



RIFUGIO DIGITALE

Florence, via della Fornace 41 - Rifugio Digitale
Florence, via della Fornace 3 - Fornace Suite
7th September 2023

7:00 p.m.

Inauguration of the event at Rifugio Digitale

***SuperNatural Open Walls*, an event organized as part of Estate Fiorentina 2023, promoted by the City of Florence, and curated by Irene Alison and Paolo Cagnacci, opens from September 7 to 14, 2023. The project has been co-financed by the European Union-European Regional Development Fund, as part of the Operational Program Metropolitan Cities 2014-2020 and in collaboration with Forma Edizioni.**

The event includes an indoor exhibition at Rifugio Digitale and an outdoor one on the facades of the Fornace, which will become the stage for projections of a selection of video works by artists Luca Locatelli, Charlotte Dumas, Matthieu Gafsou, Hayley Eichenbaum, Piero Percoco, Maria Lax and Petrina Hicks. The opening will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 7 p.m. at Rifugio Digitale.

In the face of an increasingly uncertain horizon between pandemics and climate crisis, the theme of SuperNatural became the starting point for a visual reflection that traversed, in the work of the photographers exhibited, contemporary living, investigating as much our relationship with space as the way we project ourselves in time: From the anthropization of the landscape to the need to make sustainable choices for the future of the planet, from the need for a return to our origins, in flight from the paradoxes of progress, to the most extreme frontiers of science, the dialogue between what is "natural" and what is "artificial" was revealed, in the images that illuminated the screens of the Rifugio Digitale, to be more complex than ever.

With *SuperNatural Open Walls*, Rifugio Digitale wants to open its walls metaphorically to transform the entire district into an outdoor gallery: projected on the walls of the buildings of San Niccolò, the pictures exhibited by the artists in the cycle will dialogue with the city's architecture, opening new horizons of awareness and comparison, as much on contemporary visual languages as on the subjects of their expression.

Video mapping outdoor
FORNACE SUITE
07 - 14 September 2023
8 p.m.-11.30 p.m.

Exhibition indoor
RIFUGIO DIGITALE
Sept. 07 - Sept. 14, 2023
Tue.-Sat. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

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Charlotte Dumas, *Ao 青*, 2023.

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Piero Percoco, *Canicola*, 2023.

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Maria Lax, *Taken by the Tide*, 2023.

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Luca Locatelli is a photographer and film-maker who investigates possible solutions for the future. He is concerned with the relationships between humans, science, technology and the environment. Deeply rooted in documentary and journalistic production, for more than a decade his main quest has been to explore plausible solutions to address the climate crisis of the 21st century. The objective of his work is to contribute to an open discussion about our future on the planet. Locatelli's work has been recognized and awarded several times, including: Leica Oskar Barnack Award 2020; World Press Photo 2020 and 2018, World Photography Organization 2018, 2020, 2021, 2022; POY Photographer of the Year 2020, American Photography Winners 2018, Nannes Prize 2017, Aftermath Grant Winner 2014.

Charlotte Dumas was born in the Netherlands in 1977 and is a photographer and video artist. The idea that the state of humanity can be read and studied by the way humankind relates to other species is a common thread in Charlotte Dumas' work. From *Retrieved*, a project devoted to September 11 rescue dogs, to *Stay*, a series on Japan's endangered horse breeds, her images have explored this subject in depth. The author of more than ten photography books, since 2012 Dumas has begun to combine moving images with her practice as a photographer, producing her first video work, *Anima* (2012). Other short films include *The Widest Prairies* (2013) about Nevada wild horses and the trilogy *Shio* (2018), *Yorishiro* (2020) and *Ao 青* (2021), made in Japan's Yonaguni Island.

Piero Piercoco was born in Bari and lives in Sannicandro di Bari. He has been taking photographs for more than ten years, is self-taught and has never attended photography schools. Cinema has been an integral part of his path, since he was a child he has always seen a lot of movies, a lot of science fiction ones like *Alien*, *Predator*, *Total Recall*, *2001: A space Odyssey* and many others. It all started on Instagram by posting daily photographs of the daily since 2012, with an iPhone. Over the years it turned into a real job. He has been approached by various magazines including *The New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *The British Journal* and others and also many brands. He has published three photography books and his work is constantly evolving.

