

## PRESS RELEASE

Bondo, May 21, 2024

### From Isola to Chiavenna - the interdisciplinary programme of the BIENNALE BREGAGLIA 2024

2 June 2024 - 28 September 2024

biennale-bregaglia.ch

**Curated by Misia Bernasconi, the programme for BIENNALE BREGAGLIA 2024 connects the whole valley – from Isola in Switzerland to Chiavenna in Italy – and continues to focus on this year's theme "Architecture and Gardens". Eight stops invite visitors to raise their awareness of the region's cultural heritage and discover the entire mountain valley.**

The interdisciplinary programme starts on 16 June 2024 in Isola and continues afterwards via Maloja, Stampa, Caccior and Bondo in Switzerland to Villa di Chiavenna, Piuro and Chiavenna in the Italian part of Bregaglia.

In the village of Bondo, this year's main venue for the Biennale, there are guided tours available in Italian, German and English. These invite visitors to rediscover the mountain village and its history and provide insights into the site-specific works by Kotoaki Asano, Lisa Collomb, Athene Galiciadis, Georg Gatsas, Marcel Herbst, Piero Maspoli, Juliana Rios Martinez, Lea Schaffner, Ines Marita Schärer and Jonathan Steiger.

The programme and tours can be booked online. Details and changes will be communicated via [biennale-bregaglia.ch](http://biennale-bregaglia.ch).

Private guided tours in the national languages (Italian, German, French and Romansh) and in English can be booked via [kunstvermittlung@biennale-bregaglia.ch](mailto:kunstvermittlung@biennale-bregaglia.ch).

### Programme

**Sunday, 16 June 2024, 15:30**

**Ecology, nature reserves and artificial architecture (DE)**

Isola, Restaurant Lagrev

Isola is the first fraction of Bregaglia after the Engadin and is located halfway along Lake Sils. How do you live in a protected area? How is it looked after? Discussion about nature and landscape conservation as well as tourism, everyday life and agricultural use. Between the past, the present and the future. Event organized in collaboration with: Pro Lei da Segl. *Isola can be reached by boat in 15 minutes and by foot in approx. 1 hour from Maloja.*

**Saturday, 29 June 2024, 16:00**

**Architecture Maloggia: Which masterplan? Conference, exhibition opening and book launch (IT/DE)**

Maloja, Atelier Segantini

To mark the opening of the temporary exhibition in the studio of the Italian painter Giovanni Segantini (1858-1899) and Open Doors Engadin, we would like to present the new book dedicated to the

Segantini House (Skira 2024) and reflect on spatial planning in Maloja. The talk will take place amidst the extraordinary architecture of the Atelier Segantini, which was designed for a panorama of the Engadine Alps on the occasion of the Paris World Exhibition (1900). Afterwards we invite you to an aperitif in the beautiful garden. Event in collaboration with Atelier Segantini.

**Sunday, 14 July 2024, 13:00**

**Lecture and exhibition: The Baroque garden (IT/DE)**

Stampa, Bed & Breakfast Pontisella

Lecture from the perspective of a traveller on the fantastic places "Palazzo Castelmur" in Coltura and "Nossa Dona" near Promontogno. On the occasion of "Festival da Jazz St. Moritz", the audience is invited to a small aperitif in the garden of the B&B Pontisella, which was originally designed as a baroque garden. There will also be an exhibition presenting copies of the original plans of the garden. Event in collaboration with: Società Storica Bregaglia.

**Sunday, 14 July 2024, 14:00**

**The architecture of Bondo - a guided tour (DE)**

Bondo, Piazza d'Zura 1

The alpine village of Bondo offers numerous secular building typologies: the farmstead, the stable, the detached, semi-detached and multi-family house, the manor house, but no high-rise buildings. Rare, sacred building typologies such as a church, single and double water sources and various access systems such as alleyways, paths, streets, squares and suspension bridges characterize the townscape. On a guided tour, you will learn how the architecture in Bondo has developed and how it approaches its history and the future. Event in collaboration with: Christian Stoffel, Monument Preservation Canton Graubünden.

**Sunday, 14 July 2024, 15:00**

**The gardens of Bondo: from the palace garden to the edge of the forest and back (DE/EN)**

Bondo, Palazzo Salis

In 2009, the Salis Gardens in Bregaglia were awarded the Schulthess Garden Prize by the Swiss Heritage Society. Which plant treasures grow around Bondo? Landscape architect and Bondo resident Jane Bihr-de Salis takes us on a journey of discovery through the green spaces of the Alpine village. Event in collaboration with Jane Bihr-de Salis, landscape architect BSLA.

