

RIFUGIO DIGITALE

## ***Fragile: Sixteen Atlases of Breakage*** **Quiet Ensemble**

**From May 28 to June 15, 2025, Rifugio Digitale hosts *Fragile: Sixteen Atlases of Breakage*, a site-specific exhibition by the collective Quiet Ensemble, curated by Serena Tabacchi and Vincenzo Napolano.**

Created in collaboration with **Forma Edizioni** and with the extraordinary participation of **European Gravitational Observatory (EGO)**, the exhibition opens on Wednesday, **May 28 at 6:30 p.m.** with an **opening** event attended by the artists and curators.

A journey through technology, sound, and perception: *Fragile* is an immersive exploration of fracture as a creative moment, where the invisible takes shape. Visitors enter a tunnel, pass through matter and fragility, and find themselves suspended between art and science. Rifugio Digitale and EGO – both founded to explore what cannot be seen – share the same mission: to transform emptiness into vision, silence into frequency.

The evening continues at **8:00 p.m.** at **Spazio A - Archea Associati** with **Talk & Drink**, an informal conversation with the artists, accompanied by an exclusive cocktail created by **Peter in Florence** specifically for the occasion and inspired by the spirit of the exhibition.

Florence, via della Fornace 41

**May 28, 2025**

**5.30 p.m.**

**Press conference** introducing the artists of **Quiet Ensemble** and the **curators** at **Rifugio Digitale**.

Event by reservation only: write to [info@rifugiodigitale.it](mailto:info@rifugiodigitale.it)

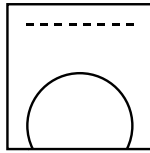
**6:30 p.m.**

**Opening event** at **Rifugio Digitale** in the presence of **Quiet Ensemble** and curators **6.30 p.m.**

**8:30 p.m.**

**Talk & Drink** in the presence of **Fabio Di Salvo** and **Bernardo Vercelli** – **Quiet Ensemble** and the curators at **Spazio A - Archea Associati** accessible from Via della Fornace 16 – Florence, 50125

\*Event by reservation, please write to [info@rifugiodigitale.it](mailto:info@rifugiodigitale.it)

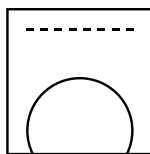


## RIFUGIO DIGITALE

A visual and sound tunnel runs through the space, inviting the audience to enter a zone of suspension at the centre of a fragile geometry. Sixteen monitors, hanging along the walls, initially appear as simple black, silent, inert surfaces, a void laden with expectation. Then, slowly, a barely perceptible vibration begins to flow along the edges. Subtle pulsations, timid flickers, intermittent glows: the beginning of a metamorphosis. One after another, the monitors begin to crack, not physically, but internally, digitally, in the intimacy of pixels. The cracks appear as coloured fractures opening across the electronic skin of the screens, generating an unpredictable, fragile, and iridescent visual landscape. The randomness, the imponderable, is a fundamental part of the process: each monitor is destroyed in a unique way, creating unexpected digital paintings that reveal themselves only in the very act of breaking. Each fracture, each explosion of light and colour, is an organic moment born of destruction, a natural metamorphosis in which chaos becomes form.

Designed to remain invisible, technology here manifests in its material and tangible essence, revealing its nature as a machine. In this unveiling, it perhaps becomes a window, or a bridge, to a more primal and hidden physical reality. Could the cracks in the monitors be caused by cosmic particles or signals from deep space, which normally pass through us without leaving a trace? The shapes and sounds of the cracks then reveal their passage. The creaks, explosions, and echoes that accompany and materialize the cracks are, in fact, sound processes of cosmic and environmental data from the nearby European Gravitational Observatory (EGO) in Cascina (PI). The monitors thus become, mysteriously, antennas, capable of listening and sensitively returning to us the most distant cosmic tremors. The crack becomes rhythm, vibration, and sound matter. The tension rises, transforming into a chaotic dance of light and sound, a symphony of fragility that culminates in an explosion of color and disintegration.

*Fragile* is a choreography of collapse, where fragility is not a flaw but a generative, aesthetic, and deeply human condition. The randomness of destruction and the organic effect that it generates reflect the beauty and unpredictability of a distant natural process.