Matthieu Gafsou lives and works in Lausanne, Switzerland. After earning a master's degree in philosophy, literature and film at the University of Lausanne, he studied photography at the School of Applied Arts in Vevey. Since 2006, Gafsou has participated in numerous group and solo exhibitions and published six books. In 2009, he received the "HSBC Foundation Award for Photography" and was subsequently invited to contribute to the *reGeneration2* exhibition held by the Musée de l'Elysée. In 2014, the same museum mounted the solo exhibition *Only God Can Judge Me*. In 2018, the *H+* exhibition is one of the highlights of the *Rencontres de la Photographie d'Arles* and then travels around the world (China, Australia, Italy, Ireland, Spain, Switzerland, etc.). In 2022, the *Vivants* project is presented in extenso at the Pully Museum and at Paris Photo, where Gafsou wins the *Ruinart* prize. Gafsou has been teaching for several years at the École cantonale d'art de Lausanne (ECAL).



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Hayley Eichenmaum is an interdisciplinary artist and filmmaker who works between San Francisco and Los Angeles. Her early performative and kinetic works focus on the analysis of social expectations of the female gender by the Western world: especially how women must care for their outward appearance while maintaining an illusory and artifactual idea of beauty. Her current digital photography works explore the concept of appearance. The works exhibited at Digital Refuge focus toward the image of buildings and built landscapes, with a focus on what remains of the American Southwest: where a beautiful facade is crucial to social survival.

Maria Lax is a Finnish artist based in London. Her work addresses the concept of identity, faith and folklore through photography and video. Exhibited internationally, Lax won the British Journal of Photography's Female in Focus award 2019, was a finalist for the BJP Portrait of Humanity 2020, the PhMuseum's Photography Grant in 2020, and selected among the Best New Talent of Photo London 2020 by the Guardian. In 2021 Lax received the Finnish Art Promotion Centre's One Year award.

Petrina Hicks is an Australian artist who has become known for her large-scale photographs that explore the representation of women and female iconography, in art history and mythology. Her works are rich in mythological and historical symbolism and are imbued with a sense of uncanny surrealism. In her works, symbolic animals and women often appear together to represent psyche and identity. Her photographs are held in many museums, including: the National Gallery of Victoria, National Gallery of Australia, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Queensland Gallery of Modern Art, and Art Gallery of Western Australia. In 2019, the National Gallery of Victoria held a major exhibition of the artist, titled "Bleached Gothic" in which photographs and videos from the period from 2003 to 2019 were displayed. From June to September 2021, the exhibition 'Gothique Blanc' was held at the Embassy of Australia in Paris which brought together works made between 2003 and 2019.

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Irene Alison

The professional journalist and photo-consultant, Irene Alison, was born in Naples in 1977.

She is creative director of the photographic project and consulting studio, DER*LAB, and teaches at the European Design Institute (IED) in Rome, in addition to collaborating as a tutor and consultant with some of the most important Italian schools of photography (Isfci, Rufa, Scuola Romana di Fotografia in Rome and Fondazione Studio Marangoni in Florence, among others). As an editor, she has worked for the *Manifesto and D*, *La Repubblica delle Donne*. As a freelance journalist, she has produced, with other photographers, a number of reports published in *Geo France*, *The Independent*, *L'Espresso*, *D*, *XL*, *Marie Claire* and *Riders*. Her articles of photographic criticism have been published by newspapers like *La Lettura*, *Corriere della Sera*, *Il Sole 24 ORE* and *Pagina99*. She has published two essays of photographic research, *My generation* (Postcart, 2012) and *iRevolution* (Postcart, 2014) and, in 2022, the American publisher Yoffy Press printed "*Holding Time*", a book written with the photographer Catherine Panebianco, for which Irene authored the texts. In 2022 Postcart has published her essay, *Muse col Muso (Muses with Muzzles, imaginary animals in contemporary photography)* and in June 2023 the same editor has published her first book of photography *La Madre Attesa (The Mother Awaited)*, cured by Laia Abril. She loves animals and their cultural and iconographic representations, and talks about them in her blog *Zazie Dogzine*.

