

The fall of the Berlin wall, by *Susanne Ruseher (NL)*

9 November 1989 represents one of the most important dates for the European Union. The fall of the Berlin wall symbolised also the end of European division, started with the Cold War, following the devastating consequences of World War II. In this large sand work the Dutch sculptress has put in the foreground the faces of two old people in a passionate and intense embrace possible only thanks to the fall of that terrible separation wall erected in 1961 that caused also the separation of families and friends. The profile of the wall can be seen only in the background, since it is not able to hold anymore the mass of men, women, and children that moved by desire of freedom, are already going across it.

60 years of Peace, by *Ilya Filimontsev*

This sculpture is the one that better represents the theme of this edition. The artist has elaborated the fundamental concepts on which the European Union is based, that is, promotion of peace, cultural, scientific, and technological progress, as well as pursuance of welfare and social cohesion between different people. To express these concepts, the Russian artist chose to put at the centre of the work a group of children, clear and metaphorical projection to the future, surrounded by wings composed of a multitude of arms symbolising universal hope. On the background of the scene stands a huge tree representing social cohesion, while the gears of a watch mark the regular and well calibrated times and dynamics. At the base the profile of a city, on which are erected solid plinths representing the incredible effort of laying the foundations to build a united future that does not forget the past from which everything originated.

The Beatles by *Richard Buckle*

This sculpture represents the cover of the famous British band's eighth album. Considered one of the masterpieces of the group and among the most important records of pop music, it has inspired many European artists and contributed to make their music the symbol of spiritual liberation from every form of conformism. The final project is interpreted by the artist with the representation of the four singers of the group surrounded by floral compositions, to recall the period of the hippy movement, on a background inspired to the British flag.

Future Dreams – the European Space Agency, by *David Ducharme (CAN)*

The sculpture represents the vision of a planetary landscape and some astronauts, among whom Samantha Cristoforetti, first Italian woman to be part of a crew for the European Space Agency.

She holds the record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman (199 days).

The sculpture presents an imaginary symmetry line that divides the scene vertically; in the left part there is a planet, while the right part is occupied by astronauts and satellites.

There is a great difference between the initial project and the final sculpture, which evidences how, in some cases, the onsite positioning and the compacting of the sand imply the necessity of changing the work compared to what had been initially planned.

The creation of Eurozone, by Radek (Radonvan) Zivney (Czech Republic) (questo è un po scarso)

The sculpture is inspired by some distinctive symbols of Europe: the hands of the creation of the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo show a giant two Euro coin, where the number two, in the intensions of the author, represents the double aspect of European currency: the benefits, but also the problems caused in some of the Eurozone countries with the introduction of a common currency, and to these countries in particular the author dedicated his work. The particular sculptural method used by this artist consists in differentiating the different surfaces that compose the work elaborating different *textures*; the “scratched” effect characterising the hands accentuates the chiaroscuro one, which instead gives greater tri-dimensionality to the sculpture.

The Erasmus Programme, by Joris Kivits (NL)

The Erasmus programme (acronym for European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students) is currently the most widely spread project of student cultural interchanges within the European Union. This particular theme is interpreted by the Dutch artist through the representation of the figure of Erasmus of Rotterdam the Dutch humanist and theologian to whom the project is inspired. He elaborated the torso of the man as a composition of words in different languages, creating this way the figure of a man composed of tri-dimensional characters, who is at the same time the centre from which ideas originate and spread, as well as the symbol of exchange and relation between different cultures.

The European Monuments, by Lucinda Wierenga (USA)

The most important architectonic works of some European countries, such as the Eiffel tower, the Colosseum, and the Reichstag, are represented in this sculpture. The composition is realised on a pyramidal structure in which the above-mentioned elements interweave to symbolise the European Union they belong to. The American artist that in 1998 participated in the first edition of Sand Sculptures in Jesolo, has been invited to this twentieth edition as special guest.

The Cannes Film Festival, by Damon Farmer (USA)

This work represents one of the most characteristic posters realised for Cannes Film Festival. Designed by Ludovic on occasion of the 42th edition of the festival of 1989 and inspired to the painting by Eugene Delacroix “Liberty leading the people”, it portrays a woman who proudly moves forward waving a film stock. The artist decided to take inspiration from this poster because of its graphic simplicity and effectiveness in transmitting the message.

The CERN- Geneva - European Organisation for Nuclear Research, by Martijn Rijerse (NL)

At the top of the sculpture, below the landscape, at a distance and therefore of very little dimensions, the tube of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) can be seen. It becomes larger and larger in a wide curve until it reaches the foreground of the work. At the base of the sculpture the tube disintegrates in many fragments, the protons, which combine trying to form a face. Thus, the structure of the particle accelerator becomes a metaphor of human existence; it is hard to complete the face, just like in a puzzle that becomes more and more complicated for each piece added.

The large mechanical eye, at the centre of the work, is the place where the beams of protons are concentrated to create the maximum possibility of collision. At the base of the eye a group of scientists gives the work a sense of spirituality; in fact, the origin of the mass, the so called *God particle*, Higgs boson, subject of research carried out by many scientists, was detected for the first time in 2012 by the experiments carried out at the CERN in Geneva, whose particle accelerator is the largest and most powerful ever realised, and the real “motor” of the same CERN, the most important physics laboratory for particles in the world. Located at 150 metres underground with a circumference of 27 km, it produces collisions to the highest energy ever reached in laboratory and thanks to the four enormous particle detectors it is possible to observe these collisions and explore still unknown territories of matter, energy, space, and time.

Sergio Dalla Mora – The 60 years of Peace emblem

This sculpture symbolises the theme chose for this edition of the event, that is, 60 years of Peace of the European Union. The work is realised with the typical style of the artist from Jesolo, characterised by originality, innovation, and a special personal touch.