



Press Release

Controcorrente: water and glass meet at the Hotel Bauer in Venice, in a precious artistic fountain.

The Hotel Bauer in Venice exhibits Controcorrente, an artistic fountain in steel and Murano glass made by Forme d'Acqua.

After the great success of the last edition of **The Venice Glass Week**, the prestigious **Hotel Bauer** in Venice exhibits **Controcorrente**, the work created by **Forme d'Acqua** in collaboration with Glass Master **Nicola Moretti**.

The Bauer Hotel, one of the most important and historic hotels in the city, welcomes its guests with the pleasant sound of flowing water, thanks to the project conceived by **Simona M. Favrin**, architect and designer who has collaborated with Forme d'Acqua and has developed, in his professional career, a deep knowledge of Murano glass.

Controcorrente is a fountain where colourful **hand-made** glass fishes swim back up the current, in a tenacious fight against gravity: a tribute to **resilience** and to face adversity. This fountain tells about the glass makers' stubborn struggle to continue work in the island of **Murano** against the "stream" of emigration to the mainland. They are the last witnesses of a millenary tradition that preserves part of the most authentic soul of **Venice**, an instrument to affirm the resilience of man against the overwhelming "gravity" of destiny.

The work is exhibited in the main hall of the Hotel Bauer, in Campo San Moisè, a few steps from **Piazza San Marco**. Towards the end of the 19th century, in recently entered in the Kingdom of Italy Venice, the young Austrian Julius Grünwald fell in love and married the daughter of Mr. Bauer, the director of the Hotel de la Ville, starting the prestigious Bauer Grunwald - Hotel.

In the 1930s Arnaldo Bennati, a Ligurian entrepreneur in the naval sector, gave new life to the hotel, starting a business tradition carried out until today.

The exhibition of the fountain was greeted with enthusiasm by **Francesca Bortolotto Possati**, Bennati's nephew and current President and CEO of the hotel: "I was fascinated by this work, by its meaning and above all by the pleasant sensation it creates through the **flowing water**. Water is the key element of Venice, it is a sound and a melody that has always been in the background of our lives. This collaboration with Forme d'Acqua is an example of how the Hotel Bauer prides itself on hosting **artists, their ideas, intuitions and the works they create**".

Controcorrente was presented during the last edition of The Venice Glass Week, at the **Bugno Art Gallery** for the exhibition **Murano Glass Beyond the Barricades**: 13 Murano glass artists and masters, selected and invited for the occasion, gave a positive connotation and a high artistic value to a common object in our cities: the reinforced concrete traffic blocks (called **New Jersey**), which in recent years have assumed the role of **anti-terrorism** barriers, transforming them into glass works of art.

The Hotel Bauer welcomes its guests with the aesthetic aspect given by the fountain and the emotional one of the sound of flowing water, two elements that cause pleasant sensations of **hospitality and relax**, without forgetting the **physical and environmental benefits** given by the movement of water that it influences the

thermo-hygrometric conditions of the environment in which the fountain is exposed, helping to regulate **humidity** and contributing to the movement of air that helps eliminate the harmful substances.

Such a fountain becomes a unique emotional and sensorial experience for one's customers.

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