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KEHINDE WILEY

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Looking Inward, and Back, at a Biennale for the History Books

Eyes are the key metaphor in the Venice Biennale's central show of 213 artists, an unprecedented percentage of whom are women.

By Jason Farago

April 30, 2022

All this without mentioning what, from a less subtle curator, would be the headline here: this is the largest Biennale since 2005, and [some 90 percent](#) of its artists are women. Just 21 of the 213 participants are men, and all are showing in the Arsenale, Venice's former shipyard; in the classical galleries of the Giardini, the number of men is exactly zero. Elsewhere around Venice it's still the old game, with concurrent exhibitions of Anselm Kiefer, Georg Baselitz, Kehinde Wiley and other bombastic boys.