



COMEL Award Vanna Migliorin Contemporary Art

Aluminium, the silent strength

From October 18 to November 8, 2025

CALL FOR SUBMISSION X EDITION

The COMEL Vanna Migliorin Contemporary Art Award (hereafter "COMEL Award") was established in 2012 in memory of Mrs. Vanna Migliorin, for her passion for art and enthusiasm for supporting innovative projects. In 1968 with her husband Mazzola Alfonso, she founded in Latina the CO.ME.L. Commercio Metalli Latina (today COMEL Industries), a leading company in the trade and processing of semi-finished aluminium products that promotes and supports the COMEL award in a brilliant example of synergy between art and business.

A well-established reality in the modern art scene, among the most innovative European competitions. A project, now at its 10th edition, that promotes, in addition, intercultural relations between the countries of the European continent, creates moments of sharing and meeting between artists, scholars, and the public.

Participation in the call for entries is free and open to artists aged 18 and older who use aluminium as the main element in the creation of the work they intend to enter in the competition. At each edition, a high-level jury selects, from all entries received, the 13 finalist works that will be exhibited in Latina, in the **Spazio COMEL Arte Contemporanea** gallery (www.spaziocomel.it), the exclusive venue of the event. The winner will be awarded the Jury Award, while the public visiting the exhibition will be asked to vote for their favourite works by decreeing the winner of the Audience Award.

With a view to a planned and effective promotion of the participants and the Award itself, a catalogue will be prepared by the organization on the occasion of the exhibition and targeted dissemination in specialized media. In addition, the finalist artists will be given an interview about their artistic experience. An important testimony that will become part of the portfolio of the Award website. The COMEL award will be fully responsible for the care of the catalogue and communication.

WHY ALUMINIUM?

Aluminium can be forged, modeled, laminated, like hot wax in the artist's hands. It lends itself to take on the desired forms and volumes. It is lightweight (a third of steel), shiny, soft, durable, with good electrical and thermal conductivity, 100% recyclable with an energy cost equal to one twentieth of that necessary for its first melting. Visually intriguing, with its unique characteristics, aluminium is the true contemporary material.

WHY 13 ARTISTS?

Because in the Table of Elements, aluminium is the chemical element with the atomic number 13.

ART. 1 – OBJECTIVES AND AIMS OF THE COMEL AWARD 2025

The 2025 COMEL Award aims at:

1. promoting Contemporary Art and the intercultural relationships among the European countries;
2. strengthening the link between Contemporary Art and business;
3. enhancing the value of aluminium, its expressive, aesthetic, communicative and constructive possibilities;
4. establishing a vital and significant relationship between the public and the artists.

ART. 2 – TITLE OF THE COMEL AWARD 2025

Not he who begins, but he who perseveres.

Leonardo da Vinci (plaque mounted on the Amerigo Vespucci ship)

ALUMINIUM, THE SILENT STRENGTH

Aluminium, with its lightness, its great ductility, may appear to be a fragile material. Instead, it hides an unexpected strength. Its resistance, often underestimated, emerges with surprising evidence when it is moulded into bold shapes and imposing structures. It could be said that like the human being, aluminium is capable of withstanding challenges and adapting to change, finding new structures and new forms of balance.

The theme of the 2025 edition of the COMEL award invites artists to investigate the hidden qualities of aluminium, exploring its ability to resist, to sustain, to last. The artists are called upon to use metal as a metaphor for human resilience, the ability to overcome difficulties and find inner strength even in moments of fragility.

Aluminium thus becomes a symbol of silent strength, a discreet but powerful resistance, which manifests itself through the creativity and ingenuity of the artists.

ART. 3 – CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Participation in the competition is free. There are no age limits and it is open to all artists, 18 years of age and older, of any European nationality as far as they use aluminium as the main and significant material for the realization of the work to be submitted.

Each artist may submit only one work (Sign up by following the instructions in Paragraph 5 - REGISTRATION) **The deadline for submission to the COMEL AWARD is July 13, 2025.**

All employees of the promoter company and those who are linked by kinship are excluded from participating to 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 editions of the Prize are also excluded from participating in the Contest.

ART. 4 – CRITERIA FOR ARTWORKS

Released or unreleased artworks using the following techniques may be submitted: painting, sculpture, design, photography and installation that uses aluminium as the main and most significant element. Quality, research, originality and contemporaneity of the work will be the main criteria of selection. **Maximum allowed size of the works is 150 x 150 x 150 cm.**

The work must be completely done at the time of registration, projects, sketches or 3D simulations of the works will not be accepted. The works nominated for the Prize must be the physical and intellectual property of the artist who presents them. The selected works, accompanied by all the necessary materials and detailed instructions, must arrive ready to be installed. The works, under penalty of exclusion, must not be winners of other competitions similar to this one.

ART. 5 – REGISTRATION

To apply for the COMEL Prize 2025, interested artists can participate by fully completing the online application form available on the website www.premiocomel.it.

Failure to do so will result in exclusion, and the following information must be provided:

- a) name and surname;
- b) nation, place, and date of birth
- c) place of residence (nation, city, province);
- d) email address;
- e) phone number;
- f) and website or internet visibility;
- g) **a series of 3 to 5 images of the work, full-length picture, taken from different perspectives** (5 MB maximum size) and showing clearly the work with aluminium, with the indications of technical characteristics, the materials used, size, title and year of creation;
- h) a brief description of the artwork to be submitted;
- i) a brief curriculum vitae, biography and 'artist statement';
- j) processing of personal data authorization;
- k) full acceptance of rules and regulations of the Award referred to in this announcement.

