

# ALCANTARA

## **The Soul Trembles Alcantara and Chiharu Shiota at MAO Torino**

Alcantara confirms itself as a key partner of the international art world by supporting the production of two major pieces for Chiharu Shiota's exhibition at the MAO in Turin.

Since 2011 Alcantara has developed collaborations with artists and museums worldwide, providing a platform for creatives, architects and designers to express their creativity. Throughout this, the Company has remained faithful to its DNA as a material that combines technology, functionality, emotion, versatility and a certified commitment to sustainability.

In this context, Alcantara becomes a partner and an **artistic medium** in the monographic exhibition dedicated to the Japanese artist Chiharu Shiota.

Curated by Mami Kataoka, director of the Mori Art Museum, and Davide Quadrio, director of MAO, this major monographic exhibition of the Japanese artist's work will be held at MAO in Italian debut after have been hosted at a series of prestigious international institutions, including the Grand Palais, Paris, the Busan Museum of Art, the Long Museum West Bund, Shanghai, the Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane and the Shenzhen Art Museum.

It is a wide-ranging, complex, expressively powerful exhibition that traces back over all of Shiota's production. Often inspired by personal experiences, Chiharu Shiota's works explore the intangible – memories, emotions, dream-like images and visions, offering silent spaces for contemplation. Her most famous installations create monumental structures, enveloping the spaces where they are installed, transforming them and leading the visitor through an immersive experience in which fascination alternates with anxiety, movement with stasis.

Alcantara's first collaboration with Chiharu Shiota dates back to dates to 2018, when the Japanese artist created the installation **Reflection of Space and Time** for *Nine Journeys Through Time* exhibition, held at the Palazzo Reale in Milan.

Imagined as a universal space for preserving the memories of humanity, the installation features a dense, monochrome web – a hallmark of Shiota's work, for which 110 km of Alcantara yarn was used – which envelops a structure containing two iconic white dresses created in Alcantara.

This installation later became part of the solo exhibition *The Soul Trembles*.

The artist also used Alcantara material in another major work featured in the retrospective, **In Silence**. In this piece, an immense black web of Alcantara envelops a burnt piano surrounded by audience seating. Very different from the materials previously used for this artwork, Alcantara offers an unexpected and even more visionary interpretation of one of the artist's most iconic installations thanks to its sensory and functional characteristics.

# ALCANTARA

**Alcantara S.p.A.** – [www.alcantara.com](http://www.alcantara.com)

Founded in 1972, Alcantara represents one of the leading Made in Italy brands. A registered trademark of Alcantara S.p.A. and the result of unique and proprietary technology, Alcantara® is a highly innovative material offering an unparalleled combination of sensory, aesthetic, and functional qualities. Thanks to its extraordinary versatility, Alcantara is the chosen material for leading brands in many fields of application: fashion and accessories, the automotive industry, interior design, home décor and consumer-electronics. These characteristics, combined with a serious and certified commitment to sustainability, mean that Alcantara expresses and defines the contemporary lifestyle. To document its progress in this area, Alcantara annually prepares and publishes a Sustainability Report, certified by BDO and available on the company's website. Alcantara's headquarters are in Milan, while the production plant and research centre are in Nera Montoro, in the heart of Umbria (Terni).

For further information:

[instagram.com/alcantara\\_company/](https://www.instagram.com/alcantara_company/)

[twitter.com/alcantaraspa](https://twitter.com/alcantaraspa)

[facebook.com/alcantara.company](https://facebook.com/alcantara.company)

[youtube.com/alcantaracompany](https://youtube.com/alcantaracompany)