

## DANZA DEL MARE

*A Symbol of the MSC Foundation's efforts to protect the Sea  
An expression of dedication, hope and care.*

The sublime sculpture **Danza del Mare** was created for the MSC Foundation in partnership with **Venini**, one of the world's most esteemed glassmakers in the world which this year celebrates its 100 Anniversary. As a work of art, the creation, symbolises MSC Foundation's dedication to protecting and promoting the natural environment of which we are a part and upon which we depend: **our Blue Planet**. The sculpture was designed by Monica Guggisberg and Philip Baldwin for MSC Seashore and is located in the MSC Foundation Centre, rising from deck 5 to deck 8, surrounded by a mirror wall that proliferates the light and colours emanating from it, lit by a spotlight located in its base.

*"In the course of these one hundred years of history and passion, VENINI has preserved and interpreted a unique artistic heritage that has its origins in the 13th-century Venetian culture, creating distinctive works that combine the profound knowledge of tradition with the allure of contemporary tastes.*

*Venini is proud to have contributed through its expertise and craftsmanship to creating this unique sculpture celebrating the sea and its beauties."*

**Silvia Damiani – President of VENINI and Vicepresident of the DAMIANI Group**

*"Our vision is to restore the critical balance between people and nature within a generation, focusing on the **environmental protection** of aquatic and marine ecosystems in particular. Venini and the MSC Foundation share a deep love of the sea and mutual commitment to protecting it."*

**Daniela Picco - Executive Director of the MSC Foundation**

Some curious details about "Danza del Mare":

- Monica Guggisberg and Philip Baldwin are the designers of this beautiful creation realized by VENINI.
- The VENINI Team has supported the engineering and technical development of this colossal installation which is 12 metres high and hand made in every part.
- Every glass fish and ball is a unique hand-blown creation.
- Spiral design that tapers toward the centre and has a top diameter of approximately 3 metres.
- 10 vertical cables and a spotlight that shines upward.
- Around 190 fish of many colours – red, yellow and amethyst – in three sizes (32, 38 and 42 cm), swimming in a spiral grouped by colour, evoking the effervescent colours of water and the sea.

The design uses the magical, fluid medium of glass to express the fluidity of the seas and everything in them, animal, vegetable and mineral, coral, fish, seaweed and oxygen. The

immense depth and expanse of the sea, covering 71% of our world's surface, is contained in the imagery of the sculpture, in its great height and the density of its contents, as if it were the sea itself in a soaring prism of charged and moving constituents. Partly an image of Earth's lungs, partly an image of Earth's nutrition and partly an image of simple beauty, it symbolises the sea's indispensable role in our and our planet's wellbeing. We are dependent upon it. It is not dependent upon us.

And yet. In its very fragility, the sculpture also expresses the fragility of its subject, the degree to which all ecosystems exist in a delicate balance, which must – for our own as well as their health – be respected, maintained and nurtured. That is the deep underlying message of this work of art, reminding and inspiring all of us to treat water and its teeming life with the greatest respect and honour. Given the beauty and abundance of everything it offers, how can we fail to do so?

MSC Seashore will be the perfect location for the sculpture, bringing its message of care for the sea to thousands of voyagers as the ship sails immersed every day in the wonders of the world's oceans and seas, their rich and infinitely varied splendour.

***VENINI: history, artistic excellence, an all-Italian passion***

Founded in 1921 in Murano by the Milanese lawyer Paolo Venini and the Venetian antique dealer Giacomo Cappellin, VENINI is renowned around the world for its artistic and cultural excellence and its fine creations. Since the company was founded, the master glass-makers have always been the heart and strength of the glass company; in the world of glass, there are no schools, only lessons that are passed down with words, gestures and movements. These noble artisans dedicate most of their lives to the art of glass, evermore perfecting their abilities and skills. Their techniques express the rational soul of the works, the sum of the rules that make the transformation of an idea or a design into reality possible. One of the distinctive elements of VENINI is its prestigious chromatic palette composed of over 125 fascinating and refined colours that are the result of reflections, experiments and detailed research aimed at creating new combinations.

