

55. ESPOSIZIONE INTERNAZIONALE D'ARTE
– *La Biennale di Venezia*
28th May – 24th November 2013



Art & Knowledge – The **5 Platonic Solids** von Lore Bert
Collateral Event to the 55. *Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte*
Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana · St Mark's Square





St. Mark's Square · Venice

»55. Esposizione
Internazionale d'Arte –
La Biennale di Venezia«

The **55. Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte – *La Biennale di Venezia*** is an international art exhibition that has taken place in Venice every two years since 1895. The main showground is the *Giardini*

in the Castello-district, where 28 countries present in stage exhibitions their own national pavilions. A few dozen other states, which have not built the pavilions on their own on this site, exhibit during the Biennale in hired venues spread throughout the municipal area, in churches, *Palazzi* etc.

Quite apart from the national presentations, there is a themed exhibition compiled by curators in the *Arsenale*. In addition to this, the Biennale includes what are known as *Collateral-Events*; these are accompanying events which – in a similar way to the external national pavilions – are officially incorporated into the **Biennale**. The **55th Art Biennale** is due to open at the 1st June 2013 and will last until 24th November 2013.



In the ›Biblioteca Marciana‹ at the 55th Biennale di Venezia



Place: Venice – St. Mark's Square

Time: *55. Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte – la Biennale di Venezia*

28th May – 24th November 2013

Organizer: Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana
Director Dr. Maurizio Messina

Partner: van der Koelen-Foundation for Art and Science
President: Dr. Dorothea van der Koelen

Project-Team: Alice Jaillet-Bréban, Cristiana Coletti, Petra Schaefer

Artist: **Lore Bert**

Theme: *Art and Knowledge – the Spirit of the Place ...
in the 5 Platonic Solids*

The PROJECT: In the planned environment will be the *5 Platonic Solids* integrated within a sea of thousands of folded papers as ‘mirrored objects’ and will reproduce the room and the splendid ceiling with paintings by Veronese, and further artists of this time. thus enshrine the whole of Venice and its history in this work in a kind of symbiotic relationship between *Art and Knowledge*. The beauty, the history, the forms and the merits of this particular city thus become part of the work. The *Genius loci* is omnipresent; the environment becomes an homage to the venue, the place, the city and the chosen theme of the Biennale curator Massimiliano Gioni: *The Encyclopedic Palace*.

Publications: For the exhibition will be published a comprehensive multilingual catalogue (approx. 360 pages, German, English, Italian with more than 250 colour illustrations), an eBook (e-Lectra publisher), a leaflet and a 2014 calendar (Palazzi-publisher)

Events: Readings, interview with the artist, guided tours, receptions etc.

Publicity: Banner on St Mark’s Square, Biennale catalogue, invitation, catalogue, flyer, calendar, press kit, website

The PLACE:

The **Biblioteca Marciana** (St Mark's Library) is one of the biggest libraries in Italy (around 1 million books) and one of the leading collections of Greek, Latin and Oriental manuscripts and incunabula. It is located at the lower end of St Mark's Square (*Piazzetta*), opposite the Doge's Palace.

The library came about as a result of valuable donations. The idea of founding a library dates back to 1362, when **Francesco Petrarca** wanted to donate his collection of manuscripts to Venice. Owing to its unique holdings of Greek manuscripts, the library became a centre for humanist studies in the 16th century and has assumed the role of a national library since the 17th century. The library's specialist subjects are classical philology and Venetian history. It also possesses a valuable collection of musical scores, atlases and geographical maps.

The republic's book collection was initially housed in a building on the *Riva degli Schiavoni*, then in *San Marco* and later in the *Palazzo Ducale*. In 1534 the procurators drew up plans to build new office premises with a library, reading rooms and lecture halls. So it was that, in 1537, the architect **Sansovino** was commissioned to design a library building on the *Piazzetta*. After his death the building was completed by Vincenzo Scamozzi from 1582 to 1588.



Venice · St Mark's Library
Venezia · La Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana



President Dorothea van der Koelen Ph.D.
>van der Koelen Foundation for Art and Science<

PARTNER: »van der Koelen Foundation for Art and Science«



Founded: July 2003

Foundation: non-profit-organisation

Legal heir: Joh. Gutenberg-University Mainz

President: Dr. Dorothea van der Koelen Ph.D.

