ALMINE RECH

Fire

Sep 25, 2025 — Mar 1, 2026 | Fondation Boghossian, Brussels, Belgium

The exhibition 'Fire' brings together around fifty modern and contemporary artists from diverse backgrounds around the captivating theme of fire.

Through a wide variety of media—sculpture, painting, installation, photography, video, or tapestry—the works explore the many faces of fire: flame, candle, electricity, smoke... From the warmth of the hearth to the gray ashes, from spark to blaze, each creation questions the symbolic, physical, and sensory power of this universal element.

From humanity's earliest beginnings, fire has both fascinated and frightened. Present in every culture, it permeates myths, rituals, and festivities – from medieval celebrations to major contemporary ceremonies such as Burning Man.

Ambivalent by nature, fire embodies both life and destruction. From the Book of Genesis / Since the beginning, fire has shone in paradise, while it also burns in hell. As the gentle, comforting flame of the hearth, it heals, illuminates, and warms. Yet it is also wildfire, devastation, and burn — conjuring an imaginary steeped in fear and violence. This duality has long inspired artists, who explore the tension between protective warmth and uncontrollable danger.

What is fire? Fire is a substance that we associate as much with emptiness as with fullness. It is transformation. The exhibition explores this enigma by delving into its many forms: natural, domestic, and symbolic.