

Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro is deeply honored for being involved in the process of restoration and refurbishment of *Sfera grande*, one of the most iconic Arnaldo Pomodoro's work, which is today housed and once again accessible to the public in the magnificent garden of the Time Museum. This event is particularly meaningful in this year, which marks the centenary of the artist's birth.

The President and Director, along with all the Foundation's team express their sincere gratitude to Dafineh Museums Group, in the person of Dr. Hamid Reza Soleimani and all individuals and institutions whose invaluable contribution made this possible.

The work is one of the four bronze exemplars of *Sfera grande*, the artist's first large-scale sculpture, commissioned in 1966 for the Montréal Expo 1967; one of these exemplars is now in Rome, in front of the Farnesina Palace, housing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The work has therefore come to represent the impulses of today's world and the encounter between different countries and cultures.

We are pleased to share with you Arnaldo Pomodoro's words about the sphere:

That's what drives me to make the spheres: breaking these perfect, magic forms in order to reveal (find, discover) its internal ferment, mysterious and alive, monstrous and yet pure; so I create a discordant tension, a conflict, with the polished shine: a unity composed of incompleteness. With the same act, I free myself of an absolute form. I destroy it. But I also reproduce it.

The sphere is a marvelous object, because it reflects everything around it, creating such contrasts that sometimes it is transformed, becoming invisible, leaving only its interior, tormented and corroded, full of blades, teeth, wedges... Everything inside a sphere is energy inside a form.

Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro extends its special thanks to Dr. Amirreza Farahbod and Dr. Arash Ahmadi for their important contribution.

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