Advisory board: Martin van der Koelen M.A.

Dieter Sieger

Bettina Viktoria Countess Pfeil M.A.

H.H. Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Mohammed Al-Qasimi

Lawyer Arndt Brillinger

Professor Dr. Matthias Müller

Collection: Around 400 works of contemporary art, including masterpieces by Adler, Bert, Buren, Chillida, Gappmayr, Girke, Kosuth, Morellet, Plessi, Rabinowitch, Toroni, Uecker, Venet, as well as around 20,000 publications on contemporary art

Activities: Series of lectures »Experts in cultural activities«
Award of scholarships to doctoral candidates
Funding of exhibitions and book projects

»**Lore Bert and the 5 Platonic Solids · Collateral Event**
zur **55. Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte** «

The PROJECT:

Dr. Maurizio Messina, Director of the venerable 'Biblioteca Nazionale Marciana' (St Mark's Library) in Venice, which is housed in a historic 16th-century palace in St Mark's Square opposite the Doge's Palace, has invited **Lore Bert** to an exhibition in its *Salone Sansovino* and the *Sala Monumentali* during the next Art Biennale (from June to November 2013).

The exhibition will be on display throughout the entire Biennale (6 months) and is part of the important *Collateral Events* of the **55th Biennale di Venezia**. It takes place under the patronage of the City of Venice and of the Venetian province and region, of the Ministry of Heritage and Culture Foundation and the Musei Civici Venezia and is curated by international curators, including Alice Jaillet-Bréban (FR), Cristiana Coletti (IT), Petra Schaefer (DE).

The whole project is significant supported and supervised by the van der Koelen Foundation for Art and Science in Mainz.

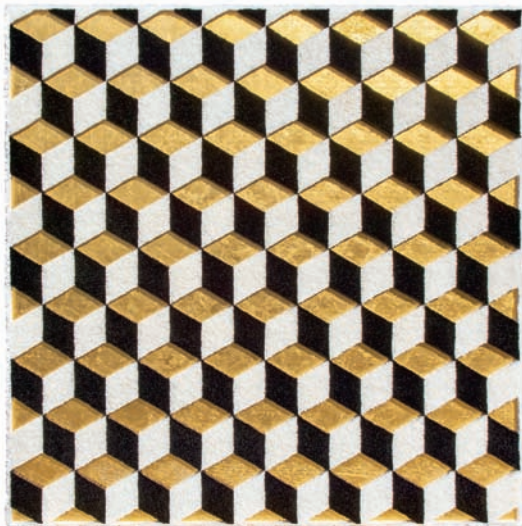
Lore Bert, an internationally known German artist with over 200 exhibitions in 26 countries on every continent, including 40

museum exhibitions, and an honorary artist at several *Biennales*, has devised a special presentation for this special place, which takes decidedly reference to the theme of this year's Biennale ›The Encyclopedic Palace‹.

Under the title ›Art and Knowledge in the 5 Platonic Solids‹ **Lore Bert** will incorporate into a sea of thousands of folded white papers her large-scale *Platonic Solids* built with mirror surfaces. The 5 regular polyhedra do represent the elements of water, earth, fire, air and the universe and are already since 1988, the consistent subject in the work of Lore Bert. Starting from paper collages and objects Lore Bert devoted several environments to these elements.

It is not the first library in which Lore Bert exhibits. Already in 1996 she created for the ›Great Cairo Library‹ (Egypt), the impressive environment *Mental values*.

In 2011 Lore Bert presented in the Gutenberg Museum in Mainz, the exhibition *Lore Bert and the Sciences* and showed works on philosophy (with texts by Kant, Aristotle, Quine, Goodman), literature (with citations of Dante, Goethe, Rilke), and finally to mathematics and natural Sciences (with pictorial representations of Cantor's *Set Theory* and the *World Systems* of Copernicus and Galileo, for example).



Lore Bert · *Perspective* · 2012
relief-object with Japanese paper and gold leaf · 180 x 180 cm

Exhibits: Beside relief-painting, such as *Perspective* (left), **Lore Bert** will exhibit mirrored sculptures of the *Platonic Solids*.

