which opened in 2017. The prestigious Dedalo Minosse International Prize—which consists of four main awards and twelve special awards—is promoted by ALA Assoarchitetti in collaboration with the Veneto Region and the Municipality of Vicenza. The special award was presented to Olnick and Spanu during a ceremony held on September 21 at the Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza, and was accepted by Miguel Quismondo and Giorgio Vigna on their behalf.

Located in Cold Spring, New York, Magazzino Italian Art Foundation is devoted to the promotion and presentation of Italian Postwar and contemporary art. Magazzino, meaning warehouse in Italian, serves as a resource for scholars and students, and offers an extensive library and archive of Italian Art. In addition, Magazzino has become a cultural hub for the vibrant Hudson Valley community thanks to joint programs with local organizations. Under the guidance of Director Vittorio Calabrese, his team, and its curatorial programs, Magazzino Italian Art Foundation bridges collaborations with American and Italian institutions not only to support contemporary Italian artists, but also to foster discussions on Italian Postwar and contemporary art in the United States. Since its launch in June 2017, approximately 30,000 visitors from 50 distinct countries have visited the museum.

“Nancy and I—as the founders and commissioners—want to deeply thank ALA Assoarchitetti, the Veneto Region, and the Municipality of Vicenza for having taken into consideration Magazzino Italian Art Foundation for the Veneto Region Special Award at the 11th Dedalo Minosse International Prize ceremony,” said Giorgio Spanu. “Receiving such an important award is a great honor and a great privilege not only for me and Nancy, but also for our excellent team that was fundamental in the realization of Magazzino. Thanks, from the bottom of our hearts!”

For more information on the Dedalo Minosse International Prize, please visit <https://www.dedalominosse.org/eng/>.

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About Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu

From New York and Sardinia, respectively, Nancy Olnick and Giorgio Spanu, residents of United States, have developed an extensive collection of Postwar and contemporary Italian art. Olnick and Spanu began their collection by acquiring works by Modern masters and American Pop artists. Their admiration of Italian art and culture, and strong interest in exploring conceptual artistic movements, took them on a journey that eventually led them to developing one of the largest collections of Postwar Italian art and an important collection of 20th-century Murano Glass.

Longtime supporters of the arts, Olnick and Spanu have continued to further their commitment through The Olnick Spanu Art Program, a one-year artist residency program that invites contemporary Italian artists to create site-specific installations on the couple's property in Garrison, New York. Through this program, they have premiered to American audiences work by 10 Italian artists: Giorgio Vigna, Massimo Bartolini, Mario Airò, Domenico Bianchi, Remo Salvadori, Stefano Arienti, Bruna Esposito, Marco Bagnoli, Francesco Arena, and Paolo Canevari.

Always fascinated with architecture, Nancy and Giorgio in 2003 commissioned Spanish architect Alberto Campo Baeza to create The Olnick Spanu House in Garrison, New York. The house reflects a balance between modernism and classicism in dialogue with the scenery and light of the Hudson Valley.

In 2015, Nancy and Giorgio commissioned New York-based architect Miguel Quismondo to build a 20,000 square-foot building to host Magazzino Italian Art Foundation. The state-of-the-art facility features more than 17,000 square feet of exhibition space as well as a library and office spaces. Miguel Quismondo is the recipient of the 2018 AIA New York Design Award in architecture for Magazzino Italian Art.

Expressing their commitment to philanthropy, Olnick and Spanu are supporters of numerous organizations, including AJC-American Jewish Committee, Boscobel, Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò-NYU, Castello di Rivoli Contemporary Art, Desmond-Fish Library, Dia Art Foundation, Dieu Donné, Fondazione Mario Merz, Garrison Art Center, Garrison Institute, Garrison Landing Association, ICA Milano, Longhouse Reserve, MAXXI Museum, Putnam History Museum, Scenic Hudson, Inc., RxArt, Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation, Storm King Art Center, The Drawing Center, The Jewish Museum, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Museum of Arts and Design, The Museum of Modern Art, The Russel Wright Design Center, and the Whitney Museum of American Art.

On June 4, 2018 Giorgio Spanu was bestowed the Insignia of Knight of the Italian Republic by President Sergio Mattarella. Cav. Giorgio Spanu is Chairman of the Advisory Board of Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò at New York University.

About Miguel Quismondo

Born and raised in Spain, Miguel Quismondo, AIA, received his degree in architecture from the Polytechnic School in Madrid and developed his career in the United States, first at Perkins+Will and later collaborating with Spanish architect, Alberto Campo Baeza, in the construction of Casa Olnick Spanu. Over the past decade, Quismondo has worked for Olnick Spanu on the design, construction, and management of Casa Olnick Spanu, The Olnick Spanu Art Program, and the couple's latest initiative, Magazzino Italian Art Foundation. Quismondo holds a master's degree in real estate development from Columbia University, New York as well as a master's degree in construction management from New York University.

Quismondo's work has been published by *La Biennale di Venezia*, *Architectural Records*, *A+U*, *Casabella*, *ABC*, *El Pais*, *El Mundo*, *Domus* as well as *l'architetto* by Nicola di Battista.