

Milan, 30 January, 2015

Press Release

[www.zegnart.com](http://www.zegnart.com)

## ZEGNART / ART IN GLOBAL STORES AN INTERNATIONAL SHOWCASE FOR ITALIAN ARTISTS

**ETTORE SPALLETTI WILL BE THE PROTAGONIST OF  
ART IN GLOBAL STORES IN MIAMI WITH A PERMANENT WORK  
OF ART SPECIFICALLY COMMISSIONED FOR ERMENEGILDO  
ZEGNA**

*Milan, January 2015 – A new episode of the ZegnArt / Art in Global Stores project will be inaugurated on January 30, 2015 with the opening of Ermenegildo Zegna's boutique in Miami. The project has been designed, carried out and promoted by the Zegna Group as part of ZegnArt. ZegnArt, which was launched in 2012, is a platform that brings together in one coherent project plan all the operations that the Zegna Group realizes concerning contemporary art, attained in collaboration with artists, curators, authorities and cultural institutions.*

*ZegnArt / Art in Global Stores is a particular strategy of intervention which is based on the idea of "collection diffusion" whereby new Ermenegildo Zegna stores around the world are enriched with site specific works commissioned to mid-career artists and become showcases for the best examples of contemporary creativity. The focus of the project is represented by Italian artists. *Art in Global Stores*, curated by Cecilia Canziani and Simone Menegoi with the coordination of Andrea Zegna, is a cycle of new commissions for permanent works which are specifically conceived for the spaces that will host them. Such commissions are entrusted to Italian artists who are invited to discover the spirit and philosophy of the Zegna Group.*

For the new Global Store in Miami, the Ermenegildo Zegna Group decided to involve Ettore Spalletti, one of the most internationally appreciated Italian artists.

In 2014, three prestigious public museums in Italy (MAXXI in Rome, Museo Madre in Naples and GAM in Turin) each dedicated an exhibition to this artist, who was born in 1940 in Cappelle sul Tavo (near Pescara) and where he still lives and works today. Together, the three exhibitions generated a unitary project that represents the artist's largest retrospective.

Ettore Spalletti works in painting as well as sculpture and is inspired by the tradition of Italian art. During forty years he has developed a language which connects contemporary and classic, as well as painting, sculpture and architecture. His art is characterized by the purity and simplicity of forms,

where color becomes monochrome, inspired and creating almost tactile dimensions thanks to the use of pigments combined with chalk dust.

With the work "Lentamente azzurrato" (2014), which he specifically created for the event in Miami, Spalletti presents to the international and overseas public a direct reference to the color blue used by Giotto, and to the tradition of Italian frescoes. The artist creates a dialogue with space and with the commission itself, highlighting the central themes of his work: the relationship between painting and sculpture, the memory of classicism in combination with the contemporary, the experience of total landscape, and the exploration of monochrome painting as a universal metaphor of perception.

ZegnArt / *Art in Global Stores* expresses an essential aspect of the identity of the Group, which gives art a vital role as an indispensable instrument for research and development and brings the international audience closer to the best examples of Italian creativity.

Further information, that is constantly updated, is available on the website of the project [www.zegnart.com](http://www.zegnart.com).

*"Color, as you move, occupies space and we enter. There is no longer the frame that bounded space. Removing it, the color takes on the space and invades the space. And when this thing succeeds, it is miraculous."*  
(Ettore Spalletti, 2006)

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## SPECIFICATIONS ZEGNART / ART IN GLOBAL STORES

Artist	Ettore Spalletti
Title of the work	LENTAMENTE AZZURRATO (SLOWLY BLUED), 2014 Mixed paint on canvas, gold leaf 100 x 140 x 4 cm
Curators	Cecilia Canziani, Simone Menegoi, Andrea Zegna
Location	Miami, Boutique Ermenegildo Zegna

## ETTORE SPALLETTI

Ettore Spalletti (Cappelle sul Tavo, Pescara, 26 January, 1940) has exhibited his works in the most important museums around the world, with collective or personal exhibitions. After representing Italy at the 1997 Venice Biennale, the artist took part in three other editions of the event, in 1982, 1993 and 1995, and in two editions of Documenta in Kassel, in 1982 and 1992. The following museums have dedicated exhibitions to his works: Museum Folkwang in Essen (1982), Museum Van Hedendaagse Kunst in Gent (1983), Halle d'art contemporain in Rennes (1988), De Appel in Amsterdam, Kunstverein in Munich and Portikus in Frankfurt (1989), Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (1991), IVAM – Centre del Carme in Valencia (1992), Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York (1993), MUHKA in Antwerp (1995), Musée d'Art Moderne et Contemporain in Strasbourg (1998), Museo di Capodimonte in Naples (1999), Fundació La Caixa in Madrid (2000), Henry Moore Institute in Leeds (2005), Accademia di Francia – Villa Medici in Rome (2006), Museum Kurhaus in Kleve (2009) and Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna in Rome (2010). In 2014, MAXXI (Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI secolo) in Rome, Museo Madre in Naples, and GAM (Galleria d'Arte Moderna) in Turin organized three important exhibitions: three projects which were independent but conceived to create, together, the most complete retrospective dedicated to the artist to date.