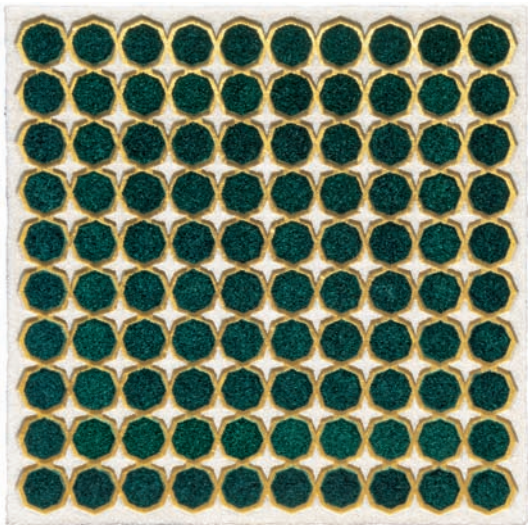
This is typified here by the > Dodecahedron < as a miniature model of a *Platonic Solid*, photographed as an example of how it might reflect its surroundings.





Lore Bert · Dante · 2012

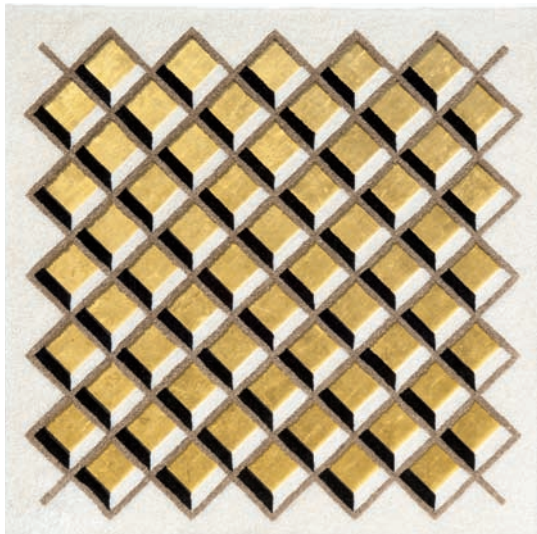
paper painting with Japanese paper, cotton and gold leaf · 180 x 180 cm



Lore Bert · *Octagon* · 2012
relief-object with Japanese paper and gold leaf · 180 x 180 cm



Lore Bert · *Chinese Sign of Luck* · 2012
relief-object with Japanese paper and gold leaf · 180 x 180 cm



Lore Bert · *Profundities* · 2012
relief-object with Japanese paper and gold leaf · 180 x 180 cm

Platonic Solids



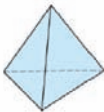
In geometry the term *Platonic Solid* (after the Greek philosopher Plato) describes perfectly regular polyhedra (three-dimensional Polyhedra bodies) which are made up of plane faces (polygons). This means that it is impossible to distinguish any two angles (or edges or faces) from each other simply because of the correlation of points on the polyhedron. There are five kinds of platonic Polyhedra: tetrahedron, hexahedron (cube), octahedron, dodecahedron and icosahedron (i.e. every Platonic Polyhedra exactly resembles one of these five). Their names point to the Greek words for the number of surfaces they have (4, 6, 8, 12 or 20).

Platonic Solids have the following properties:

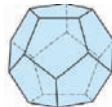
- The surface is made up of faces, which makes them polyhedra.
- They are convex: there are no reentrant angles or edges.
- The edges are all the same length.
- The faces are all congruent, which means they keep the same shape when turned and twisted.
- All the surface and edge angles are the same, and all the faces are equilateral and equiangular.
- All the vertices are the same distance from the centre point.
- Due to the symmetry of angles, edges and faces, there is a circumsphere, an intersphere and an insphere.
- They are tetrahedra, hexahedra, octahedra, dodecahedra or icosahedra.

