



THE COMEL AWARD AT THE GIFA 2019 DÜSSELDORF

The COMEL Award highlights the expressive, aesthetic, communicative and constructive potential of aluminium and it consolidates the relationship between business and contemporary art.

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It was very gratifying for us to be contacted by ITA-Italian Trade Agency (the government organization which promotes the internationalization of Italian companies, in line with the strategies of the Ministry of Economic Development) and Amafond (Italian Foundry Suppliers Association) to participate in the Italian Pavilion at the GIFA trade fair in 2019: they were looking for a 'made in Italy excellence' that combined the industrial reality with other areas (as it had already been for Bialetti, Ferrari, Ducati and some other significant brands participating in past editions).

Noting that the COMEL Award is an Italian reality with a consolidated European activity, in promoting the creative use of aluminum, the organizers thought that it could represent our country within the Italian pavilion. It has been an honour and a pleasure for us to accept the invitation.

Considering the theme of the international fair, it seemed more appropriate that among the approximately 100 finalist works of the seven editions of the COMEL Award, there were those closely related to the fusion technique on display in Düsseldorf.

A small specific exhibition, therefore, but which amply demonstrates how a metal, combined with the artist's creativity, can take shape in many ways and tell different stories starting from the same basic technique.

Adriano e Maria Gabriella Mazzola
Business entrepreneurs of CO.ME.L.
(Commercio Metalli Latina)



SPAZIO
COMEL
arte contemporanea



THE COMEL AWARD

The COMEL Award Vanna Migliorin Contemporary Art was born in 2012 in memory of Mrs Vanna Migliorin, her passion for art, her enthusiasm in supporting innovative projects. Vanna Migliorin was a loving mother and an ingenious businesswoman. In 1968, along with her husband Alfonso Mazzola, she founded the CO.ME.L., a company located in Latina (Italy) that became a leading business in the trade and processing of semi-finished aluminum metals. It reached 50 years of activity in 2018. Her children, who continue their parents' entrepreneurial activity, in addition to the Award, created a gallery dedicated to art, Spazio COMEL, in the heart of Latina, opening it free to artists and the public.

The COMEL Award promotes intercultural relations between European countries, creates moments of sharing and encounter between artists, scholars and the public.

It is a consolidated reality in the art scene and among the most important European art competitions. Every year it selects 13 artists' works (13 is the atomic number of aluminum) which, respecting the assigned theme of the European announcement, more than others highlight the expressive, aesthetic, communicative and constructive possibilities of aluminum.

Participation in the competition is free and open to artists aged 18 and over, who work in all European countries, who use aluminum as the central element in the realization of their work they intend to register for the competition.

On each edition, the 13 finalist works are exhibited in Latina, at 'Spazio COMEL Arte Contemporanea' gallery (www.spaziocomel.it), the exclusive venue of the event.

THE ORGANISATION OF THE AWARD

The jury of COMEL Award, of which high-profile scholars and university professors are part, is led by the art critic Giorgio Agnisola. He is a full professor of Sacred Art and Cultural Heritage at the Theological Institute of Salerno, Pontifical Theological Faculty of Southern Italy, and since 2006, he is co-director of the Advanced Training School in Art and Theology at the San Luigi section of the Pontifical Theological Faculty of Southern Italy.

The staff directly involves the secretariat and the technical experts of the company CO.ME.L., primarily the managers Maria Gabriella and Adriano Mazzola, as well as journalists, writers, art promoters who believe in the project and contribute to improving it year to year.

The presence of jurors, belonging to remarkable cultural foundations, also makes it possible to create a virtuous circle of social advertising for the benefit of the Italian territory.

In this regard, representatives of the following Italian institutions have joined it so far: The Sapienza University of Rome; The Tuscia University of Viterbo; St. Stephen's Cultural Center Foundation; Casa degli Artisti di Fossambrone; The University of Ferrara (Unife); "La Verde La Malfa – Parco dell'Arte" Foundation; "Casa della Divina Bellezza" Foundation; Academy of Fine Arts of Frosinone; Academy of Fine Arts of Napoli.



