

THE ULTIMATE COMPANION TO THE VENICE BIENNALE

PROTOTYPE TEST RESULT SAMPLE June 2025

Filled in by	Pjotr
Age	25
First time at Venice Biennale	Yes
Background	Plumber from Poland
Interests / Company	cfun things for kids about architecture, future of plumbing, china
Visit time	Half day
Visit informed by	Louis Kahn
Like reading in exhibitions ? [0-10]	3
Hopes to find	future of plumbing, china
Guide preference	Local Venetian Architect / Starchitect / Eco-conscious guide

CHAT WITH GUIDE



Allora! I'm Sebastiano, your Venice Biennale guide. Welcome to the Venice Biennale! It's wonderful to have you here, and don't worry, I'm here to make your first experience unforgettable. Think of me as your personal guide, ready to navigate you through this incredible world of art and architecture. We'll explore together and discover things that pique your interest, especially with your background and interests in mind. Let's make this a fantastic visit, Pjotr!

S Can you please create a custom tour for me?



Based on your interests, I have found a couple of fascinating exhibits that I think you will enjoy.

First, we should visit the **Macao, China exhibit**. This is perfect for your interest in China and architecture. The exhibit explores the unique urban landscape of Macao, which they describe as being composed of "four worlds" coexisting side by side – the historic old town, the vibrant casino city, the modern new city, and the invisible digital city. You will see detailed architectural models of the city, showcasing the blend of old and new structures. It's a wonderful way to see how a city evolves and manages different identities, which might spark some interesting thoughts about urban development and infrastructure, perhaps even the plumbing that supports these different "worlds"! You can find the Macao exhibit in its dedicated pavilion near the Arsenale. While you are there, be sure to also look at the striking photographs on the walls that capture various aspects of Macao's urban life and architecture.

Next, we can move on to the **Germany exhibit** in the Giardini. This pavilion focuses on sustainability in architecture and urban planning, which aligns perfectly with your interest in sustainability and the future of plumbing. You will see displays and graphics illustrating concepts like green facades, green roofs, urban trees, and permeable surfaces, and how these contribute to temperature reduction and a more sustainable city. It's a very visual and informative exhibit that shows practical applications of sustainable design in urban environments. This could give you some great ideas about how sustainability is being integrated into the built world, which is certainly relevant to the future of plumbing and infrastructure. The Germany exhibit is located in its national pavilion. As you explore the German pavilion, take note of the large-scale wall graphics; they present complex ideas in a very clear and engaging way.

These two exhibits offer a good mix of your interests in architecture, China, and sustainability, and should fit well within your half-day visit. We can explore these at a comfortable pace, allowing you time to observe the details and reflect on the themes presented. I hope this plan sounds good to you, Pjotr! We will have a great time exploring these fascinating parts of the Biennale together.

S Do you have any other recommendations?



Beyond the Macao and Germany exhibits we discussed, you should definitely consider visiting the Singapore exhibit. This pavilion is focused on "NATIONAL PLANNING FOR AN INCLUSIVE CITY" and "PLANS FOR LAND-USE INTELLIGENCES." It delves into the history and evolution of urban planning in Singapore, showcasing how the city has been deliberately shaped over time with a focus on balancing growth, liveability, and cohesion. This ties in wonderfully with your interest in architecture and

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sustainability, as it highlights how a modern city plans for its future, including infrastructure. You'll get to see a large-scale model of Singapore with projection mapping that visualizes the city's urban future, as well as informative panels explaining their planning strategies and key projects like the Tuas Mega Port and Tengah Town. It's a great way to see how urban development and sustainability are tackled on a national scale, which is very relevant to the future of urban living and the systems that support it, like plumbing.

While perhaps less directly related to your core interests, the Denmark exhibit also touches upon architecture and materials, featuring installations with concrete blocks and rubble that explore themes of construction and deconstruction. It could offer a different perspective on the built environment.

So, to recap, in addition to the fascinating Macao exhibit with its exploration of urban identity and the Germany exhibit focusing on sustainable urban solutions, I highly recommend the Singapore exhibit for its deep dive into urban planning and future city development.

S How does this biennale compare to previous biennales?



The current Venice Architecture Biennale in 2025 is themed "Intelligens. Natural. Artificial. Collective." This theme centers on the different types of intelligence – natural, artificial, and collective – and how they relate to architecture and the built environment. It's a very forward-looking theme, exploring how technology, nature, and human collaboration can shape the future of our cities and buildings.

Looking back at the previous Architecture Biennale in 2023, the theme was set by the influential curator Lesley Lokko. While the specific theme name might vary in how it's referenced, Lokko's approach often focused on themes of decolonization, decarbonization, and the role of Africa in shaping architectural discourse. Her work brought a strong emphasis on social and environmental justice within architecture.

So, you can see a shift in focus. The 2023 Biennale, under Lokko, had a significant emphasis on social, environmental, and historical contexts, particularly from underrepresented perspectives. The 2025 Biennale, with its "Intelligens" theme, seems to be looking more towards the future and the impact of different forms of intelligence on architectural design and urban planning.

Both Biennales, however, share a common thread of addressing contemporary challenges and looking for innovative solutions in architecture. The 2025 one is perhaps more focused on technological and collaborative intelligence as drivers of change, while the 2023 one highlighted critical social and environmental issues.

I hope this gives you a good sense of how this Biennale compares to the previous one!