The *5 Platonic Solids* played a significant role in Ancient Greek geometry and philosophy. They were considered to be perfect geometric Polyhedra:

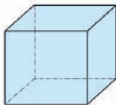
Tetrahedron has 4 faces, 4 vertices and 6 edges:



Dodecahedron has 12 faces, 20 vertices and 30 edges:



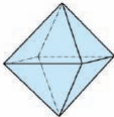
Hexaeder has 6 faces, 8 vertices and 12 edges:



Icosahedron has 20 faces, 12 vertices and 30 edges:



Octahedron has 8 faces, 6 vertices, 12 edges:



The characteristics of Platonic Polyhedra are that all faces are regular polygons, all faces have the same number of angles, and the same number of edges meet at every vertex.



Lore Bert

Lore Bert: Biographical notes

1936 born on July 2nd in Giessen/Germany, grown up in Darmstadt. 1953-57 studied painting, among others at the sculptor Prof. Hans Uhlmann at the Academy of Fine Arts in Berlin.

Since 1982 collages, relieves, transparencies and sculptures with Far Eastern papers on paper, canvas and later also on wood. Since 1984 installations, paper rooms and environments with different materials. Since 1994 environments with neon letters, neon tubes, oriental neon numbers and neon spheres until complete light spaces.

By 2012, more than 120 rooms and environments have been implemented in public institutions in Europe, Asia, Africa, Arabia, Middle East, and the United States and Canada.

Constructive, geometrical and architectural shapes as well as numbers are her form elements. Poetic and philosophic writings, logical constellations, science, history, qualities, universal relations and the absolute in its poetic beauty create the mental and spiritual base of her work.

More than 200 solo and group shows in 26 different countries world wide, are published in 96 books and catalogues, including 38 monographs.

Lore Bert lives and works in Mainz/Germany and Venice/Italy.

Books and monograph catalogues (selected)

Lore Bert. Zeichnungen 1977–1980, Text Hans-Jürgen Imiela, München 1980 // *Lore Bert. Figürliche Skizzen*, Text Susanne Armbruster, München 1981 // *Lore Bert. Bilder, Zeichnungen 1983 + 1984*, Text Dorothea van der Koelen, Mainz 1984 // *Lore Bert. Works on Paper*, Text Bettina Gräfin Pfeil, Montreal 1985 // *Lore Bert. Bildobjekte – Raumobjekte*, Text Siegfried Salzmann, Ludwigshafen 1985 // *Lore Bert: Wege – Bahnen*, Monochrom-Blatt, Nr. 1, Text Lore Bert, Aachen 1986 // *Lore Bert*, Text Andrzej Pollo, Krakow 1987 // *Lore Bert. Sinai*, Text Gisela Burkamp, Oerlinghausen 1987 // *Lore Bert. Wendepunkt*, Text Lore Bert, Mainz 1987 // *Lore Bert. Arbeiten 1985–88*, Texte Heinz Gappmayr und Eva-Maria Hanebutt-Benz, Mainz 1988 // *Lore Bert. Schrift – Worte*, Texte Eva-Maria Hanebutt-Benz und Lothar Romain, Mainz 1989 // *Lore Bert. Alles fließt*, Text Gisela Burkamp, Jena 1991 // *Lore Bert. Orient – Okzident*, Texte Andreas Beaugrand und Gisela Burkamp, Bielefeld 1992 // *Lore Bert. Um eine Mitte*, Text Bernd Goldmann, Mainz 1992 // *Lore Bert. Erinnerung – Gegenwart*, Texte Florian Goldberg und Dorothea van der Koelen, Bayreuth 1993 // *Lore Bert. Spuren der Vergangenheit – Zeichen*

