INTERNATIONAL PRIZE
MICHELANGELO
The Creator of Beauty



Florence
Borghese Palace

January 23
2027

Curated by
Francesco Saverio Russo
and **Salvatore Russo**

EFFETTO ARTE
Fondazione

***FLORENCE**, the cradle of the Renaissance, is one of the most fascinating and historically rich cities in the world. Located in the heart of Tuscany, it is renowned for its extraordinary artistic, architectural, and cultural heritage. The Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore, with Brunelleschi's magnificent dome, dominates the city skyline as a symbol of genius and beauty. The Uffizi Gallery houses masterpieces by Leonardo da Vinci, Botticelli, Michelangelo, and Raphael timeless witnesses of an unparalleled era. Florence is also the birthplace of Dante Alighieri, the father of the Italian language. Its streets and squares, such as Piazza della Signoria, tell stories of centuries filled with art and power.*



MICHELANGELO:
A TIMELESS GENIUS, AN ETERNAL INSPIRATION



is widely regarded as the most famous artist of the Italian Renaissance. Among his works are the "David" and "Pieta" statues and the Sistine Chapel frescoes. Painter, sculptor, architect and poet Michelangelo Buonarroti is considered one of the most talented artists of the Italian Renaissance, with works including the "David" and "Pieta" statues and the ceiling paintings of Rome's Sistine Chapel, including the "Last Judgment". Born to a family of moderate means in the banking business, Michelangelo became an apprentice to a painter before studying in the sculpture gardens of the powerful Medici family. What followed was a remarkable career as an artist, recognized in his own time for his artistic virtuosity. Michelangelo's distinctive style: a muscular precision and reality combined with an almost lyrical beauty. Two relief sculptures that survive, "Battle of the Centaurs" and "Madonna Seated on a Step," are testaments to his unique talent at the tender age of 16. Although he always considered himself a Florentine, Michelangelo lived most of his life in Rome, where he died at age 88.





Florence was Michelangelo’s artistic cradle, where he trained within the cultural circle of the Medici. Supported by Lorenzo the Magnificent, he studied ancient art and met leading figures of the Renaissance. Between 1501 and 1504, he sculpted “David,” destined to become one of the city’s symbols. For the Medici, he designed the “New Sacristy” of San Lorenzo and the “Medici Laurentian Library.” Today, the “Accademia Gallery” houses the original “David” and the celebrated “Prisoners.” His bond with Florence profoundly shaped his artistic exploration, nurtured by a dialogue between classical tradition and a new vision of humanity.
In his sculptures, physical strength combines with emotional intensity, transforming marble into an expression of inner life. The city still preserves traces of his genius through a journey encompassing art, architecture and memory.

CELEBRATING TRUE TALENT: THE INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

The dream of every artist is to leave an indelible mark of their passage on earth through their creative work. The ultimate goal is to create masterpieces that outlive the artist's own life—works destined to be admired, applauded, or even criticized by future generations. From this ideal was born the prestigious "International Prize Michelangelo", created with the purpose of recognizing and promoting the work of painters, sculptors, photographers, digital artists, mosaicists, and illustrators who, through their creations, powerfully and authentically express their artistic vision.



The elegant hall of mirrors of Palazzo Borghese will host the award ceremony in a unique setting, rich in history and charm.

The official award ceremony will take place in Florence, the city that gave birth to the Renaissance—an emblem of rebirth and light after the darkness of previous ages. The event will be held on January 23th at Palazzo Borghese, one of the city's most elegant and historically significant venues.

The curators of the Prize, Dr. Salvatore Russo and Francesco Saverio Russo, are convinced that there are still many talented artists who remain little known or undervalued by the art market, yet deserve this recognition for the strength of their expressive language, the quality of their artistic narrative, and the distinctiveness of their style. This publication will be a volume to cherish and proudly keep in one's personal library, and the award itself a symbol to display—testimony to a milestone achievement: having earned a rightful place in the history of art.
The time has come to celebrate and honor true talent, in a city that has always lived and breathed history: Florence.