COMEL AWARD 2013 'EXPRESSIVITY OF ALUMINIUM'
Winner: Tony Charles (United Kingdom) - *Fettled Sign* (detail)



COMEL AWARD 2014 'TRANSFORMING ALUMINIUM'
Winner: Pino Deodato (Italy) - *Colui che vede lontano* (detail)



COMEL AWARD 2012 'BETWEEN HEART AND REASON'
Winner: Massimiliano Drisaldi (Italy) - *Inverno* (detail)



COMEL AWARD 2015 'LIGHT AS ALUMINIUM'
Winner: Silva Cavalli Felci (Italy) - *Danza rossa* (detail)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In 2014 the Bergamo Post newspaper, in the article "Ten Italian companies that believe in contemporary art", counts the company CO.ME.L. among the ten most active Italian companies in the synergy between art and business, in fact placing it among the giants of made in Italy, even though it is, by comparison, a small reality in terms of size and production. The activity in favor of art is continuous.

Moreover, from 2016 the company appears among the selected participants in the Corporate Art Awards, sponsored by pptArt, the first start-up for the Italian crowdsourcing art, in collaboration with Luiss Business School.

The awards identify, enhance and promote the excellence of institutional, corporate and private patronage at an international level. In the spirit of the Corporate Art Awards, art represents the highest recognition of a company's social commitment.

ART AND BUSINESS: CO.ME.L.'S MISSION

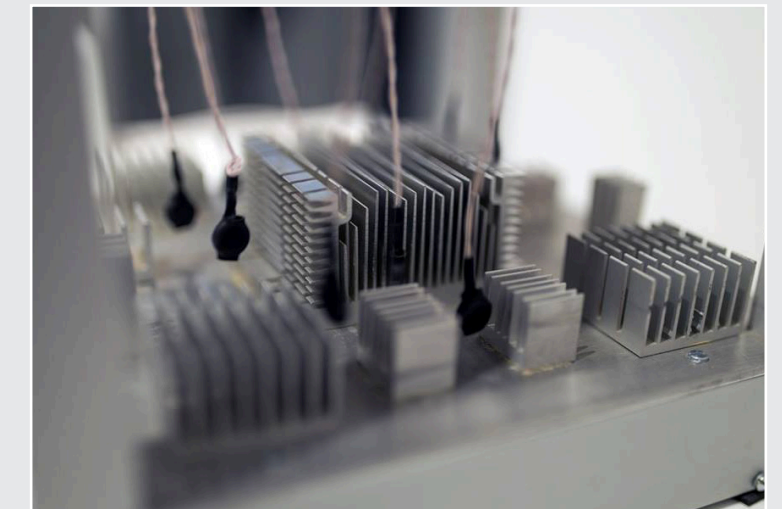
The company's cultural commitment assumes that creativity is the fundamental and tangible element of a healthy society. Therefore, art, in its various expressions, must be supported and encouraged, respecting freedom and responsibility. The creation of the COMEL Award, and the involvement in the preparatory and organizational phases, starting from the heart of the company (the secretariat and also the operating personnel of the workshops) confirm the close correlation between doing business and making art. The CO.ME.L. is the example of a small-medium enterprise that invests energy and sponsorship in art (without external help), with the conviction of triggering positive and creative synergies, a sort of domino effect that can extend favorably to the working, productive and participatory climate (by company clients and art public) and finally social.



COMEL AWARD 2016 'LUCENT ALUMINIUM'
Winner: Luce Genevieve Delhove (Italy/Belgium) - *Raminia n. 12* (detail)



COMEL AWARD 2017 'SINUOSITY OF ALUMINIUM'
Winner: Rosaria Iazzetta (Italy) - *Senza titolo* (detail)



COMEL AWARD 2018 'ARMONIES IN ALUMINIUM'
winner: Sergey Filatov (Russia) - *Platosonus* (detail)

ARTWORKS DISPLAYED

Aluminium smelting and aluminum lost wax casting techniques



2014 Finalist

MATHIEU VIGNON

Omaggio a Magritte (2012)
Aluminum smelting
baked enamel
38x18x9 cm

www.facebook.com/matteovignapiano

Little information is available on Mathieu Vignon (pseudonym of Matteo Vignapiano). He declares he wants to remain an anonymous artist. He does not show up, leaving the audience focusing all the attention on the work. He attended great Masters' ateliers, such as Emilio Greco and Umberto Mastroianni's. Mathieu Vignon is from Aprilia (province of Latina, Italy). He lives and exhibits between Italy and France.