der Gegenwart, Texte Ana Arez Brito Correia und Dorothea van der Koelen, Sintra 1995 // *Lore Bert. Geistige Werte – Mental Values*, Texte Elisabeth Claus, Richard Künzel und Mostafa El Razzaz, München 1996 // *Lore Bert. Collagen, Installationen, Environment*, hrgs. Richard Künzel, Kairo 1996 // *Lore Bert. Set Theory*, Text Stefanie Hoppe, Reykjavik 1997 // *Lore Bert. Zauber des Papiers*, Text Renate Petzinger, Chemnitz 1998 // *Lore Bert: Idea – Phenomenon – Perception*, Text Dorothea van der Koelen, Seoul 1998 // *Lore Bert. Opus Environments. Werkverzeichnis der raumbezogenen Arbeiten 1984–2001*, hrgs. Dorothea van der Koelen, München 2001 // *Lore Bert. Konstruktionen des Geistes*, Bayreuth 2001 // *Lore Bert*, Text Roxana Pirovano Malmberg, Zürich 2002 // *Lore Bert. Hauptwerke* hrgs. Dorothea van der Koelen, München 2003 // *Lore Bert. Architettura Veneziana*, Text Bettina Gräfin von Pfeil, Venezia 2003 // *Lore Bert. Stationen* hrgs. Beate Reifenscheid, Mainz 2006 // *Lore Bert. Kompositionen*, Mainz 2006 // *Lore Bert. Licht-Werke*, Text Andreas Beitin, Mainz 2007 // *Lore Bert. Dialog der Religionen – Dialog der Kulturen*, hrsg. Michael Schroen, Sarajevo 2007 // *Lore Bert. Papierbilder*, Text Martin van der Koelen, Mainz 2008 // *Lore Bert. Werkverzeichnis Kompositionen*, Text Dorothea van der Koelen, Mainz 2009.

One man shows (selected)

1985 Galerie Aubes 3935 Montreal (CAN) // Kunstverein Ludwigshafen (D) // 1986 Kunstverein Unna (D) // 1987 Galeria Kramy Dominikanskie Krakow (PL) // Städtische Galerie Bad Waldsee (D) // Kunstverein in der Synagoge Oerlinghausen (D) // Neues Forum der Stadt Kaarst (D) // 1988 Galerie Dorothea van der Koelen Mainz (D) // Galleria Spazio Temporaneo Milano (I) // Galerie Franka Berndt Bastille Paris (F) // 1989 Johannes-Gutenberg Museum Mainz (D) // Hyundai Gallery Seoul (KOR) // Kulturgeschichtliches Museum Osnabrück (D) // 1990 Lippische Gesellschaft für Kunst Detmold (D) // Halle Syndikat Bonn (D) // Pfalzgalerie Kaiserslautern (D) // 1991 Kunstverein Hochrhein Bad Säckingen (D) // Jenaer Kunstverein (D) // Galerie Zographia Bordeaux (F) // 1992 Bielefelder Kunstverein im Museum Waldhof (D) // Siddharta Gallery Kathmandu (Nepal) // 1993 Die Weisse Galerie Köln (D) // Cellar Gallery Nagoya (J) // Sonnentempel in der Orangerie Bayreuth (D) // Kunstverein im alten Schloß Bayreuth (D) // Landesvertretung Rheinland-Pfalz Bruxelles (B) // 1994 Werkhaus Schwalenberg (D) // 1995 Palácio Nacional de Sintra (P) // 1996 Echnaton Gallery Cairo (EGT) // Great Cairo Library (EGT)

// 1997 Galerie Lucien Durand Paris (F) // Antoniterkirche Köln (D)
// Galleri Ingolfsstræti Reykjavik (ICE) // 1998 Cultural Foundation
Abu Dhabi (UAE) // Städtische Kunstsammlungen Chemnitz (D)
// Bhak Gallery Seoul (KOR) // 1999 4th Sharjah International Arts
Biennial (UAE) // 2000 ERA Europäische Rechtsakademie Trier (D)
// 2001 Kulturverein Zehntscheuer Rottenburg a. N. (D) // Campus
Galerie der Universität Bayreuth (D) // 2002 Galerie Ruth Leuchter
Düsseldorf (D) // Galerie Proarta Zürich (CH) // 2003 La Galleria
Venezia (I) // 2004 Conny Dietzschold Gallery Sydney (AUS) //
Galerie von Waldenburg (D) // Konstruktiv Tendens Stockholm
(S) // 2005 Leopold Hoesch Museum Düren (D) // 2006 Kloster
Malgarten Bramsche (D) // Ludwig Museum im Deutscherherrenhaus
Koblenz (D) // Städtische Galerie im Schloß Wolfsburg (D) // Na-
tionalmuseum Muzeum Narodowe Wroclaw (PL) // 2007 Sharjah
Art Museum (UAE) // Forum Konkrete Kunst Erfurt (D) // Gazi
Husrev Begova Medressa Sarajevo (BiH) // Museum Modern Art
Hünfeld (D) // 2008 Frauenmuseum Bonn (D) // Museum Moderner
Kunst Stiftung Wörlen Passau (D) // 2009 Kunstmuseum Ahlen (D)
// 2010 Atrium Gallery St. Louis (USA) // 2011 Biennale Izmir
(TR) // Gutenberg-Museum Mainz (D) // Galerie Dorothea van der
Koelen Mainz (D) // Landesvertretung Brüssel (B).