THE AWARD CEREMONY IN AN EXCLUSIVE VENUE

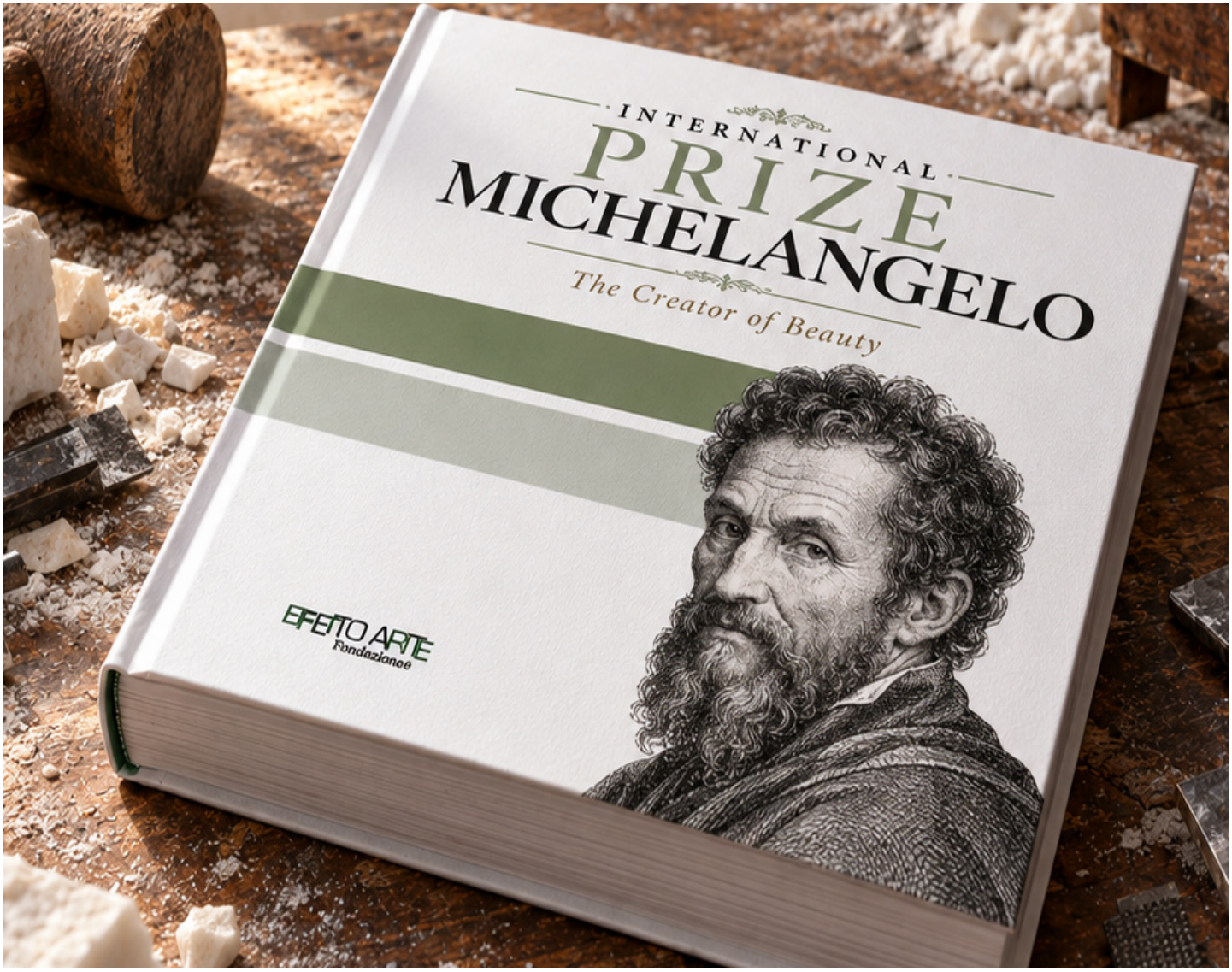
In the heart of ancient Florence, just a few steps from Piazza del Duomo and Piazza della Signoria, Palazzo Borghese stands as one of the finest examples of neoclassical architecture in the city.

Upon crossing its threshold, visitors are immediately enveloped in an atmosphere of extraordinary elegance: the grand Hall of Honour leads to the magnificent Hall of Mirrors, once the bedroom of Pauline Bonaparte.

The most recent restoration, completed in 1994, restored the palace to its original splendour while equipping it with all the modern comforts needed to host prestigious events and gatherings.

Built in just six months in 1821, according to a design by Gaetano Baccani for Prince Camillo Borghese, the building harmoniously incorporates pre-existing neoclassical structures. On the exterior, it features a refined painted tabernacle depicting a Madonna and Child by Giuseppe Bezzuoli; directly opposite stands the Church of San Procopio, dating back to the 3rd century.



