

PRESS RELEASE

The Commune of Grimaud and the Szczesny Art Foundation present a large-scale exhibition by the artist Stefan Szczesny.

Nestled between the Gulf of Saint-Tropez and the Maures mountains, overlooking the Mediterranean and the surrounding plain, the village of Grimaud – *Grimaldus, Grimaldo* – was built on the hillside, below the ramparts of its castle, erected in the 11th century, property of the Viscounts of Marseille and then, from the 17th century, of the Castellane family. A place of history and tradition, the commune, with its vast territory and rich terroir, occupies a central place in the cultural and economic development of the Communauté des Communes of the Gulf of Saint-Tropez, attracting a large public, conquered by the beauty of its medieval and Provençal architectural heritage as well as by the breathtaking landscapes which are spread out near the Chartreuse de la Verne.

For the 2022 summer season, the Mayor of Grimaud, Alain Benedetto, has invited the internationally renowned artist Stefan Szczesny to take over the commune, a unique setting for his new exhibition "Szczesny Art Project", which takes the form of an artistic journey through the emblematic places of the village, a source of inspiration for the artist. Visitors can discover the artist's monumental sculptures, installations spread throughout the village (near the Moulin Saint-Roch, in the ruins of the Château, on the Town Hall square, on the Place de l'Eglise Saint-Michel, at the entrance to the Chapelle des Pénitents...) and its surroundings (notably Port-Grimaud, the Golf-Club de Beauvallon, the Pépinière Pierre Basset...), as well as his paintings adorning some of the Village walls. A series of ceramics as well as a set of works on paper are displayed in the Maison des Arcades, one of the exhibition spaces in Grimaud. Glass sculptures and recent paintings by the painter are also exhibited at the Studio Paon, located Place de l'Église, as well as at the Maison Prestige Roberto Geissini.

The exhibition takes the form of a dialogue between the artist's work and the history of the commune of Grimaud. The sculptures, as well as the painter's interventions on certain walls, underline their architectural beauty -

giving them an exotic note by the insertion of plant motifs - and express Stefan Szczesny's commitment for the preservation of the diversity of Grimaud's cultural heritage.

C.S-B.

AN EXHIBITION ORGANIZED BY THE COMMUNE OF GRIMAUD

Alain Benedetto, *Mayor of Grimaud*
Nicole Mallard, *Municipal Councillor for Culture and Exhibitions*

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ATELIER STEFAN SZCZESNY with ENDOWMENT FUND "SZCZESNY ART FOUNDATION"

Céline Seidler-Bahougne, *Curator & Organisation*
Hélène Fincker, *Press Agent*
Andreas Bergmann, *Technical Direction*

The „Szczesny Art Project-Grimaud“ event brings together nearly 100 works by the artist. It is organised by the City of Grimaud, the Atelier Stefan Szczesny in collaboration with the Endowment fund „Szczesny Art Foundation“ and in partnership with Pépinières Pierre Basset, Poterie des 3 Terres, Atelier Peter Thumm, Studio Paon, Maison Prestige Roberto Geissini and the Cosmo Art & Science Foundation, located in Germany.

Exhibition from 27.05. to 15.10.2022.