ART. 6 – SELECTION PROCESS AND JURY

A professional Committee in the field of art, will select thirteen works, among all the submitted artworks. The thirteen works will be exhibited, **from October 18 to November 8, 2025**, at the gallery Spazio COMEL Arte Contemporanea, via Neghelli 68, Latina, Italy, in a special dedicated exhibition for the selected artists and the Jury will choose among them the winner for the COMEL Award of Contemporary art 2025. In addition to the above mentioned 13 artworks, the Jury will also identify two additional reserves that will be called to participate in the exhibition, only in the case of exclusion or waiver of the previous selected works. The Jury also may signal, beyond the winner, some special mentions and/or prize.

The selection procedure will be performed on photographic images, so it is recommended for the submission, to send the material as exhaustive as possible.

The judgement expressed by the Jury is final and irrevocable.

The names of the members of the jury of the COMEL award 2025, chaired by **Giorgio Agnisola**, art critic and writer, will be communicated in the coming months.

ART. 7 - PHASES AND DEADLINES

1. **July 13, 2025** (midnight), the registration deadline of the COMEL 2025 Award;
2. Within **August 31, 2025**, the finalist artists will be contacted via e-mail and announced online, who will be provided with information on sending the work and the exhibition;
3. By **September 19 2025**, at the latest, the selected artists must send the registered work (see Art. 11 - TRANSPORT, INSURANCE, PREPARATION OF WORKS). Failure to respect the delivery date of the work will result in exclusion from the competition. **The works must be delivered in suitable reusable packaging for returning the works at the end of the competition.**
4. Exhibition opening: **October 18, 2025**
5. Proclamation and award ceremony: **November 8, 2025**

ART. 8 – AWARDS

A) COMEL jury Award 2025

The unique winning artist will be awarded the COMEL Jury Award 2025. The prize consists of a cash prize of € 3500.¹ The winning artist will also be awarded a solo exhibition to be held at the Spazio COMEL Arte Contemporanea, located in via Neghelli, 68 – Latina. The publication of a catalogue of the exhibition is also included. The dates and conditions of the exhibition to be agreed in advance with the organization and however no later than the calendar year in which the prize has been held.

The work will become part of the permanent collection COMEL. By accepting the Prize, the winner relinquishes ownership of his/her work and gives COMEL all rights related to it, including the publication right of the image, while retaining the right to be recognized as the author of the artwork.

¹ A withholding tax will be applied to the prize in accordance with the law.

B) Audience COMEL Award 2025

The artist who will receive the greatest number of preferences from the exhibition visitors, will be awarded a solo exhibition to be held at the Spazio COMEL contemporary art gallery, located in via Neghelli, 68 – Latina. The dates and conditions will be agreed in advance with the organization and it will be displayed no later than the calendar year in which the prize has been held. **The 'Audience Award' does not consist of a cash prize and the winning artwork will remain property of the artist.**

The award ceremony will take place on Saturday, November 8, 2025, as part of the exhibition. The presence of the competition winners at the ceremony would be highly appreciated.

ART. 9 – CATALOGUE

The catalog will include pictures of the selected works, short biographical notes of the finalists and critical texts of the jury, in Italian and English. Copies of the catalog will be delivered free of charge to the artists and to all visitors of the exhibition.

ART. 10 – OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION

The inauguration will take place on **Saturday October 18, 2025** and the works will remain on display until **Saturday November 8, 2025**, subject to a possible extension of the exhibition time.

ART. 11 - TRANSPORTATION, INSURANCE, ARTWORKS INSTALLATION

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 works must be received no later than Friday 19 September 2025, under penalty of exclusion, at the headquarters of the **COMEL Industrie in Latina (LT), CAP 04100, in Via Congiunte sinistre n ° 398** from 8:30/13:00 - 15:00/18:00 from Monday to Friday.

The works must be delivered in a suitable reusable packaging for the return of the artworks at the end of the competition.

The artworks will be installed by the exhibition organizers according to the instructions previously arranged with the artists (see Paragraph 4 – CRITERIA FOR ARTWORKS). Each work must arrive ready for installation, under penalty of exclusion. Except for the award winning work (which becomes the property of the COMEL Industrie permanent collection) all artworks should be collected directly from the COMEL company premises by Wednesday 19 December 2025, at the company address: COMEL Industrie via Congiunte Sinistre n. 398 - 04100 Latina (LT) Italy. From Monday to Friday, from 8.30/13.00 to 15:00/18:00 The works not collected within the deadline will be considered as a legacy to the Prize.

ART. 12 – PRIVACY

Each candidate expressly authorizes the COMEL Prize, as well as his legal representative, to process personal data transmitted, pursuant to law 675/96 (Privacy law) and subsequent amendments of Legislative Decree 196/2003 (Privacy code), also for the insertion in databases managed by the aforementioned people.

Each participant in the competition grants the COMEL Award, as well as its legal representative, free of charge, the reproduction rights of the works and texts released to the prize, for the purpose of drawing up the catalog, publication on the Prize website and other forms of communication, promotion and activities of the organization. The material sent for registration only, will not be returned. The organizers of the competition will have the right to make a final decision on anything not specified in this notice.

The organization reserves itself the right to make changes to the notice if the need arises, communicating it on the portal www.premiocomel.it

Participation in the COMEL Award implies full and complete acceptance of all the articles of this call for submission.

COMEL Award Organizing Secretariat

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