**Saturday, 27 July 2024, 17:00**

**Sociality - Friability. Grey - green. Stone - vegetation. Everyday life in Bergell (IT/DE)**

Caccior, details to follow

How do people live in Bregaglia? What have people done here; what do they do today and what will they do in the future? How does nature move? What effect does nature have on the people here? To get to know everyday life in Bregaglia a little closer, a meeting with some personalities from the local population is proposed.

**Sunday, 4 August 2024, 11:00 (DE/IT/EN)**

**Artist Talk with Lea Schaffner**

Bondo, Piazza d'Zura 1

Bondo, the main venue of the BIENNALE BREGAGLIA 2024, has attracted the artist Lea Schaffner. Here she is continuing her ongoing project "Willfulness Archive". Inspired by Sara Ahmed's theory of "idiosyncratic archives", she is researching new ways of expanding the conventional archive and questioning structures of memory. What did the artist find in Bondo after the landslide in 2017? A panel discussion will give further insights into her work "Eigenwillige Archiv von Bondo". Event in collaboration with Lea Schaffner, artist.

**Sunday, 4 August 2024, 14:00**

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In 2009, the Salis Gardens in Bregaglia were awarded the Schulthess Garden Prize by the Swiss Heritage Society. What plant treasures grow in and around Bondo? Landscape architect and Bondo resident Jane Bihr-de Salis takes us on a journey of discovery through the green spaces of the Alpine village. Event in collaboration with: Jane Bihr-de Salis, landscape architect BSLA.

**Saturday, 17 August 2024, 20:00**

**Projection: Amare Gio Ponti (IT)**

Villa di Chiavenna, details to follow

Few people know that there is a project by the famous Italian architect and designer Gio Ponti (1891-1979) in Bregaglia: the dam keeper's house on the banks of the Mera river in Villa di Chiavenna. The projection of the current documentary film introduces the architect, who realised industrial and social projects in nearby Valchiavenna during the Second World War, and explores questions of architecture and its integration into nature. Event in collaboration with Molteni&C, Giussano.

**Sunday, 1 September 2024, 15:00**

**Botany and archaeology: the valorisation and enhancement of a heritage (IT/EN)**

Piuro, in the garden of Palazzo Vertemate

How is immovable historical heritage preserved and made accessible to the public? What are the challenges that need to be overcome politically? The panel discussion with actors from politics, culture and tourism will provide an insight. Event in collaboration with Consorzio Turistico Valchiavenna,

Chiavenna; City Council for Culture, Chiavenna; Italian-Swiss Association for Excavations in Piuro; Graubünden Archaeological Service.

**Saturday, 14 September 2024, 19:00**  
**Performance, Body of Nature (IT/EN)**  
Chiavenna, details to follow

Val Bregaglia, which stretches from Isola along the river Maira or Mera in Italian, ends or begins in Chiavenna in Italy. The supporting programme of the BIENNALE BREGAGLIA 2024 ends in Chiavenna. In the performance by Silvia Del Grosso (\*1978), visual art, cultural heritage and memories come together in the body of the Italian artist. Event in collaboration with Piero Del Bondio (1947-2024) and Silvia Del Grosso.

**Saturday, 28 September 2024, 14:00**  
**The architecture of Bondo - a guided tour (DE)**  
Bondo, Piazza d'Zura 1

The alpine village of Bondo offers numerous secular building typologies: the farmstead, the stable, the detached, semi-detached and multi-family house, the manor house, but no high-rise building. Rare, sacred building typologies such as a church, single and double water sources and various access systems such as alleyways, paths, streets, squares and suspension bridges characterise the townscape. On a guided tour, you will learn how the architecture in Bondo has developed and how it approaches history and the future. Event in collaboration with Christian Stoffel, Monument Preservation Canton of Graubünden.

**Saturday, 28 September 2024, 15:00**  
**The gardens of Bondo: from the palace garden to the edge of the forest and back (DE/EN)**  
Bondo, Palazzo Salis

In 2009, the Salis Gardens in Bregaglia were awarded the Schulthess Garden Prize by the Swiss Heritage Society. What plant treasures grow in and around Bondo? Landscape architect and Bondo resident Jane Bihl-de Salis takes us on a journey of discovery through the green spaces of the Alpine village. Event in collaboration with: Jane Bihl-de Salis, landscape architect BSLA.

*All events mentioned above cost CHF 15 per person. In case of bad weather, the talks will take place indoors.*

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

**BIENNALE BREGAGLIA 2024**  
2 June 2024 - 28 September 2024

**Press conference and tour (DE/IT)**

Friday, 31 May 2024, Apéro starting at 1pm, press conference from 2pm onwards in the multi-purpose hall in Bondo (Via ai Crott 17, CH-7606 Promontogno). Registration is requested: kommunikation@biennale-bregaglia.ch

### **Library Progetti d'arte in Val Bregaglia**

The library of the Progetti d'arte in Val Bregaglia association is located in the former municipal and school building of Bondo at Piazza d'Zura 1. It functions both as an information point and as a meeting place and is the ideal place to retreat, relax, exchange ideas and reflect on the experiences of browsing through the selection of literature.

