CO.ME.L, acronym for Commercio Metalli Latina (Metal Trading Latina), has been a leader company in the field of trading and processing semifinished aluminum metal products since 1968.

The “COMEL Award for Contemporary Art” is dedicated to the loving memory of Vanna Migliorin who was the heart of the company. This award celebrates her great passion for art and her enthusiasm in supporting new projects – even the innovative ones. She considered the CO.ME.L company to be more than just a commercial enterprise and broadened its activity to include social and cultural contexts.

The Award aims at drawing attention to the creative potential of aluminum through an investigation of its expressive, aesthetic and communicative qualities. It also aims at consolidating the relationship between enterprise and contemporary art, at creating a meaningful and vital synergy between audience and artists and at promoting multiculturalism among the countries of the European Union.

The ‘Vanna Migliorin’ COMEL Award for Contemporary Art (hereinafter COMEL Award), was established in 2012 and was turned into a European competition in 2013. It has selected 13 artists every year, enthusiastically involving media, spectators and workers in the sector, so as to be designated, since the second edition, as one of the most interesting prizes in the review of contemporary art.

COMEL Award 2015 maintains and consolidates the former methods and objectives, confirming the availability of a well-equipped art gallery as the venue of the event, the ‘Spazio COMEL’ (COMEL Space). During the rest of the year other non-related exhibitions are held. The two awards linked to the event - the ‘Jury Award’ and the ‘Audience Award’ – help to focus and refine more attention on the aluminum as an art medium, asking the artists to work through its potential aesthetic, communicative and constructive changes.

Participation is free and open to all artists over 18, who live and/or work within the European Community and who have used, or intend to use aluminum, as the privileged and meaningful medium in the work to be submitted.

Also for this edition, in view of a planned and effective promotion of the participants and of the Prize itself, a catalog will be compiled by the organization and a targeted advertising campaign on specialized media will be held.

1 The COMEL Award has joined the “AMACI project – Business with Contemporary Art”. It is a network of companies with a common interest in supporting the value of contemporary art in Italy, so as to transmit knowledge, experiences and ideas, according to the principle of sharing among the partners of AMACI.
Why aluminum

Aluminum is one-third the weight of steel. It can be forged, shaped, and laminated until obtaining a very thin foil. Visually intriguing, aluminum does not require any particular final treatment. Its surface offers the possibility to apply a vast range of coatings, from paint to colored anodizations.

Aluminum is easy to recycle, with an energy cost equal to one-twentieth of that necessary in its first casting. One-third of the aluminum, which is in use today, is made by recycling scrap metal.

Why 13 artists

Because aluminum is the chemical element of atomic number 13.

1 - Objectives and aims of the COMEL Award 2015
2 - Title of the COMEL Award 2015
3 - Conditions of Participation
4 - Criteria for Artworks
5 - Registration
6 - Selection process
7 - Awards
8 - Opening of the Exhibition
9 - Transportation, Insurance, Artwork Installation
10 - Privacy

1 – OBJECTIVES AND AIMS OF THE COMEL AWARD 2015

The COMEL Award 2015 aims at:

1. promoting contemporary art and multiculturalism among the countries of the European Union;
2. strengthening the link between art and business;
3. enhancing the value of aluminum, a material that, besides its relevant aesthetic value, is also easily workable, extremely versatile, flexible and recyclable;
4. establishing a vital and significant relationship between the public and the artists.
"LIGHT AS ALUMINUM"

The theme of the 2015 COMEL Award is "lightness", a feature that has made the aluminum one of the most used materials in the world in the fields of production and transport. The lightness of aluminum and of its alloys has enabled man, as is known, to undertake epochal challenges that have marked the history of mankind, and that still characterize contemporary society: from the great intercontinental flights and journeys with airplanes and ships to enterprises who have seen human beings projected into space.