Paolo Cagnacci

Professional photographer and teacher of photography, Paolo Cagnacci was born in Florence in 1971.

He studies photography at the Studio Marangoni Foundation, where he currently teaches portrait photography and lighting techniques. He has also taught at the European Design Institute of Florence. His pictures have been published in magazines like: *D la Repubblica*, *Corriere della Sera*, *La Repubblica*, *La Stampa*, *Sette*, *SportWeek*, *L'Espresso*, *Pagina99*, *Specchio*, *Lei*, *Donna Moderna*, *Famiglia Cristiana*, *Corriere della Sera-La Lettura*. He has produced photographic and video projects for the Region of Tuscany, the Festival of Creativity, the People's Festival, Balkan Observatory, the Michelucci Foundation, Tempo Reale, Unicoop Firenze, the City of Florence, Telecom Foundation, Mibact, CNA. He has worked for companies like: Diesel, Patrizia Pepe, Paula Cademartori, Peuterey, Starbucks, Stefanel, Ottodame, Dmail, Rinascimento. He has worked for the Massimo Sestini Agency. His work is distributed by the Luz Photo Agency of Milano.

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RIFUGIO DIGITALE

SuperNatural Open Walls

07.09 - 14.09.2023

MOSTRA PROMOSSA DA
AN EXHIBITION PROMOTED BY
Rifugio Digitale

IN COLLABORAZIONE CON
IN COLLABORATION WITH
Forma Edizioni

DIREZIONE ARTISTICA
ART DIRECTION
Laura Andreini

MOSTRA A CURA DI
EXHIBIT CURATED BY
Irene Alison
Paolo Cagnacci

COORDINAMENTO SCIENTIFICO
SCIENTIFIC COORDINATION
Beatrice Papucci
Andrea Benelli
Chiara Mezzabotta
Margot Modonesi
Fabio Gnassi

TRADUZIONI
TRANSLATIONS
Katherine Fay

TESTI IN MOSTRA
EXHIBITION TEXTS
Irene Alison

UFFICIO STAMPA E COMUNICAZIONE
PRESS OFFICE AND COMMUNICATION
Associazione Rifugio Digitale
Niccolò Natali
Giulia Guasti

PROGETTO GRAFICO E DI ALLESTIMENTO
GRAPHIC AND SET-UP PROJECT
Vitoria Muzi
Alessandro Baraccani
Alessandro G. Cosentino

INSTALLAZIONE VIDEO
VIDEO INSTALLATION
TNT Events S.r.l.

INSTALLAZIONE VIDEO-MAPPING
VIDEO-MAPPING INSTALLATION
TNT Events S.r.l.

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RIFUGIO DIGITALE

Estate Fiorentina 2023

Estate Fiorentina 2023 is the name of the grand project that brings together all the events that enliven the summer season in the Tuscan capital. A full-bodied review that, under the claim *Com'è viva la città* (How the city is alive), gives emotions to a wide and varied audience.

Four months of cultural activities, starting with the concert event on June 2, 132 organizing entities involved, 111 widespread projects, 6 special thematic events, including a review dedicated to Giorgio Gaber on the 20th anniversary of his death and one to Don Milani on the centenary of his birth, 15 major festivals, as well as 12 summer spaces. The Florentine Summer will last until September with a wider calendar than ever before, consisting of performances, music, art, literature, cinema, meetings, for audiences of all ages.

Twelve summer spaces have been assigned: Anconella Park (Anconella Garden), Piazza Tasso (Circolo Aurora), Ponte San Niccolò (Il Fiorino and Habana 500), Giardino delle Rose, Lungarno del Tempio (Il Molo), le Murate Caffè Letterario, Fortezza da Basso (off Bar), Giardino dell'Orticultura, Lungarno del Tempio (la Toraja), Cascine Amphitheater (Ultravox), Giardino Niccolò Galli (Light), and Piazza dei Tre Re. Lots of events, then, dedicated to cinema, theater, dance, literary meetings, exhibitions, multidisciplinary reviews, spread throughout the city's neighborhoods.

