

Charlotte Colbert

Possible Landscapes

Curated by **Yasmine Helou**

Organized by **Chiara Bordin**

Presented during **La Biennale di Venezia**

6 May – 30 September 2026

Palazzo Corner della Ca' Granda & Aman Venice

Opening cocktail

Tuesday 5 May, 6pm (by invitation)

Palazzo Corner della Ca' Granda, Venice

"Il faut cultiver notre jardin"
Voltaire

Charlotte Colbert brings her latest installation, **Possible Landscapes**, to the Venice Biennale Arte 2026: a visionary journey through dream and imagination presenting **surrealist sculptures** that blur the boundaries between reality, fiction, and symbolism. Curated by **Yasmine Helou**, the exhibition unfolds along the **Grand Canal**, beginning with a monumental sculpture installed in the **garden of Palazzo Corner della Ca' Granda**. This initial work conceptually extends to four additional installations situated in the manicured gardens of **Aman Venice** at **Palazzo Papadopoli**, together forming an expanded, almost mystical garden dispersed along the canal.

The British-French artist and filmmaker engages with the city, unfolding in startling installations suspended between dream and imagination, substance and symbolism, fiction and reality. This project, conceived specifically for Venice, is the tangible results of Charlotte Colbert's spirited approach to life and positive exuberance. Richly adorned in meaningful gestures, **Possible Landscapes** is a mystical blend of Nature's appreciation, beliefs and spiritual awakening, bringing the audience back to familiar references while pushing the boundaries of the multiple ways of perceiving reality in a context built by contrasts – a reflection of Venice itself, the epitome of the contemporary paradox.

The exhibition brings together works in stainless steel, each conceived as a distinct threshold between the visible and the imagined. At Palazzo Corner della Ca' Granda, the titular sculpture **Possible Landscapes** anchors the show: a monumental arch surmounted by a single eye – symbol of consciousness, vision and creative potential – that stands as a portal between inner and outer worlds, inviting the viewer to cross into new imaginative territories. Celebrated musician BIRDY devised a lyrical soundscape in collaboration with Colbert to be played within the space for the opening event.

In the gardens of Aman Venice, **Where Angels Live** – a polished steel tree adorned with votive-like forms, relics, milagros, and amulets – evokes the healing power of belief and the sacred mystery of natural forms, drawing on Colbert's own journeys through Mexico and along the Camino de Santiago. **Supernatural Tendencies** reinterprets the fairy-tale wishing well as a site of intention, projection, and desire: cast in reflective metal, the sculpture mirrors both its surroundings and the viewer. Finally, **There is Light Somewhere** – a sculptural lantern accompanied by a series of hanging pendants dispersed throughout the garden – extends the work into the landscape, creating an immersive environment.

“We live in imagined structures. Everything around us was imagined by someone before. Clothes, cities, political systems. What we imagine today becomes tomorrow’s reality. The more impossible it seems to reimagine what the future might look like the more essential it becomes.”

– Charlotte Colbert

On the occasion of *Possible Landscapes*, **Count Giberto Arrivabene Valenti Gonzaga invites Charlotte Colbert to curate and intervene on the window of his boutique** in Venice on Rialto Bridge n2, where a selection of her sculptures will be installed in conversation with his designs. The display window will be visible starting from the opening week and will remain on view for one month.

Earlier this year Colbert opened two 30-foot public works in New York’s Flatiron Nomad and Meatpacking districts. Entitled **Chasing Rainbows**, it transforms Manhattan’s pedestrian plazas with monumental reflective steel sculptures bringing surreal, archetypal forms into the heart of the city’s urban landscape. She also recently completed the filming on her second directorial feature **Becoming Capa** starring Esther McGregor, Mark Eydeleyteyn, Danny Huston, and Clemence Poesy. Written and directed by Colbert, it tells the story of famed War Photographers Gerda Taro and Robert Capa.

“Collective imagination is the basis of the structures we live in and we can’t let those be taken away from us. We have to imagine our own futures, not let them be imagined for us”

– Charlotte Colbert

Charlotte Colbert

Charlotte Colbert is a multimedia artist and multi-award-winning filmmaker, dubbed by the London Standard as “a natural born magician” and described as “the lovechild of Salvador Dalí and Emily Dickinson”. A creative force whose BIFA nominated directorial feature **She Will** was critically highlighted by New York Times, Guardian and the Sunday Times and won the Golden Leopard for Best First Picture.

Her work has been shown in public spaces, galleries, art fairs and institutions internationally, including the V&A, the Egypt Museum in Cairo, Montpellier Contemporain, and Art Basel. She has also collaborated with brands such as Four Seasons Hotels, The Conran Shop and Alexander McQueen, and worked with the likes of Kate Nash, Isobel Waller-Bridge, Cillian Murphy, and Bill Nighy to name a few. She is currently developing large-scale public installations across the US, UK and Italy. Her work has strong philosophical undertones and often explores themes of narrative, time, identity, dreams and the unconscious.

Yasmine Helou

Yasmine Helou is an Italian-Lebanese curator and cultural projects manager based in Venice, whose practice centers on cross-cultural dialogue and the shifting production of meaning in contemporary contexts. Educated in Paris, Venice, and London, she holds degrees from ICART, IED Venice, and the Royal College of Art.

Helou has worked with major institutions, including the Venice Art Biennale. She later led exhibitions and events at Venice Art Projects, focusing on site-specific projects in unconventional spaces. Her international practice spans Europe, the Middle East, and the Americas, with recent exhibitions in Venice, London, Paris, and Mexico City. She is also active as a lecturer, panelist, and residency curator.

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