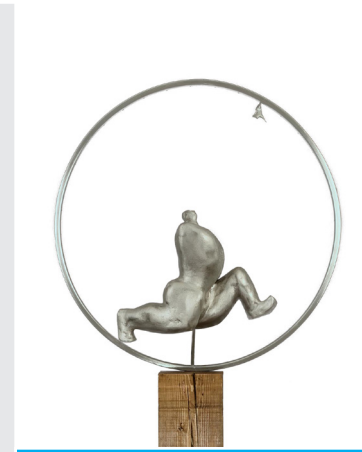
2014 Finalist

UMBERTO CORSUCCI

Music al Metamorfosi (2013)
Anticorodal
aluminium smelting
70x110x110 cm

www.scultoreumbertocorsucci.it

He was born in 1951 in Sassocorvaro (province of Pesaro and Urbino) and graduated at the Art Institute of Pesaro (Ceramics Department). He attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome and in Milan, where he got a Diploma in Sculpture. He lives and works in Montefiore Conca, a small old town on the hill in the Riviera Romagnola, where he has his sculpture studio equipped with an art foundry. Since 1999, along with the group 'Montemaggiore Arte', he has had the objective of creating a Museum of Outdoor sculptures called 'M.I.S.A.M.' situated on the hill of Monte Maggiore.



2015 Jury's Special Mention

GIAMPIERO DEGLI INNOCENTI

L'atleta e l'uccellino (2014)
Aluminium smelting
wood
63x150x20 cm

www.artedellaceramica.net

He was born in Florence in 1958. He works in the countryside of Fiesole (Florence, Italy). His artistic training is basically self-taught. His favorite materials are refractory clays. He uses a wood-fired oven, with an inverted flame, built on his own, for the work baking. He makes mainly figurative works. He is passionate about Romanesque art. For several years his main artistic activity was the creation of sculptures-installations in wood and metal, along with educational paths outdoors, before rediscovering the ancient passion for clay. He is founding member of the 'Arte dello Ceramica' Association.



2017 Finalist

COSIMO FIGLIUOLO

Terremoto (2017)
Discarded materials and
aluminum smelting waste
60x60x7,5 cm

www.extrusionarte.it

Born in 1966, lives in Bernalda, province of Matera (Italy) where he works for a company that deals with extrusion of aluminum alloys. Artist-craftsman, former coachbuilder with a long experience in metals, he has been devoting himself to the processing of aluminum in creative recycling for several years. He started after taking possession of an aluminum block discarded in the company, turning it into a two-meter high crucifix. He has exhibited in several Italian cities and Spain. He considers the artistic experience mainly as an adventure of the mind and a search for harmony.



2017 Jury's Special Mention

LORENZO GALLIGANI

Acqua (2017)
Aluminum
lost wax casting
50x1200x50 cm

www.lorenzogalligani.com

He is a sculptor born in Florence (Italy) in 1975, trained in Italy and Mexico. He improved his technique working as a sculptor of stone and wood, with a preference for marble. He is an expert restorer. He has been involved in the restoration of prestigious works and has contributed as an artist and scholar to several university workshops as Visiting Professor (in Italy, Mexico and Japan). He is the director of the Accademia Galligani in Florence. He models sculptures through traditional and handmade methods; a choice that he teaches his students, enabling them to develop a better knowledge and understanding of the necessary control of techniques to grow in their design.



2017 Finalist

DARKO KUZMANOVICH

One Day and One Night (Quadriptych), 2017
Aluminum smelting
14,5x68 cm

www.darko-kuzmanovich.com

He was born in Belgrade (Serbia) in 1971. He graduated in Sculpture at the University of Applied Arts in Belgrade. In 2000 he became a member of the artistic committee ULUPUDUS. His art is performed mainly in cast aluminum, and as a transient material uses styrofoam which prevents him from being too descriptive. Besides being developing his own art poetry through sculptures, he's also specialized in making theater props. He has had solo exhibitions and participated in group exhibitions in his country and abroad.



2018 Jury's Special Mention

FEDERICA ZIANNI

Labyrinth I (2017)
Aluminum
lost wax casting
36x50x26 cm

www.federicazianni.com

She was born in 1993 in Rome. In 2012 she attended the Brera Academy of Fine Arts. Her initially figurative sculptural works evolved into organic and abstract artworks. In 2015 she exhibits at the National Museum of Science and Technology in Milan, along with Arnaldo Pomodoro. She attended the Hochschule für Bildende Künste of Dresden, Germany, until 2017. She pursued her Master's Degree programme of the School of Sculpture, with professor Vittorio Corsini at the Brera Academy of Fine Arts. She took part in national awards such as the Combat Prize, the Vittorio Viviani Prize, and the COMEL Award. In 2019 she is awarded the PRS Talent Prize.



www.premiocomel.it • info@premiocomel.it



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