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www.estatefiorentina.it

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RIFUGIO DIGITALE

Forma Edizioni

Forma Edizioni is an editorial (publishing) initiative developed in order to allow the dissemination and knowledge of avenues and experiences belonging to the world of art, architecture photography and more generally, to promote the best research in production and technology, following the changing lifestyles and contemporary living.

Since its foundation in 2010, the catalogue has grown with about twenty titles a year giving "form" to the expressive traces that animate today's cultural debate, deepening both specific areas of knowledge already known to the public, and investigating those intellectual and artistic areas considered, for various reasons, revealing new points of observation of reality. A common feature of each project is the high quality of the product, images, printing, typographic or IT processes used, as well as a targeted diffusion and distribution in places of use, such as specialized bookstores, museum bookshops and exhibition sites, which they add to the normal availability on the net that necessary and indispensable presence in the "sites" where opinions and evaluations of merit are built.

The publications range from, important monographs dedicated to contemporary and renowned architectural works, such as *Cantina Antinori, to chronicle of the construction of a new landscape*, research and insights related to university study issues, catalogues of important exhibitions, such as the one hosted at the Cini Foundation of Venice *EST. Italian travel, city and architecture stories* curated by Luca Molinari or the monographic exhibition hosted at the MAXXI Museum in Rome *Gio Ponti. Love architecture* in 2019.

Exhibitions and events expand the cultural enhancement process that Forma Edizioni sets out to offer to a refined and attentive public. The publishing house is in fact involved in the creation of volumes relating to the exhibitions annually hosted at the Forte di Belvedere in Florence or at the Stefano Bardini Museum and to the monographic exhibitions hosted in private galleries dedicated to artists of the calibre of Alighiero Boetti, Arnaldo Pomodoro, Lucio Fontana and Alberto Burri. There is no shortage of photography and design texts, such as the important monograph dedicated to the work and life of Karim Rashid, or the overview of contemporary Milanese design *The Design City. Milan city laboratory*.

The on the road city architectural guide series is currently under construction. Mainly focused on contemporary works, each volume investigates the peculiar aspects of the most important cities in the world, proposing a critical reading of future scenarios.

The publishing house has counted important collaborations with personalities of high intellectual depth and international fame such as the late Adolfo Natalini, founder architect of Superstudio, Bruno Corà, Luca Massimo Barbero and Sergio Risaliti, art critics and historians, Luca Molinari, architecture critic.

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RIFUGIO DIGITALE

Rifugio Digitale

Rifugio Digitale is a new exhibition space in a former bomb shelter tunnel repurposed as a site devoted to the promotion of digital art, where architecture, design, photography, cinema, literature and all the other multiple forms of art and visual expression find their dimension and interact with one another. It was built on the foundations of an old anti-aircraft tunnel that served from 1943 as a bomb shelter in World War II. It was known as the "Forge Refuge" a safe haven during the tragedy of the war, and now it has been rechristened as the "Digital Refuge", a place of rebirth, where technology meets art, offering a contemporary space where people can explore creativity through the modern language of technology.

The requalification project, handled by Archea Associati, will house digital expressions of every kind, with an eye always on the future and on the new vanguards. In collaboration with the publisher Forma Edizioni, it will house exhibitions, but also events and performances related to art, architecture, photography, literature, cinema and other initiatives linked to the digital world. It will show original views and more on the 16 screens positioned along the 33 meters of the tunnel, a new idea for Florence where the connection between art, people and technology generates an intense visual experience, unexpected and interactive. It is a space designed for constant change, always dynamic, with a new and exciting speed that distinguishes it from a traditional art gallery.

Rifugio Digitale occupies an area of 165 square meters and is a versatile structure ideal for organizing exhibitions, events, presentation, but also debates, lectures and simple discussions. It is expected to appeal to a vast public desirous of indulging their interest in ideas and novel cultural experiences right in the heart of Florence.

