



## THE ST. REGIS VENICE, MUSE OF THE ARTS

*Located at The City's Best Address, The St. Regis Venice Features a Unique Selection of Contemporary Art Installations*

**Venice, Italy** - October 3, 2019 – Following a full-scale renovation, restoring the grandeur of the former Grand Hotel Britannia, which opened in 1895 – the same year as the inaugural Venice Biennale, The St. Regis Venice, is now ready to welcome its guests and art connoisseurs traveling to Venice. The St. Regis Venice, situated across the Grand Canal from Punta della Dogana and Santa Maria della Salute, marries its celebrated heritage with the St. Regis brand's modern design and bespoke service throughout a unique collection of five Venetian palaces with the oldest dating back to the 17th century.

Throughout its storied history, The St. Regis Venice, in its various guises, has played host to a roster of illustrious guests, global influencers and tastemakers. The five 'palazzi' that make up the hotel enjoy a position of privilege overlooking the Grand Canal, with Badoer Tiepolo being the oldest palazzo, which dates back to the 17th century. By the 19th century, palazzi Tiepolo, Barozzi and Regina were converted into the Gran Britannia Hotel, more recently known as Hotel Europa & Regina. The Grand Hotel Britannia attracted notable intellectuals and socialites as well as renowned painters J.M.W. Turner, John Singer Sargent and Claude Monet, who in the autumn of 1908 was inspired by the hotel's spectacular views during his stay as a guest and worked to capture the passage of light in his artwork.

Renovated in its design by London-based Interior Design Studio Sagrada, each room of The St. Regis Venice has been reverently furnished to cherish the artistic and cultural heritage of the building, while also embracing the evolution of La Serenissima and the St. Regis brand's spirit of modern glamour. The exquisitely designed suites include also a two-bedroom, art-inspired Presidential Suite – a true contemporary artist's residence overlooking the Grand Canal.

### ***A Muse of the Arts***

Inspired by the Venetian masterpieces of former guest and Impressionist painter Claude Monet, the interiors of the refined guestrooms display a distinctive colour palette that represents how light changes throughout the day from dawn to dusk. The design of the public spaces pays homage to such icons as Carlo Scarpa, one of Venice's greatest artists and architects. Venetian styling is seen throughout the hotel in tailored fabrics and custom, handcrafted furnishings inspired by the gentle curves of gondolas, the patterns of the Doge's Palace, the pavements of St. George's churchyard and the water flow of the canal. An eclectic collection of artwork and sculptures inspired by the artistic heritage of the city will also be curated, bringing ancient Venice to today's luxury travellers in a modern way. Paying homage to the hotel's tradition of welcoming famed artists, The St. Regis Venice will host artists from around the world to take residence and create unique pieces inspired by



the hotel and its beloved locale. The hotel's first resident artist, Parisian **Olivier Masmonteil**, has been commissioned to create original artworks for the Gran Salone and the Monet Suites. The Venetian tradition of glassmaking also lives on, celebrated through a partnership with **Glasstress, the creative project of Berengo Studios**. This unique project marries contemporary art and historical glass blowing techniques, inviting world-class artists of various disciplines to collaborate with Murano Maestros (masters) to create one-of-a-kind glass works of art. Many of these iconic masterpieces are now on display at The St. Regis Venice, thanks to the detailed and attentive work of British art curator **Robin Greene**.

Strolling along an ideal exhibition tour through the hotel, the ***The Fish*** by Marta **Klonowska**, placed in the Long Gallery, welcomes the guests arriving from the Grand Canal. The colorful artwork is a piece made as a vivid assembly of jagged glass, a subject taken from a famous Japanese painting of a jumping Salmon. Accompanying this considered masterpiece in the Long Gallery is ***Tony Cragg's Tower***, interrogating beauty to be found in the building blocks that constitute a secure structure.

In the adjacent Arts Bar, true to its name, a piece by **Erwin Wurm** is on display, in a playful game of echoes between the soft shapes of the glass object, its colour and the intimate and private atmosphere of the bar. ***Fat Bus*** by Wurm certainly makes people look, presenting a classic VW van fit to bursting, its proportions warped as it seems to inflate, its new volume causing its form to apparently bend and curve.

Moving on to the Gran Salone, four stunning paintings of Olivier Masmonteil adorn the walls and capture the guests' eyes, through a contemporary interpretation on four of **Tintoretto's finest masterpieces**. Making the paintings relive again, echoing to each other in a group conversation from a wall to another, Masmonteil says "I like the flaming side of Tintoretto's chromatic scale and the violent ones, juxtaposed contrasts of shadows and light." The canvases dialogue with **Massimiliano Pelletti's** heads sculpture, ***Erosions***, conceived as if the wind had caressed the stone for years.

