



La Galleria Contemporary Art Space Palazzo del Capitano  
With installations in Corte Vecchia

**GIARDINI COSMICI**

**ALDO GRAZZI / MAURIZIO DONZELLI**

Exhibition curators: Peter Assmann and Renata Casarin

Opening: 10 November, 6 PM

Open from 10 November 2017 to 4 February 2018

Enclosure, number, time, choice of the site, are part of the history of every garden, the first place inhabited by Man and to which Man who was expelled from it longed to return.

For the ancient Persians the word *paradeis* meant garden: paradise is garden and garden is paradise, sought by Man and inhabited by the godhead.

The green areas of the Ducal Palace of Mantua participate in the symbology of the garden. Within the intricacy of the Gonzaga family palace buildings, they are the place sheltered by its very nature, affording sanctuary to the dream of whoever cultivates the aspiration to virtues and strives for moral perfection. Starting from these assumptions, Aldo Grazzi and Maurizio Donzelli present the *Cosmic Gardens* exhibition in the LaGalleria Contemporary Art space in the Museum Complex. The works by the two artists, in their different idioms, share a predisposition for the visionary, the oneiric, the construction – with sophisticated techniques – of worlds into which we can gaze.

Aldo Grazzi, a native Mantuan, has long lived between Venice and Perugia; Maurizio Donzelli lives and works at Brescia: for both, art is the world into which they can project their imaginary that flourishes in the recesses of the Ego. Donzelli's *Mirrors* are mutants that draw the beholder inside them, seduce, deceive, never repulse. The figures that emerge from the shadow of nets embroidered by cutting threads and skilled interlacing of tiny beads in Grazzi's works have, similarly, the property of both arousing and amplifying the esthetic dimension we so need to be able to see beyond, and inhabit the perfect and cosmic worlds of the imaginary.

LaGalleria, Complesso Museale Palazzo Ducale di Mantova, Palazzo del Capitano, piazza Sordello 42A, Mantua

11 November 2017 / 4 February 2018

Open from Tuesday to Sunday: 2 PM to 7 PM

Admission: from Tuesday to Saturday free admission / Sunday and holidays admission with the Ducal Palace Museum ticket with installations in Corte Vecchia (admission with Corte Vecchia tickets and opening hours)