Group shows (selected)

1985 Sprengel-Museum Hannover (D) // Mathildenhöhe Darmstadt (D) // Deutsche Parlamentarische Gesellschaft Bonn (D) // 1986 Pfalzgalerie Kaiserslautern (D) // Kunsthalle Darmstadt (D) // 1990 Schloß Faber Castell Stein b. Nürnberg // 1991 Karl Ernst Osthaus-Museum Hagen (D) // 1992 FruitMarket Gallery Edinburgh (UK) // Städtische Galerie Ravensburg (D) // Papiermuseum Lenningen (D) // Neuer Kunstverein Aschaffenburg (D) // 1995 Gallery de Gryse Tielt (B) // 1997 Staatsgalerie Stuttgart (D) // Hunsaker and Schlesinger Fine Arts Los Angeles (USA) // Atrium Gallery St. Louis (USA) // 1999 OÖ Landesgalerie Linz (A) // 2000 Sharjah Art Museum (UAE) // 2001 MOCRA, Museum of Contemporary Religious Art St. Louis (USA) // Galerie Proarta Zürich (CH) // 2002 Sharjah Art Museum (UAE) // Saddam Art Center Baghdad (Iraq) // 2004 Museum für Konkrete Kunst Ingolstadt (D) // 2006 Serra di Villa Revoltella Trieste (I) // Galeri Atlas Lodz (PL) // 2007 Museum im Kulturspeicher Würzburg (D) // 2008 Galerie Thomas München (D) // Lo Spirito del Lago Isola Bella/Lago Maggiore (I) // 2009 Ludwig Museum im Deutschherrenhaus Koblenz (D) // Edsvik Konsthallar Stockholm (S) // Haus der Niederlande Münster (D).

Works in museums and public collections (selected)

Abu Dhabi (UAE): Cultural Foundation // Bayreuth: Geisteswiss. Fakultät der Universität // Berlin: Staatl. Mus. Preuß. Kulturbesitz // Berlin: KfW // Chemnitz: Kunstslg. Chemnitz // Chicago/IL (USA): Gerling Credit Insurance Agency // Dresden: Staatl. Kunstslg. // Duisburg: W. Lehmbruck-Museum // Frankfurt: KfW // Magistrat der Stadt // Frankfurt: Slg. der Deutschen Bank // Geel (B): Art Center Hugo Voeten // Gmunden (A): Städt. Kunstslg. // Hünfeld: Museum Modern Art // Ingelheim: Slg. Boehringer // Iserlohn: Slg. Dornbracht // Kaiserslautern: Pfalzgalerie // Karlsruhe: Städt. Galerie // Kiel: Kunsthalle // Koblenz: Ludwig Museum // Koblenz: Landeszentralbank // Künzelsau: Museum Würth // Lenningen: Papiermuseum // London (GB): Fidelity Corporate Art Coll. // Mainz: Joh. Gutenberg-Museum // Mainz: Landesmuseum // Mainz: Deutsche Bank. // Mainz: Städt. Kunstslg. // LZB in Rhl-Pf. und im Saarland // Miami/FL (USA): Martin Z. Margulies Collection // Reykjavik (IS): Deutsche Botschaft // Seoul (ROK): The National Museum of Contemporary Art // Sharjah (UAE): Sharjah Art Museum // Sintra (P): Palácio Nacional de Sintra // Waldenbuch: Ritter Museum // Wroclaw (PL): Muzeum Narodowe (Nationalmuseum).



›VAN DER KOELEN FOUNDATION FOR ARTS AND SCIENCE‹

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Donation account of the Foundation:

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