### **Opening hours, programme and further information**

The exhibition is open daily from 9am to 7pm. Visiting the exhibition is free of charge. Support will keep the BIENNALE BREGAGLIA project alive.

### **The Curator: Misia Bernasconi**

Misia Bernasconi (\*1988) completed the B. A. in Art History, Classical Archaeology and Theory and History of Photography at the University of Zurich and the M. A. in Art History with special qualification in Curatorial Studies with main focus on Architectural History at the University of Bern. Professional experiences Misia Bernasconi has gained as a research assistant for the Federal Office of Culture (FOC) from 2019-2021, at the Vincenzo Vela Museum in Ligornetto (TI), 2016-2020 at the Federal Art Collections in Bern, 2019 as co-curator with Luciano Fasciati for the Grisons associations Art-Public Chur and 2018 Progetti d'arte in Val Bregaglia, and as a research volunteer at the Bündner Kunstmuseum in Chur (2017). She is a board member of the Association of Art Historians of Switzerland (VKKS).

### **The site: Bondo**

At the entrance to the Bondasca valley, not far from the Italian border and below the Pizzo Badile, Bondo lies at 823 metres above sea level in the political municipality of Bregaglia. The village with its 200 inhabitants is characterised by narrow, winding streets, historic buildings, chestnut trees and typical crotti. Since the tragic landslide in 2017, Bondo has been a household name for many in the media. Further details: [comunedibregaglia.ch](http://comunedibregaglia.ch)

Important note: The reconstruction of Bondo is not yet complete. Please observe the official signage on site. Enter the installations and exhibition sites at your own risk. Visitors are responsible for their own insurance. All liability is declined.

### **The event: BIENNALE BREGAGLIA**

Since 2010, site-specific, contemporary art interventions have taken place every two years in the Val Bregaglia. Until 2018, each of these events was held under a new name dependent on the place name. Since the 2020 edition, the art event is called BIENNALE BREGAGLIA. As before, the interventions focus on social, historical and political structures of village's and valley's life.

### **Earlier editions**

2010-2013: [Arte Hotel Bregaglia](#); over 40 interventions by contemporary artists were realised in the historic Hotel Bregaglia in Promontogno; conception/artistic direction and curators: Luciano Fasciati, since 2012 in co-curators with Céline Gaillard.

2013: [Video Arte Palazzo Castelmur](#); Stampa-Coltura; concept/artistic direction: Luciano Fasciati; cocurator Céline Gaillard

2015: [Video Arte Palazzo Castelmur](#); Stampa-Coltura; concept/artistic direction: Luciano Fasciati; cocurator Céline Gaillard

2017: [Arte Albigna](#); curators: Luciano Fasciati and Céline Gaillard

2018: [Arte Castasegna](#); curators: Luciano Fasciati, Misia Bernasconi and Céline Gaillard

2020: [Biennale Bregaglia 2020](#); Nossa Dona and Lan Múraia promontory near Promontogno; Curator: Luciano Fasciati; curatorial assistance: Francine Bernasconi and Sarah Westendanger

2022: [Biennale Bregaglia 2022](#); Vicosoprano; curators: Bigna Guyer und Anna Vetsch.

2024: [BIENNALE BREGAGLIA 2024](#); Bondo; curator: Misia Bernasconi.

### **About Progetti d'arte in Val Bregaglia**

The association Progetti d'arte in Val Bregaglia was founded in 2012 and is engaged in the promotion and realisation of exhibitions, projects and events of contemporary art in the Val Bregaglia (Switzerland). The steering committee elects the respective curators of the BIENNALE BREGAGLIA. The latter is in turn responsible for the concept, organisation, selection of artistic positions and realisation. Further details: [progetti-arte-bregaglia.ch](http://progetti-arte-bregaglia.ch)

### **Accommodation**

The partner hotels are the ideal starting points to discover the exhibition and combining a trip to Bregaglia with a short holiday. With the booking code "BB24", several accommodations will grant visitors to the BIENNALE BREGAGLIA a special discount on overnight stays or other individual special offers:

Pontisella Stampa: [pontisella-stampa.ch](http://pontisella-stampa.ch)

*The list of partner hotels is constantly being updated. Further accommodation and catering offers in Bregaglia can be found here: [bregaglia.ch](http://bregaglia.ch)*

### **Further information**

Further information on BIENNALE BREGAGLIA 2024 will be posted regularly on our website: [biennale-bregaglia.ch](http://biennale-bregaglia.ch). News are also available via social media: @biennalebregaglia.

### **Press contact**

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