

# GIUSEPPE PENONE

ROYAL DJURGÅRDEN • STOCKHOLM



## The Princess Estelle Cultural Foundation presents *The Inner Flow of Life* by Giuseppe Penone

On May 30, H.R.H. Prince Daniel will inaugurate the fifth permanent artwork in the Princess Estelle Sculpture Park. The title of the new sculpture is *The Inner Flow of Life* and is made by Giuseppe Penone. Other speakers at the inauguration ceremony are Minister of Culture **Parisa Liljestrand**, Ambassador of Italy **Michele Pala**, executive director **Sara Sandström** and the artist himself. **Jessika Gedin** will be master of ceremonies. A musical piece dedicated to the sculpture will be performed by composer **Daniel Bengtson**.

Giuseppe Penone is one of the most important contemporary sculptors. From his breakthrough at the end of the 60s as part of the Arte Povera movement to ambitious exhibitions at leading museums all over the world, his works explore the relation between humans and nature. The sculpture *The Inner Flow of Life*, measuring 10 metres tall and weighing 60 tonnes, is made from granite and bronze. From the winding veins of the stone, a tree springs forth with its roots towards the sky. New life flourishes in its bowl-shaped root system and the sculpture is surrounded by rough natural boulders that have been brought from different places on Djurgården. The work can be interpreted as a symbol for the force we carry within ourselves and the life that flows throughout the universe.

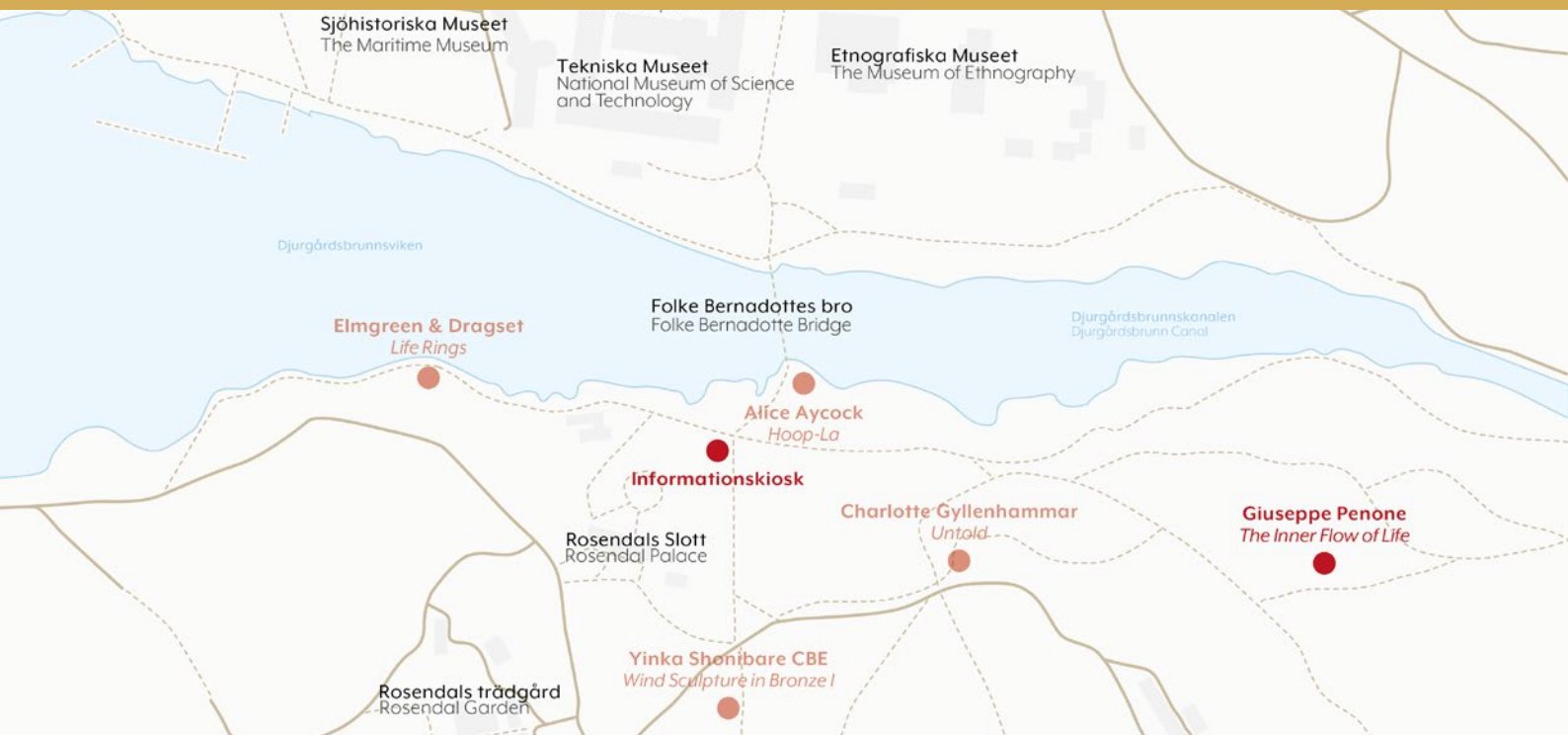
*"The first contact with Giuseppe Penone was made three years ago and has resulted in an absolutely magnificent, unique sculpture on Royal Djurgården. Penone has always worked in dialog with nature, and with *The Inner Flow of Life* he has transformed this place. Thanks to his work, a seemingly insignificant forest glade in the park has been transformed into a magical area, hopefully a future meeting place."*