Entering the hotel from the Campo, guests will find the hotel's Library on their right, with its urbane atmosphere and curated selection of books and art. On the shelves, Tony Cragg's ***Untitled*** piece of art, is a geometric ensemble developed vertically and perfectly blended with the soft décor of the room. In this refined ambiance, we get the chance to meet **Jaume Plensa** with the triptych of faces ***See No Evil, Hear No Evil, Speak No Evil***. Towards the end of the room, next to a very intimate set of armchairs, ***Beauts Vir*** by **Luigi Benzoni** is placed: another human face made with the artist's signature technique, using glass paste to secure the image in gold leaf inside glass. To finish the artistic ornament of the Library, ***Figurines*** by **Karen La Monte** gently lie on the shelves.

In the front desk area and along the hallway that leads to the opposite wing of the building, another work by Plensa converse silently with the guests: ***Duna***, a solemn girl face, with her eyes closed. This piece, made of "silk glass" just like the others, with her totemic allure, is a replica of a bronze sculpture realized by the artist for Glasstress exclusively. Here, vitrines that complement the spaces of The St. Regis Venice also present an exquisite selection of artworks by **Erwin Wurm** belonging to his famed "***One Minute Sculpture***", such as ***Waiting***



and **Vater und Mutter**, in which the artist provides an invigorating way of viewing how often status symbols stand for more than their physical forms allow.

The luminous and welcoming *St. Regis Bar* is the home to **Untitled View** by **Goldschmied and Chiari**, that, from the wall opposite to the bar counter, reflects the buzz and the lively rhythms of such an epicurean space. From a certain perspective, it also returns fairly the light games that only Venice on its waters builds in the memory of the visitors.

Many other extraordinary art pieces are located in the rooms and in the suites, giving the guests a sense of total immersion in an environment populated with art. The St. Regis Venice is proud to name itself as a muse of the arts, cultivating the vanguard and keeping alive its centuries-old legacy.

For more information or to book, please visit [stregisvenice.com](https://stregisvenice.com).

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#### **About Robin Greene**

Robin Greene Art and Design Consultancy, based in London, procures both existing and bespoke contemporary art, sculptures, prints, paintings, photography and art installations for luxury interior design firms and hotel groups worldwide. With an extensive global network of world class artists & galleries, the consultancy curates collections for the hospitality, commercial and residential markets. Robin Greene also works with select private clients to procure high-value post-war contemporary art. Alongside the Art Consultancy, with over twenty-five years of experience across fashion, textiles and print design, Robin Greene runs a multi-award winning design studio that produces commissioned artworks and art installations world-wide.

#### **About The St. Regis Venice**

The ultimate sophisticate and arbiter, The St. Regis Venice combines historic legacy with modern luxury in a privileged location beside the Grand Canal surrounded by views of Venice's most iconic landmarks. Through a meticulous restoration of the unique collection of five Venetian palaces, the hotel's design celebrates the modern spirit of Venice, boasting **130 guestrooms and 39 suites**, many with furnished private terraces with incomparable views of the city. Uncompromising glamour extends naturally to the hotel's restaurants and bars, which offers a range of exquisite dining and beverage options for Venetians and visitors alike including the private Italianate Garden (a refined space for local tastemakers and guests to mingle), **Gio's Restaurant & Terrace** (the hotel's signature restaurant), and The Arts Bar, where cocktails have been specially created to celebrate masterpieces of art. For celebratory gatherings and more formal functions, the hotel offers a choice of areas that can be easily transformed and personalised to host guests, supported by an extensive menu of inspirational cuisine. Crafted occasions are held in the Library, with its urbane atmosphere, in the well-appointed Lounge, or in its adjacent Astor Boardroom. The Canaletto Room embodies the contemporary spirit of a Venetian palazzo and impressive ballroom, presenting an ideal backdrop for significant celebrations. For more information, please visit [stregisvenice.com](https://stregisvenice.com).



**About St. Regis Hotels & Resorts**

Combining classic sophistication with a modern sensibility, St. Regis Hotels & Resorts, part of Marriott International, Inc., is committed to delivering exceptional experiences at over 40 luxury hotels and resorts in the best addresses around the world. Since the opening of the first St. Regis hotel in New York City over a century ago by John Jacob Astor IV, the brand has remained committed to an uncompromising level of bespoke and anticipatory service for all of its guests, delivered flawlessly by signature St. Regis Butler Service. For more information and new openings, visit [stregis.com](http://stregis.com) or follow Twitter, Instagram and Facebook. St. Regis is proud to participate in Marriott Bonvoy, the new name of Marriott's travel program replacing Marriott Rewards®, The Ritz-Carlton Rewards®, and Starwood Preferred Guest® (SPG). The program offers members an extraordinary portfolio of global brands, experiences on Marriott Bonvoy Moments and unparalleled benefits including earning points toward free hotel stays and nights toward Elite status recognition. To enroll for free or for more information about the program, visit [MarriottBonvoy.marriott.com](http://MarriottBonvoy.marriott.com).

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