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PAVILION OF THE UNIVERSE - SPACE ART AT THE BIENNALE DI VENEZIA

Abstract

The Biennale di Venezia has for many years been the reference point for important art and architecture exhibitions and is one of the most important art exhibitions of the world. 90 nations are participating with national pavilions and their national artists and architects. The theme alternates each year between art and architecture. The project described here has the goal to enhance the Biennale di Venezia with a “Pavilion of the Universe”, an exhibition dedicated to space art. This opens up a discourse on many levels: Space art, in its diverse forms, transcends mere representation, serving as a vital bridge between the vast unknown of the cosmos and our fragile home planet. At the same time, it is also a place to ask questions of what to bring to the unknown, what new cultures could be, and how to start a discourse that weaves together the plurality of artistic and cultural production, also dissolving the idea of re-establishing competing known cultures, and shifting perspectives in how the knowledge of diverse ancestry in an unknown vastness of space can meet. The Pavilion of the Universe is also a place to demonstrate the significance of space art for Planet Earth, exploring its multifaceted impact on exploration, discovery, fostering the global perspective, and creating awareness for planet Earth and the preciousness of its environment. It will not only be an art exhibition but a think tank that will bring together artists, scientists, astronauts, engineers, architects, and the visitors of the Biennale of Venezia. To a broad audience, which such a pavilion at the Venice Biennale is supposed to talk to, space art sparks curiosity and encourages making scientific exploration accessible. The vastness of the cosmos emphasizes Earth’s preciousness and interconnectedness, potentially fostering a sense of global responsibility and environmental stewardship. This creative discourse can form ethical considerations surrounding space exploration and resource utilization, ensuring responsible and sustainable practices. Artists working in this field often intersect with cutting-edge science and technology, pushing boundaries and inspiring novel solutions. They enrich the production in space science and engineering both by leveraging the potential in innovative projects, creating new contexts, or raising important questions, benefiting both space exploration and Earth-based endeavors. The Pavilion of the Universe will bring a new dimension, the dimension of space to the Biennale di Venezia. It serves as a powerful tool for igniting exploration, fostering global consciousness, driving innovation, and inspiring environmental action.