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*The meeting between artists and scientists is one of the most interesting and promising frontiers of contemporary culture – stated Massimo Carpinelli, director of EGO – and it certainly contributes to creating a new imagination and a more widespread awareness of the value and meaning of research. Our goal is to foster experiences and dialogues between art and science in order to become a point of reference in the Italian landscape.*

**Massimo Carpinelli**

Director of the Osservatorio Gravitazionale Europeo

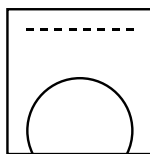
*Rifugio Digitale is a space open to the city, where visual research meets artistic experimentation. Here, emerging and established artists engage in dialogue through the languages of photography and digital art visions. It is in this spirit that the work of Quiet Ensemble takes shape: an encounter between science and technology that translates into an immersive, site-specific experience.*

**Laura Andreini**

President of the Rifugio Digitale Association

***Fragile: Sixteen Atlases of Breakage***  
**Quiet Ensemble**  
**May 28 - June 15, 2025**  
Wed-Sun 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

**Rifugio Digitale**  
via della Fornace, 41  
50125 - Florence (FI)



RIFUGIO DIGITALE

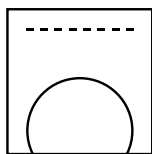
## Quiet Ensemble

The collective was founded in 2009 from the meeting of Fabio Di Salvo and Bernardo Vercelli, united by an artistic vision that explores the balance between nature and technology, between the rigor of order and the unpredictability of chance.

Their work unfolds along the fine line between the organic and the artificial, generating immersive installations and performances in which sound, light, and movement become central elements of a visual and sensory narrative.

With a poetic and experimental approach, Quiet Ensemble draws attention to what usually escapes sight and hearing: the rustling of leaves, the flutter of an insect's wings, the silent rhythm that animates ecosystems. Their works engage in dialogue with the environment, revealing the hidden beauty of everyday micro-events and transforming the ordinary into an unexpected and captivating perceptual experience.

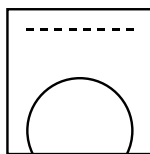
Preview of *Fragile* and other installation works by Quiet Ensemble  
[Click here](#)



RIFUGIO DIGITALE



Quiet Ensemble



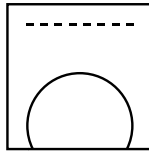
RIFUGIO DIGITALE

### **Serena Tabacchi**

Born in Rome in 1988, she is a contemporary art curator specializing in digital art, photography, and new media. After studying dramaturgy between Rome and London (RADA, Birkbeck), she worked in the London theater scene and in major UK museums, including Tate Modern and Tate Britain. In 2019, she founded the MoCDA – Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Digitale. She has curated international Web3 exhibitions and projects, collaborating with prestigious institutions such as MAXXI L'Aquila, Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi, OGR Torino, Fondazione Terzo Pilastro, Banca D'Italia, and CDP. Artistic director for luxury brands (Bulgari, Luxottica), she promotes digital culture at Rifugio Digitale (Florence). In 2024, she founded, with Laura Andreini, *The Bunker Magazine*, published by Forma Edizioni, an editorial platform dedicated to innovation and critical thinking.

### **Vincenzo Napolano**

He is responsible for communications at the European Gravitational Observatory (EGO) in Pisa, where he oversees outreach and communication projects for the Virgo experiment. A former science communicator at INFN, he has designed events and exhibitions with museums, foundations, and festivals in Italy and abroad, including CERN, Palais de Tokyo, Festival della Scienza, ArtScience Museum (Singapore), and Italian Cultural Institutes. Interested in the languages of art and new technologies applied to science, he has curated installations and exhibitions such as *Astri e Particelle*, *Balle di Scienza*, *Gravity* (MAXXI), *Incertezza and Sublimi Anatomie* (Palazzo delle Esposizioni). He has collaborated with artists and designers such as Tomas Saraceno, Laurent Grasso, and Quiet Ensemble. An author and lecturer, he gives international conferences on art and science.



RIFUGIO DIGITALE

### **Osservatorio Gravitazionale Europeo (EGO)**

It is an international research center located in Cascina, near Pisa, founded in 2000 by the French CNRS and the Italian INFN. Its main mission is to manage and develop the VIRGO interferometer, one of the most sensitive instruments in the world for the direct detection of gravitational waves.

Gravitational waves are faint vibrations of spacetime generated by extreme astrophysical events, such as the merger of black holes or neutron stars. Their observation represents a revolution in our understanding of the universe, offering a new way to "listen" to the most violent and distant cosmic phenomena.

