



GIUSEPPE PENONE

Cedro di Versailles (Cedar of Versailles), 2000–03

Art Basel Unlimited
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Messe Basel

Giuseppe Penone working on *Cedro di Versailles (Cedar of Versailles)* (2000–03), Turin, 2000. Artwork © 2019 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/ADAGP, Paris. Photo: Archivo Penone

Internationally renowned artist Giuseppe Penone emerged as a protagonist of Arte Povera, a seminal art movement in Italy in the late 1960s. In sculptures, drawings, photographs, and installations, Penone manifests the subtle dynamic between human and nature. *Cedro di Versailles* was carved from a 194-year-old cedar tree from the park of Versailles, France, where it was struck down by the forceful storms that hit the area at the end of 1999. Penone carved into this monumental tree, revealing its internal structure and returning it to a form from an earlier stage in life. The work is now part of a well-known series of sculptures, *Alberi (Trees)*, started in 1969.