

**Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro presents  
the program 2026  
the year of the Centenary of the birth of Maestro Arnaldo  
Pomodoro**

Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro  
Via Vigevano 3, Milano

*press preview 26 January 2026, 10:00 a.m.*

The year 2026 marks a moment of extraordinary significance for Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, which celebrates the **Centenary of the birth of the Maestro with a wide-ranging program of exhibitions, research projects, educational activities, and events**, reaffirming its vocation as a living place of cultural production, dialogue, and experimentation.

**Gallerie d'Italia of Intesa Sanpaolo and Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro present the major retrospective exhibition *Arnaldo Pomodoro: una vita***, curated by Luca Massimo Barbero and Federico Giani, scheduled in Milan from 29 May to 18 October 2026.

The exhibition will trace more than sixty years of research through **over forty works from the Intesa Sanpaolo and Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro Collections**, from the early bas-reliefs of the 1950s to the experiments of the 2000s. The exhibition path will unfold within the spaces of Gallerie d'Italia – Milan, and will include archival materials and installations inspired by the historic displays conceived by the artist. The exhibition aims to convey the vision, legacy, and innovative force of one of the absolute protagonists of twentieth-century sculpture.

In 2026 the **exhibition** of the finalists of the 8th edition of the ***Arnaldo Pomodoro Sculpture Prize*** will also take place, **rethought and curated on this occasion together with Fondazione ICA Milano**. Established in 2006 at the wish of Pomodoro himself, the *Prize* is one of the few awards specifically dedicated to sculpture and is open to artists between the ages of 25 and 45.

From a shortlist of fifteen selected artists, an international Jury identified five finalists: Bronwyn Katz (1993 – Kimberley, South Africa), Dan Lie (1988), Công Tùng Truong (1986 –

**Exhibition venue**

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Dak Lak, Vietnam), Luana Vitra (1995 – Contagem, Brazil), and Yu Ji (1985 – Shanghai, China). Their works, **new productions specifically created for the Prize**, will be presented in a **thematic group exhibition** curated by Federico Giani (Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro) and Chiara Nuzzi (Fondazione ICA Milano), hosted in the spaces of Fondazione ICA Milano and open to the public from 13 April to 10 July 2026. Thanks to the contribution of **Venini SpA**, the monetary prize awarded to the winning artist has been increased to €30,000.

In 2026, **the Foundation will continue its work on the free-access databases of the Catalogue Raisonné and the online Archive**, conceived as constantly updated tools for study and consultation.

To ensure data integrity and due diligence activities, the Foundation will initiate the registration of the **Catalogue Raisonné on blockchain**, entrusting its development to Officinebit.ch, in collaboration with the Foundation's legal counsel. The project will be integrated into the infrastructure of Swiss Ledger, the Swiss institutional blockchain based in Lugano, making Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro **the first concrete case of use of this platform for the certification of works of art**, with high standards of security, traceability, and data protection.

The resources available in the **online Archive** will be enriched through the **digitization of a substantial body of photographic materials**. Approximately **1.800 prints by Ugo Mulas**, documenting exhibitions, working processes, and works by Pomodoro, have been digitized in collaboration with the Centro Digitale ARCHiVe of Fondazione Giorgio Cini in Venice. These are complemented by the entire photographic documentation (prints, negatives, contact sheets, and photo-color materials) of the works created by the artist.

**In 2026, the donation of Arnaldo Pomodoro's personal Art History library to Università degli Studi di Milano will also be finalized.** Comprising approximately 5,000 volumes and 100 series of periodicals collected by the artist throughout his life as tools for study and inspiration, the Maestro's library will be transferred to the University's Biblioteca di Storia dell'Arte, della Musica e dello Spettacolo, which will catalogue it and ensure free public access, creating a special *Fondo Arnaldo Pomodoro*. This initiative strengthens the collaboration between the two institutions, launched in 2018 and continued over the years through long-term loans, shared projects, workshops, and training programs, in the spirit of enhancing heritage and transmitting knowledge to new generations.

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In 2026, for the fourth consecutive year, the Foundation's **public program** will continue with the festival **ORIZZONTE | Parole, immagini e musica per edificare il futuro**, curated by Giovanni Caccamo. This year as well, the program will foster an open dialogue among arts, languages, and visions, through intimate and informal encounters with leading figures from the worlds of entertainment, culture, and civic engagement.

The confirmed guests for the 2026 edition are **PIF, Stefano Accorsi, Tananai, and Agadez**. The festival thus reaffirms the Foundation's commitment to being an open cultural laboratory, capable of engaging diverse audiences and looking toward the future through a dialogue among artistic and human experiences. It has also been announced that, in order to relive the emotions of past festival encounters, a **podcast** will be launched across all digital platforms, with each episode dedicated to a guest from previous editions.