– Sara Sandström, Executive Director, Princess Estelle Cultural Foundation

Giuseppe Penone has received several prestigious awards, including the Praemium Imperiale International Arts Award in 2014 and the Rolf Schock Prize for the visual arts in 2001 from the Swedish Royal Academy of Fine Arts. In 1989, Penone became the first non-British artist nominated for the Turner Prize and he was elected member of the Académie des Beaux-Arts in 2023.

The acquisition of Giuseppe Penone's sculpture has been made possible through a generous gift by Birgitta and Conni Jonsson.





## This year's program & partners

From 31 May–1 September, the Princess Estelle Cultural Foundation offers daily guided tours of the sculpture park at 1 pm. Meeting at the PREKS information kiosk, at the intersection of Folke Bernadotte bridge and de Besches väg. A catalog in Swedish and English is available to visitors as well as an audioguide read by the actor Rolf Lassgård. Giuseppe Penone has recorded the Italian version of the audioguide.

In collaboration with 12 institutions, PREKS offers activities on the theme of *the relation between humans and nature*. This year's partners are: Bildmuseet at Umeå University, Embassy of Italy, Italian Cultural Institute, Moderna Museet, Museum of Ethnography, Nationalmuseum, National Museum of Science and Technology, National Sports Museum, Rosendal Garden, Royal Djurgården Administration, Stockholm School of Economics, and the Swedish Museum of Natural History. The full programme is available on [preks.se/en](https://preks.se/en).

## Events during the inauguration week

- 28 May 5.30 pm** Exhibition and sound performance at the Italian Cultural Institute. Giuseppe Penone will be at the Institute with Director Francesco di Lella, and Ambassador Michele Pala, and PREKS executive director Sara Sandström will present this year's programme.
- 29 May 4 pm** Artist talk and film screening at Moderna Museet. Giuseppe Penone will be in conversation with director Gitte Ørskou.
- 30 May 1 pm** Official inauguration ceremony. Place: the path between Israel af Ströms väg and Rosendalsvägen, Royal Djurgården. See the map.

## Contact & more information

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## About The Princess Estelle Cultural Foundation

The Princess Estelle Cultural Foundation (PREKS) was founded in the autumn of 2019 at the initiative of the Crown Princess Couple with the mission to promote cultural activities in Sweden. There is a long-standing royal tradition in Sweden to support culture which is in line with a conviction that art and cultural activities are essential to an open, modern society. The Crown Princess Couple wishes to highlight this and demonstrate a long-term commitment through the establishment of PREKS. The initial focus has been on the development of a permanent sculpture park at Royal Djurgården in close collaboration with the Office of the Governor of the Royal Palaces and the Royal Djurgården Administration, as well as to offer educational programmes to make contemporary art accessible. The first four permanent artworks in the Princess Estelle Sculpture Park are by Alice Aycock, Elmgreen & Dragset, Yinka Shonibare CBE, and Charlotte Gyllenhammar.

The artists are selected by the Board of the Princess Estelle Cultural Foundation assisted by the artistic council consisting of Ann-Sofi Noring, Member of the board of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts and former Deputy Director of Moderna Museet in Stockholm, and Elisabeth Millqvist, Director of Moderna Museet in Malmö and former Artistic and Executive Director of Wanås Konst, and Georges Armaos, managing director of the Nordic Art Intelligence Foundation.

The Board of the Princess Estelle Cultural Foundation consists of H.R.H. Prince Daniel, Elin Annwall, Lena Josefsson, Staffan Larsson, Janne Sirén, Lars Strannegård, and chairman Johan Ericsson. The Foundation's Executive Director is Sara Sandström. The Princess Estelle Cultural Foundation is financed by private donations.