



BALCONISM

BLKNZM

Virtual exhibition-tour



**A R T
A P A R T**
CURATING AGENCY

Curated by Oxana Maleeva

Based on an idea by Steve Piccolo and Oxana Maleeva

Tadao Ando, Francesco Bonami, Jota Castro, Francesco Dal Co, Gabriele Di Matteo, Barnaba Fornasetti & V.Manzi, Carlos Garaicoa, Marc Kalinka, Steve Piccolo, Christoph Radl

Venice, 28 May 2013

Parallel to the 55th Venice Biennale

10 international personalities including artists, architects, designers, writers - Tadao Ando, Francesco Bonami, Jota Castro, Francesco Dal Co, Gabriele Di Matteo, Barnaba Fornasetti & V.Manzi, Carlos Garaicoa, Marc Kalinka, Steve Piccolo, Christoph Radl – have each contributed one narrative, visual and audio project (with sound design by Gak Sato) for 10 balconies selected in and around the Dorsoduro area of Venice to create a possible new virtual itinerary through part of the city. The project BLKNZM, invented by Oxana Maleeva and Steve Piccolo, takes an ironic, vaguely Situationist approach, offering an experience to all, without limits of time and space, lingering on the threshold (the balcony) between public and private, earth and sky, reality and imagination.

The free BLKNZM app is not “about” art... it is an artwork in its own right. The exhibition exists only on a virtual level as an application for iPhone/iPad and a website, as well as a special issue (on paper) of the artists’ magazine E IL TOPO. Visitors to Venice can use the BLKNZM map to find the original balconies, observing their transformations and listening the stories invented by the artist-authors. People anywhere in the world can also take a virtual tour using the app.

During the Venice Biennale artists attempt to come to terms with the unique atmosphere of the city, all too often by inserting objects that often seem to compete with it, rather than enhancing a context already packed with history, monuments and works. **BLKNZM** refrains from disturbing the city, and tries to put its beauty into focus by providing an unusual filter for the experience of Venice.

BLKNZM also sets aside the idea that art has to be made by artists. The lack of material artifacts in the show opens the way for the participation of writers, critics, musicians, designers and architects, treating the city as a true **encyclopedia** of possible narratives, from the perspective of different disciplines.

The **presentation of BLKNZM** took place in Venice on **28 May on a Galleon** that sailed to viewing points on the **BLKNZM** map.

BLKNZM is a project of Art Apart, Curating Agency .

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