

JUAN GARAIZABAL

*MEMORIA DEL GIARDINO - MEMORIES OF THE GARDEN*



MAY 30-JUNE 4, 2013

VENICE



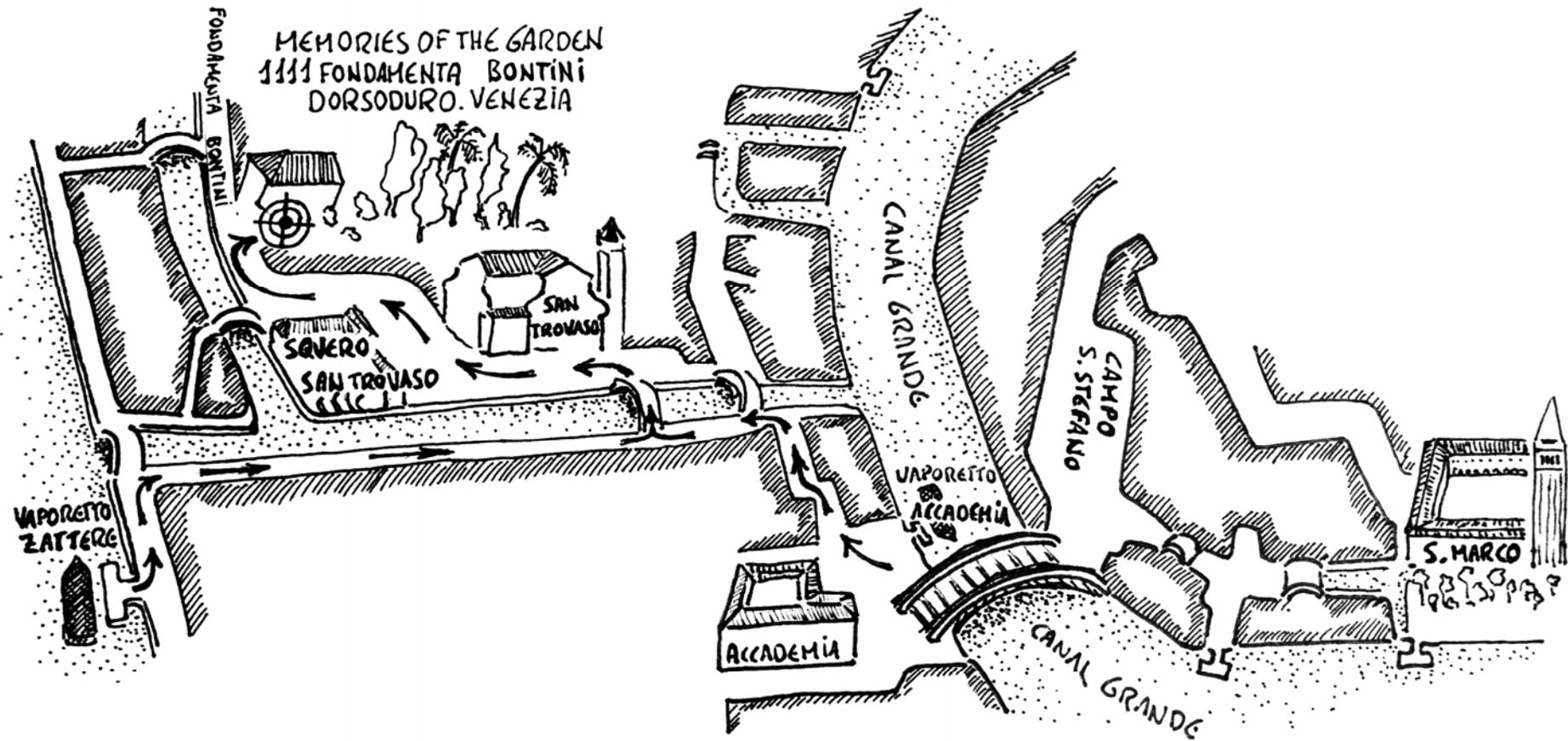
*Memories of the Garden* is an outdoor sculpture intervention in the oldest botanical garden in Europe. Curated by internationally known art historian and critic Barbara Rose, the installation by Spanish public artist Juan Garaizabal, is based on the glorious fascinating history of the garden and its present-day owner, Austrian artist Liselotte Höhs. The installation refers to former inhabitants and visitors by symbolically returning the garden to its former function as a graveyard annex to San Trovaso's church. Tombstones are evoked by Garaizabal, who draws in the air with steel inspired by ancient examples that survive in San Nicolò del Lido's cemetery. In these pieces, Garaizabal awakens the memory of three geniuses who are deeply attached to the history of the place: Amedeo

Modigliani (Livorno 1884-Paris 1920), who worked during a brief period in the garden and in the adjacent studio, now Liselotte's studio; Mariano Fortuny (Granada 1871-Venecia 1949), whose legacy as an iconic textile and costume designer was saved by Liselotte Höhs, an emblematic figure in modern Venice's cultural and artistic life; and legendary poet Ezra Pound (Idaho 1885-Venice 1972) who, fascinated by the energy of the place and Liselotte's personality, spent countless evenings in this garden. (Rare photographs of Pound in the garden document his life in Venice.)

The spirit of these great three figures and their adventures are evoked by Garaizabal's sculpture that will temporarily illuminate the garden. The evocation of their adventures in art is the result of the collective imagination of three contemporary adventurers, Barbara Rose, Liselotte Höhs and Juan Garaizabal.



Memories of the Garden, constructed during the 55<sup>th</sup> Biennale de Venezia, continues Garaizabal investigation and reconstruction of lost historic monuments, the largest of which, the Bohemian Church in Berlin is now a permanent fixture commissioned by the city.



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**Juan Garaizabal** (born in 1971 in Madrid) is a conceptual artist specialized in the creation and transformation of interactive spaces as a means of artistic communication

The central theme of his present work, the *Memoria Urbana* projects, focus on recovering and giving worth to architecture elements or historical buildings that have been lost in the course of time. Among these are an outline of the Old City of Bucharest, the Royal Palace of Valencia, the Bohemian Church of Bethlehem in Berlin, the Palais des Tuileries in Paris, Old London Bridge or Paço da Ribeira in Lisbon. Each of these and other monumental sculptural installation projects require him to explore the most varied artistic techniques in all type of preparatory work.

Latest exhibitions:

- Arco 2013. Madrid. Solo Objects. February 2013.
- Arco 2013. Madrid. Álvaro Alcázar Gallery. February 2013.
- IVAM, collective exhibition "Arte y Religiosidad". Valencia.Spain. February-April 2013.
- JUST MAD MIA 2012, Miami.Contemporary Art Fair. Álvaro Alcázar Gallery. December 2012.
- Pinta NY 2012, New York. Alvaro Alcázar Gallery. November 2012.
- ExpoChicago. Navy Pier Chicago. Álvaro Alcázar Gallery. Sept.2012.
- Museum für Kommunikation. Berlin. Jun-Ago. 2012.
- Photoespaña 2012. Álvaro Alcázar Gallery. June-Sept. 2012.
- Arco 2012. Madrid. Álvaro Alcazar Gallery. February 2012.
- Arte Lisboa. Álvaro Alcazar Gallery. November 2011.
- DOX Centre for Contemporary Art. Prague. Solo exhibition. January-April 2011.

[www.juangaraizabal.com](http://www.juangaraizabal.com)

[www.memoriasurbanas.com](http://www.memoriasurbanas.com) (Download HQ Pics and Texts)

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