The lightness, on the other hand, is not only a physical property; it has many other forms, which are reflected in the emotional and mental frame of man and also as a metaphorical and creative universe. The lightness of aluminum inspires other lightness, of being and feeling, in imagination and reality.

Artists who want to participate in the theme of lightness of "Vanna Migliorin COMEL Award for Contemporary Art - Edition 2015", will therefore be inspired widely and freely, keeping in mind the technical specifications given in Paragraph 4 of this announcement.

3 – CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Participation in the competition is free and open to all artists over 18 that operate in the European Union and use aluminum as the main and significant medium for the realization of the work to be submitted.

(You can sign up by following the instructions in Paragraph 5 - REGISTRATION)

The deadline for submission for the 'COMEL Award 2015' is December, 31st, 2014.

All employees of the promoter company and those who are linked by kinship are excluded from participation in the Contest. All third parties and their employees that collaborate in any way for the realization of the Competition are also excluded.

The winners of the previous edition of the Prize are also excluded from participating in the Contest.

4 – CRITERIA FOR ARTWORKS

Released or unreleased artworks using the following techniques may be submitted:

painting, sculpture, design, video, photography and installation.

The maximum artwork size is 150 x 150 x 150 cm.

Video’s maximum length is 10 minutes.

Artworks using non-original music or images must meet copyright obligations and/or the non-infringement of Siae rights (or similar) and must be provided, if required.
The works nominated for the Prize have to be physical and intellectual property of the artist (the artist has to certify it through a statement, otherwise will be disqualified. See paragraph 5 - REGISTRATION and the attached document to this announcement - ANNEX B).

The works selected must be sent together with the assembly instructions and the necessary accessories for their outfitting.

The works that have already won other similar competitions will be excluded.

5 – REGISTRATION

In order to participate in the COMEL Award 2015, artists can register on-line, via email, or via postal mail, by following these instructions:

(Further information are available on www.premiocomel.it)

1. complete the on-line entry form available on the www.premiocomel.it website (ANNEX A);
   or
2. download, complete the entry form available on the www.premiocomel.it website and send the required documents via email to the following postal address: info@premiocomel.it;
   or
3. download, complete the entry form available on the www.premiocomel.it website and send the required documents in a sealed envelope to the following address:
   
   Premio COMEL ‘Vanna Migliorin’ arte contemporanea 2015
   Via Congiunte Sinistre, 398 – 04100 Latina (LT), Italia.

In all cases, under penalty of exclusion, the following information must be provided:

a) name and surname;
b) nation and date of birth;
c) place of residence (nation, city, province);
d) postal address;
e) email address and website or internet visibility or other useful references;
f) phone number.

To be attached, under penalty of exclusion (possibly in Italian and in English):

g) a series of 3 to 5 images of the work (in a good resolution and taken from different perspectives and showing clearly its features for possible publication on catalogue), including a description containing
the indications of technical characteristics, materials used, size, title and year of creation

h) a brief description of the artwork with details of technical characteristics, materials and size, as well as the proposed date of completion;

i) a brief curriculum vitae, biography and ‘artist statement’.

Finally, the artist must agree to:

j) authorization for the treatment of personal data;

k) statement of copyright of the work presented (See ANNEX B);

l) Full acceptance of rules and regulations of the Award referred to in this announcement.

6 - SELECTION PROCESS and GIURY

A professional Committee in the field of art, will select thirteen works, among all the proposals.

The thirteen works will be exhibited from Saturday, March 21st, 2015 to Saturday, April 18th, 2015 at the gallery Spazio COMEL for Contemporary Art, via Neghelli 68, Latina, Italy. This will be a special dedicated exhibition for the selected artists from whom the Jury will choose the winner for the COMEL Award 2015.

The Jury will identify two additional reserves that may participate in the exhibition, including them among the 13 finalist works, only in the case of exclusion or waiver of the previous selected works.

The jury also may signal a few mentions, beyond the winner work.