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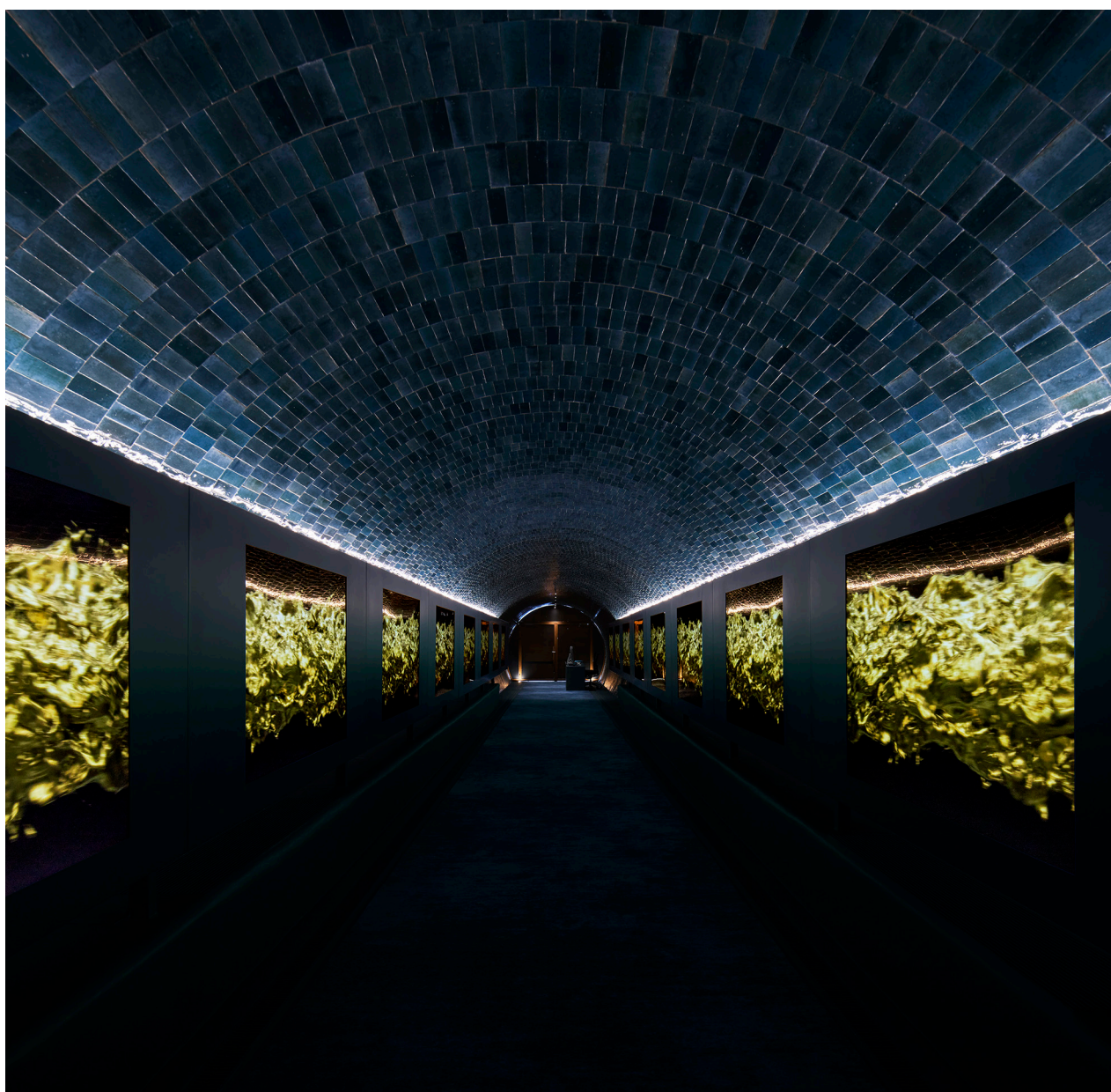
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Archea Associati, Rifugio Digitale, Florence, 2022
ph. Pietro Savorelli & Associati



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