The main sponsor of ORIZZONTE is **Alessia Zanelli**, a philanthropist who has always believed in art and culture as fundamental tools for building the future and nourishing the soul.

The 2026 exhibition program of Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro will continue in the second half of the year with an exhibition hosted in its spaces at Via Vigevano 3, dedicated to the **Foundation's Collection**. Through works by other artists and archival materials, the public will be able to discover the many stories of friendship and collaboration that linked Arnaldo Pomodoro with leading figures of Italian and international art of the second half of the twentieth century (Lucio Fontana, Gastone Novelli, Alighiero Boetti, Louise Nevelson, Rufino Tamayo...), as well as the history of the Foundation and its Collection.

Alongside its regular exhibition and educational activities, the Foundation will promote a series of **new initiatives aimed at enhancing and spreading its heritage**, carried out in collaboration with various cultural institutions. Through long-term loans, the Foundation maintains its constant commitment to enhancing its Collection, encouraging the enjoyment of the works in meaningful contexts, in accordance with the wishes of the Maestro.

In particular, in 2026 the dialogue with Sicily will be renewed, a territory dear to the artist, with whom he maintained an intense and enduring relationship marked by projects, theatrical productions, friendships, and public works. Within this framework, the long-term loan of the model for the *Porta dei Re* of the Duomo of Cefalù (1997-1998) will be presented at **Palazzo Branciforte in Palermo**, a building returned to the city thanks

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to **Fondazione Sicilia** after the restoration by Gae Aulenti. This will be accompanied by the exhibition of the *Progetto per il monumento in memoria di Giovanni Falcone* (1992), at the **Museo del Presente Giovanni Falcone e Paolo Borsellino** in Palermo, thanks to the synergy with **Fondazione Falcone**. A collaboration will also be activated between the Foundation's Educational Department and the **Museo delle Trame Mediterranee of Gibellina** on the occasion of the city's designation as Capitale dell'arte contemporanea 2026. On the same occasion, the **Festival delle Orestyadi** will pay tribute to Arnaldo Pomodoro through an unprecedented project: four performances combining music, dance, and theater inspired by the characters of the *Oresteia* by Emilio Isgrò, to bring back to the stage today the theatrical machines conceived by Arnaldo Pomodoro in 1983.

In 2026 **the documentary Arnaldo Pomodoro - La natura della forma**, written and directed by Alessandro Pezza and produced by Studiozabalik with the scientific consultancy of the Foundation, will be released. The film weaves together archival materials, interviews, and images to create a new, emotional, and engaging portrait of the artist, investigating the relationship between art and nature, a constant in the Maestro's work.

**The City of Soliera** will take part in the Centenary celebrations, continuing the path initiated in 2020 with the exhibition at Castello Campori and the long-term loan of *Obelisco di Cleopatra* (1989–2008) in Piazza Lusvardi, which today hosts *Lancia di Luce II* (1985). In October, Soliera will dedicate an **exhibition to Arnaldo Pomodoro** with the aim of further strengthening the dialogue between public space and contemporary art and of consolidating the bond between the City, the Maestro, and Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro.

As part of the initiatives connected to the Centenary celebrations, **Municipio Roma IX Eur has promoted an initiative for the restoration and enhancement of the obelisco Novecento** (2000–2002), located in Piazzale Pier Luigi Nervi, a gateway to Rome for those arriving from southern Lazio. The Municipio will take part in the 2026 celebrations with its own public cultural initiatives, with the aim of activating a technical-scientific committee involving all the relevant stakeholders in the enhancement of the artwork and its urban context.

In 2026, the **partnership between Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro and FENDI will be renewed** for a further three years. The enhancement of **Arnaldo Pomodoro's Labirinto**, the environmental artwork located in the underground spaces of the Milan headquarters of Maison FENDI at Via Solari 35, will therefore continue. The renewed partnership will also

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include other initiatives aimed at enhancing the shared artistic and cultural heritage, including **the placement –at locations and dates to be defined– of other works by the Maestro.**

Finally, the Foundation is pleased to announce that, as a high institutional recognition of Arnaldo Pomodoro as a figure of major importance in the country's culture, the **Ministry of Economy and Finance will issue a coin dedicated** to him, to be produced by **Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato** as part of the Collezione Numismatica '26.

For further information, please visit [fondazionearnaldopomodoro.it](http://fondazionearnaldopomodoro.it)

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**Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro**

Established in 1995, the Foundation operates in accordance with the wishes of Arnaldo Pomodoro to create a place open to the reinterpretation of twentieth-century art and to the creativity of young artists—a collective space of living experience that seeks a deep and global engagement with people and society. Its mission is to promote initiatives for the conservation, enhancement, scientific dissemination, and education of the artistic and historical heritage of Arnaldo Pomodoro, as well as the work of modern and contemporary Italian and international artists.

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