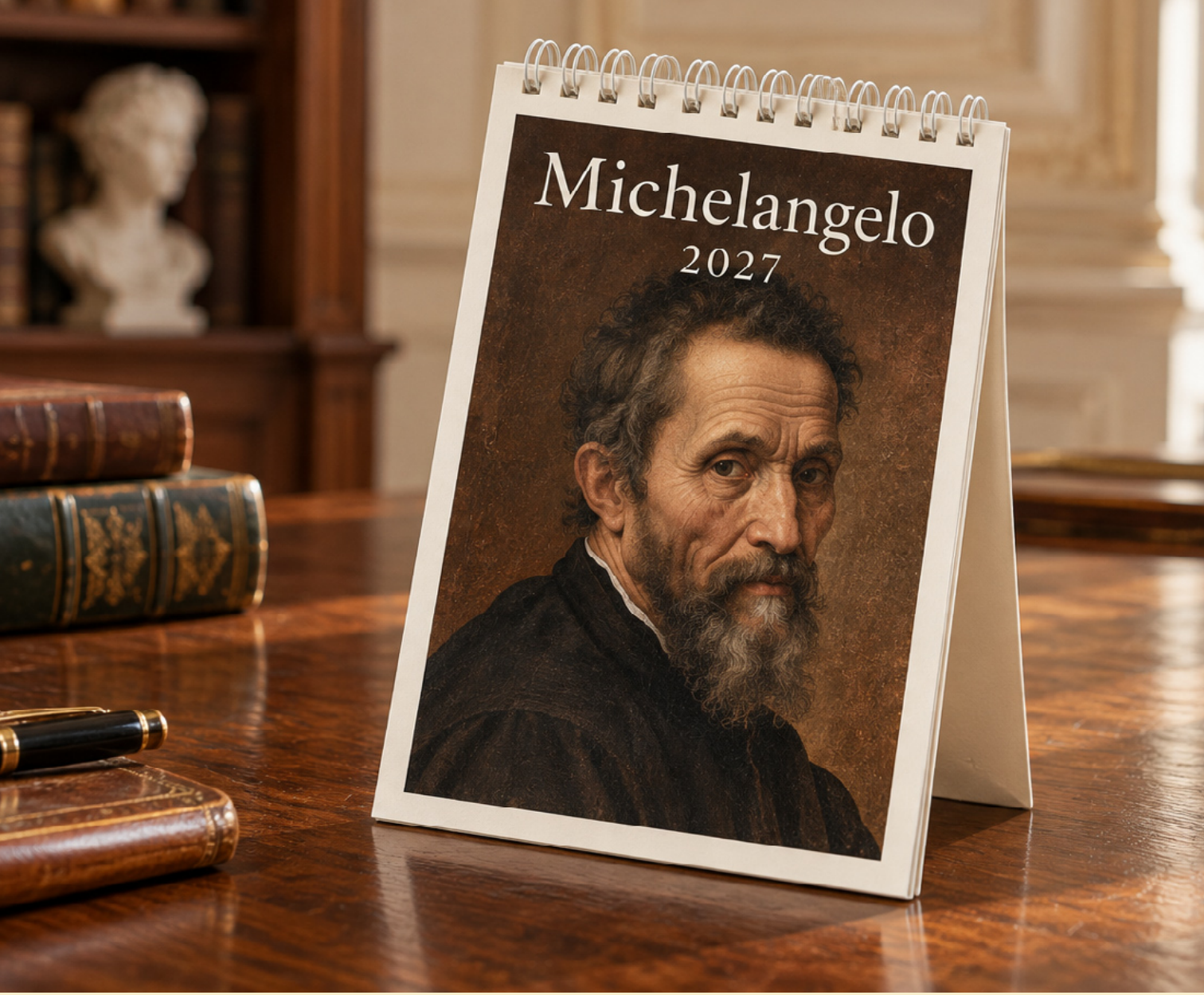


The catalog of The International Prize Michelangelo. t will be produced in accordance with the finest typographic standards and the highest quality printing techniques. Great care will be devoted to both design and materials, ensuring a publication of remarkable aesthetic and editorial value.

Each selected artist will be featured with a full-color dedicated page, allowing their work to be presented with clarity, impact, and proper recognition within an international context.



The elegant Michelangelo Prize will serve as an exclusive and lasting memento of the event, celebrating the artist's talent and the significance of the journey that has led to this important recognition. Receiving an artistic award means far more than obtaining a plaque bearing one's name: it is a tribute to the talent, creativity, and dedication that inspire an artist's work. It is an experience that transcends the physical award, affirming that one's contribution has been noticed and appreciated.



A Year Inspired by Michelangelo

All artists participating in the Michelangelo Prize will receive the elegant Michelangelo 2027 desk calendar as a gift. Celebrating the timeless beauty of the Master's art, it will accompany them throughout the year as a daily source of inspiration and a lasting reminder of this special occasion.

THE ARTISTIC PROJECT INVOLVES:

Full-page publication in the catalog of the International Michelangelo Prize (format 21 × 24 cm).

Awarding of the International Michelangelo Prize, an elegant personalised plaque.

A copy of the catalogue.

Michelangelo 2027 desk calendar.

Digital invitation to the awards ceremony, to be held on 23th January 2027 at Palazzo Borghese in Florence.

Exclusive cocktail party.

Professional photography during the awards ceremony.



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The Effetto Arte Foundation's projects are conceived to give visibility to talented artists, fostering freedom of expression and the right to creativity.
Through the collective contribution of participating artists, the Foundation makes it possible for everyone to take part in significant exhibition events, within a prestigious and collaborative setting.