Through its one hundred year history, VENINI has succeeded in establishing a dialogue between this millenary history and the creativity of designers such as Vittorio Zecchin, Napoleone Martinuzzi, Tomaso Buzzi, Tyra Lungren, Carlo Scarpa, Gio Ponti, Paolo Venini, Fulvio Bianconi, Tapio Wirkkala, Timo Sarpaneva, Thomas Stearns, Ludovico and Alessandro Diaz De Santillana, Laura de Santillana, Tobia Scarpa, Benjami Moore, Dan Dailey, Toots Zinsky, Toni Zuccheri, Gae Aulenti, Ettore Sottsass, Mimmo Rotella, Alessandro Mendini, Monica Guggisberg and Philip Baldwin, Emmanuel Babled, Doriana and Massimiliano Fuksas, Cini Boeri, Rodolfo Dordoni, Giorgio Vigna, Tadao Ando, Fernando and Humberto Campana, Flo Perkins, Fabio Novembre, Michela Cattai, Mario Bellini, Studio Job, Barber & Osgerby, Hani Rashid and Lise Anne Couture, Ron Arad and Peter Marino, among others. The company's appeal has always attracted talents and creative individuals from around the world, giving them the desire and freedom to express themselves and tell their stories. This encounter has given life to particularly rich artistic production in terms of style, shape, and expressive languages.

Paying homage to the company's mastery and artistic journey, in addition to the surprising historical archive, in 2008 the idea of the VENINI Museum was born. Located in Murano, in the company's historic facilities, the space goes beyond that of a mere chronological exposition, to accompany enthusiasts on a journey free of temporal and spatial structures, where visitors can immerse, reflect and feel moved. The historical archive contains more than 45,000 original drawings, 10,000 old pictures depicting architectural installations and exhibits from the past, but also events and figures who have collaborated with the company, and over 5,000 works, among which are very rare drawings by famous authors, often loaned to the most important international museums for exhibits dedicated to the history of the company and Murano glass.

Thanks to this priceless historical value, VENINI creations have become a part of the collections of prestigious museums such as the Metropolitan Museum and the MOMA of New York, the Fondazione Cartier and the Centre Georges-Pompidou in Paris, the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam, the Österreichisches Museum für angewandte Kunst of Vienna, the Musée des Beaux Arts of Montreal, the Eretz Museum of Tel Aviv, the Watari Museum of Contemporary Art of Tokyo and the Shanghai Museum of Glass, but also the Triennale of Milan and the Museo del Vetro of Murano.

VENINI has always created objects with a timeless design that increase in value over time. Thanks to their elevated quality, high artistic aesthetic and manufacturing value, VENINI creations are sold at important auctions. Indeed, the work of Murano glass that has fetched the highest price in history was created by VENINI: "*La Sentinella di Venezia*" by Thomas Stearns brought the price of 737,000 dollars in 1962.



Since 2016, the company has been managed by the DAMIANI Group that also controls the international high-end jewellery brand of the same name. The company has set out a series of plans for growth aimed at generating global value of Made in Italy production.

#### **ABOUT THE MSC FOUNDATION:**

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### ***For our blue planet and its most vulnerable communities***

The non-profit MSC Foundation was established to implement the MSC Group's marine conservation, humanitarian and sustainable development commitments worldwide, utilising MSC's global reach and unique knowledge of the sea to protect and nurture our blue planet, its peoples and our shared heritage.

Focusing these activities, the Foundation has a clear and pressing purpose, set out in its VISION statement: To restore the critical balance between people and nature within a generation.

Concentrating on four areas – the Environment, Community Support, Education and Emergency Relief – the Foundation promotes the restoration and sustainable management of ecosystems, empowers vulnerable communities around the world to realize their full potential, supports equitable and inclusive quality education to foster enduring individual and collective development, and helps disaster-struck populations toward recovery.

The Foundation works to achieve this both independently and with dedicated partners: independently, by leveraging MSC Group engagement in designing and managing projects, connecting communities, raising awareness and mobilising the financial support of thousands of people, and together with trusted partners selected for their expertise, solid reputation, strong innovative vision or track record for effective action.

The MSC Foundation is family-led and reflects the vision and values of its founders.

The MSC Foundation is currently supporting 6 programmes around the world: the Super Coral Programme (Ocean Cay Marine Reserve, Bahamas), Plastic Waste Goes to School (Côte d'Ivoire) with partner UNICEF, Guardian Dolphins (Mediterranean) and NauticinBlu (Italy) with Marevivo, The Ship of Hope (Senegal) with Mercy Ships, the Parco del Mare (Italy) with Helpcode and Genoa City Council, and undertakes prompt emergency response actions where needs are greatest.

For more information contact:

[info@mscfoundation.org](mailto:info@mscfoundation.org)

MSC Foundation

Chemin Rieu 12-14, 1208 Geneva, Switzerland

<https://mscfoundation.org>