

Art world's tips for the Venice Biennale

Leading figures tell us what they're looking forward to and how they unwind in the Italian city

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Venice Biennale (Image: © Andrea Avezzù. Courtesy of la Biennale di Venezia)

Tracey Moffatt
Artist, Australian pavilion

What are you looking forward to seeing at this year's Biennale?

I am looking forward to finally installing my exhibition *My Horizon* in the wonderful new Australian Pavilion. For 15 months, I have been holed up in my studio in Sydney working on my works, and I can't wait to see them with real gallery lighting. As well, after the vernissage period has quietened down and the art world goes home, I want to explore the whole of the Venice Biennale. I just know that some works will blow my mind.

Why does Venice still matter?

Because so many countries are represented. We experience extreme dynamics and see art works from smaller countries that produce astounding works seemingly out of thin air—in contrast to the fascinating decadence of Damien Hirst.

How do you relax and unwind during the Biennale?

There is NO relaxation. The Venice Biennale and its visual art madness makes me all a-jitter. I don't want to miss a thing and I don't need a sedative.