

fiera internazionale d'arte moderna e contemporanea international exhibition of modern and contemporary art

07-09/02 2025 Bologna

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FONDAZIONE FURLA

Adelaide Cioni

Five Geometric Songs

Padiglione de l'Esprit Nouveau Bologna, 6-9 February 2025

On the occasion of Arte Fiera

For its 2025 edition, **Arte Fiera** has renewed (for the third year) its collaboration with **Fondazione Furla** for the live performance program curated by Bruna Roccasalva, the Foundation's Artistic Director.

This year, the invited artist is **Adelaide Cioni** (b. Bologna,1976), who presents a performance created for the occasion.

Adelaide Cioni's work focuses on the origins of the drawing sign, and although her research covers a wide range of expressive forms - including painting, literature, music, and theater - her starting point remains drawing.

At Arte Fiera 2025, Cioni presents *Five Geometric Songs* (2025), an ambitious performance in which abstract geometric motifs become the visualization of rhythm in space by means of five costumes designed by the artist and worn by five dancers who perform to original music by Dom Bouffard.

The result of Cioni's longtime focus on abstraction and color, on the origin of shape, and on the concept of patterns, the performance is both an evolution of a previous performance, *Song for a Square, a Circle, a Triangle* (2023), and a response to its specific location in Bologna: the Padiglione de l'Esprit Nouveau (1977), a faithful reproduction of an original design by Le Corbusier and Pierre Jeanneret for the 1925 Exposition International des Arts Décoratifs in Paris, exactly 100 years ago. Cioni has considered the relationship between colors and the pure geometric shapes of the Padiglione's architecture, creating a composition of geometries and colors that interweave with the spaces and with the fluidity and intersection of their volumes.

Cioni starts from the basics of drawing: line, point, square, triangle, and circle, and by repeating these elementary geometric shapes, she recovers a visual vocabulary that has spanned multiple cultures, eras, and disciplines. Deeply rooted in the history of humanity and present everywhere in nature, patterns are an expressive form that transcends temporal, geographic, and cultural boundaries. Their communicative force lies in their ability to speak directly to human perception by means of visual repetition and rhythm. A pattern is the visualization of a rhythm, and music becomes an image: "drawing a pattern is like singing a song," she says. Pattern and music share an intimate bond based on repetition, and *Five Geometric Songs* celebrates this bond by aiming the spotlights where drawing and music meet. Animated by the dancers, the patterns assume a physical dimension, the body becomes a medium that transforms geometries into movement, while the costumes are an extension of their bodies.

Fabric, an essential material in all of Cioni's work, is much more than a support: it's the element that connects body to space, past to present, art to daily routine, and in some cases is also a tool to transform space itself, make it flexible and variable, able to adapt to the spectator's movements.



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The artist also uses patterns to infuse the architecture with an intimate, tactile dimension: the stage is enriched with fabrics and wood cutouts that recall the abstract shapes of the costumes. The multiplication and overlapping of these shapes creates a dialogue between the dancers' movement and the architectural space, transforming the stage into a setting where geometry appears simultaneously as image, movement, and space.

This visual dialogue intertwines perfectly with Dom Bouffard's music, which is an integral part of the performance, drawing attention to the archetypical nature shared by shape and sound.

Starting from a reflection on patterns as a universal language, Cioni re-elaborates these shapes and transforms them into a living language that merges body, music, and space in a synesthetic and participatory experience.

Adelaide Cioni (b. Bologna, 1976) studied drawing at UCLA and has a degree in sculpture from the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome (2015). She has master's degrees in modern history and in literary translation, and translated American literature for ten years before devoting herself to art. She has participated in numerous group shows and has had solo shows in galleries and public institutions in Italy and abroad. Her most recent performances include *Touch Song*, Southwood Gardens, Piccadilly, London (2024); *Song for a Square, a Circle, a Triangle, Mimosa House, London (2023), and Prayers to Jupiter*, Fondazione Memmo/Gasworks, London (2022).

Performance information

Thursday 6 February at 4, 5, 6 PM Friday 7 February at 11 AM and 12 N Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 February at 11 AM, 12 N, 1 PM

Padiglione de l'Esprit Nouveau Piazza della Costituzione 11, 40128 Bologna

Entrance is free of charge without reservation until all seats are taken. A fair ticket is not required to access the performance. You may enter even after the performance has begun. Each performance lasts about 45 minutes.

On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday the space will remain open to the public until 4 PM.

Music Dom Bouffard

Performers (in alphabetical order) Jari Boldrini Typhaine Delaup Valentina Foschi Giovanfrancesco Giannini Daniela Malusardi

A project curated by Bruna Roccasalva for Arte Fiera 2025 Promoted by BolognaFiere in collaboration with Fondazione Furla



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