The selection procedure will be performed on photographic images, so it is recommended for the entry, to send the material as exhaustive as possible. Participants will be informed by the organizing committee on the various stages of the competition via email.

The selected artists will have to send the original artwork for exhibition in the highlighted dates in this announcement (see Paragraph 9 - TRANSPORTATION, INSURANCE, artwork INSTALLATION).

The judgment expressed by the jury is final and irrevocable.

The COMEL Jury Award for the year 2015 consists of:

Giorgio Agnisola, Art critic and essayist - President of the Jury;

Marcello Carlino, Researcher of History of Literary Criticism;

Anna Cochetti, Art critic and independent curator of Contemporary Art;

Augusto Pieroni, Professor of History and Criticism of Photography and essayist;
7 - AWARDS

A) 'COMEL JURY AWARD 2015'

The winning artist will be awarded the 'COMEL Jury Award 2015' and will be given a cash prize of € 2500².

The Award Ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 11th, 2015, during the exhibition.

The artwork will become part of the permanent collection CO.ME.L.

By accepting the Prize, the winner relinquishes ownership of his/her work and gives CO.ME.L. all rights inherent in it, including the publication right of the image, while retaining the right to be recognized as the author of the artwork.

The winning artist will also be awarded a solo exhibition to be held at the ‘Spazio COMEL for Contemporary Art’, located in via Neghelli, 68 – Latina, Italy.

The exhibition will be curated by the artist, and it will be displayed no later than the calendar year in which the prize has been held. The date and conditions to be agreed in advance with the organization.

² Withholding tax on money prize.

B) 'AUDIENCE COMEL AWARD 2015'

The winning artist will be awarded the 'Audience COMEL Award 2015'.

The Award Ceremony will be held on Saturday, April 18th, 2015, during the exhibition.

The winner artwork will remain the artist’s property.

The winning artist will also be awarded a solo exhibition to be held at the ‘Spazio COMEL for Contemporary Art’, located in via Neghelli, 68 – Latina, Italy.

The exhibition will be curated by the artist, and it will be displayed no later than the calendar year in which the prize has been held. The date and conditions to be agreed in advance with the organization.

The ‘Audience COMEL Award 2015’ does not consist of a cash prize.

For further information, please visit www.premiocomel.it

8 - OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION

The opening of the exhibition will be held on Saturday, March 21st, 2015.

The works will be displayed until Saturday, April 18th, 2015, subject to a possible extension of the time of the exhibition.
The transportation (delivery and collection) and insurance will be at the expense of the artist. The COMEL will take charge of the insurance of the works only within the gallery space, during the exhibition.

The artworks should be delivered within Friday, March 6th, 2015, under penalty of exclusion, to the CO.ME.L. company, promoter of the event, to this address: CO.ME.L., Via Congiunte Sinistre n. 398, 04100 Latina (LT), Italia, from 8:30/13:00 - 15:00/18:00 from Monday to Friday (upon agreement).

The works will be installed by the exhibition organizers according to the instructions previously arranged with the artists (see Paragraph 4 - CRITERIA for ARTWORKS). Except for the award winning artwork (which becomes the property of the CO.ME.L permanent collection) all artworks should be collected within Friday, May 29th, 2015 directly from the CO.ME.L. company premises, at this address: CO.ME.L., Via Congiunte Sinistre n. 398, 04100 Latina (LT), Italia, from 8:30/13:00 - 15:00/18:00 from Monday to Friday (upon agreement).

The works not collected on time will be considered as a legacy left to the Prize.

10 - PRIVACY

All information and data collected will be used as provided in Italian Legislative Decree 196/2003 for the participation in the contest, for sending informational material and for promotional purposes relating to the prize and to the public presentation. They will be kept in the Archives of the COMEL Award. Those interested can request the correction or deletion of them in accordance with Legislative Decree 196/2003.

Submission to the Award implies complete and full acceptance of these requirements.