EGO plays a central role in the international LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA collaboration, which brings together researchers and infrastructures from Europe, the United States, and Japan, expanding detection capabilities and the accuracy of observations. In addition to its scientific and technological activities, EGO stands out for its strong commitment to outreach and education, offering guided tours, public events, school workshops, and educational projects. The goal is to make the physics of gravitational waves accessible and engage an ever-wider audience in the discovery of the universe.

Through cutting-edge research and dialogue with society, EGO makes a significant contribution to the development of new gravitational astronomy and to the growth of the European and international scientific community.

### **EGO**

Via E. Amaldi,5

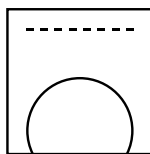
56021 – Cascina (PI), Italy

[www.ego-gw.it](http://www.ego-gw.it)

fb: @EGO & the Virgo Collaboration

ig: @egovirgo\_waves

youtube: EGO & the Virgo Collaboration



RIFUGIO DIGITALE

### **Peter in Florence**

Peter in Florence is a project that combines the excellence of Tuscan tradition with the refinement of the English school of distillation. The name ideally evokes a cosmopolitan figure who finds in Florence the perfect synthesis of art, beauty, and innovative spirit.

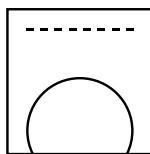
Born in the heart of Tuscany, Peter in Florence is the first Italian London Dry Gin to be entirely distilled using a Carterhead still, faithfully reproduced according to the original 1831 design. This rare and prestigious technical choice allows for the preservation of the purity and complexity of the botanicals, ensuring a product of the highest quality.

At the core of its identity is a refined blend of 14 botanicals, featuring the Iris flower – a historical symbol of the city of Florence and an icon of elegance and purity – and juniper from the Florentine hills, which gives the gin its authentic, local aromatic profile.

Peter in Florence represents the perfect balance between innovation and tradition, technique and inspiration, locality and international spirit. A gin designed for a discerning audience that recognizes and appreciates elegance in all its forms.

### **Peter in Florence**

Via Aretina, 161  
50136 – Florence, Italy  
[www.peterinflorence.com](http://www.peterinflorence.com)  
fb: @Peter in Florence  
ig: @peterinflorence



RIFUGIO DIGITALE

## 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.

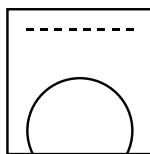
Since its foundation in 2010, the catalogue has grown with about twenty titles a year giving "form" to the expressive traces that animate today's cultural debate, deepening both specific areas of knowledge already known to the public, and investigating those intellectual and artistic areas considered, 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. 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 and 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.

## Forma Edizioni

via della Fornace, 18  
50125 – Florence, Italy  
[redazione@formaedizioni.it](mailto:redazione@formaedizioni.it)  
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RIFUGIO DIGITALE

***Fragile: Sixteen Atlases of Breakage***  
**Quiet Ensemble**  
**28.05-15.06.2025**

AN EXHIBITION PROMOTED BY  
Associazione Rifugio Digitale E.T.S.

IN COLLABORATION WITH  
Forma Edizioni  
Osservatorio Gravitazionale Europeo (EGO)  
Peter in Florence

ART DIRECTION  
Laura Andreini

EXHIBIT CURATED BY  
Serena Tabacchi  
Vincenzo Napolano

SCIENTIFIC COORDINATION  
Beatrice Papucci  
Ester Menichelli

EXTERNAL RELATIONS  
Irene Borsotti

TRANSLATIONS  
Katherine Fay

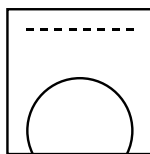
EXHIBITION TEXTS  
Serena Tabacchi  
Vincenzo Napolano  
Quiet Ensemble

PRESS OFFICE AND COMMUNICATION  
Associazione Rifugio Digitale E.T.S.  
Niccolò Natali  
Giulia Guasti  
Eugenio Pincelli

MUSIC BY  
Quiet Ensemble

GRAPHIC AND SET-UP PROJECT  
Veronica Paoli  
Vitoria Muzi  
Mattia Gerardi

VIDEO INSTALLATION  
Associazione Rifugio Digitale E.T.S.



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## Rifugio Digitale

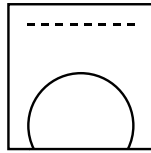
Is a new exhibition space in a former bomb shelter tunnel repurposed as a site devoted to the promotion of digital art, where architecture, design, photography, cinema, literature and all the other multiple forms of art and visual expression find their dimension and interact with one another. It was 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 Rifugio Digitale, 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.

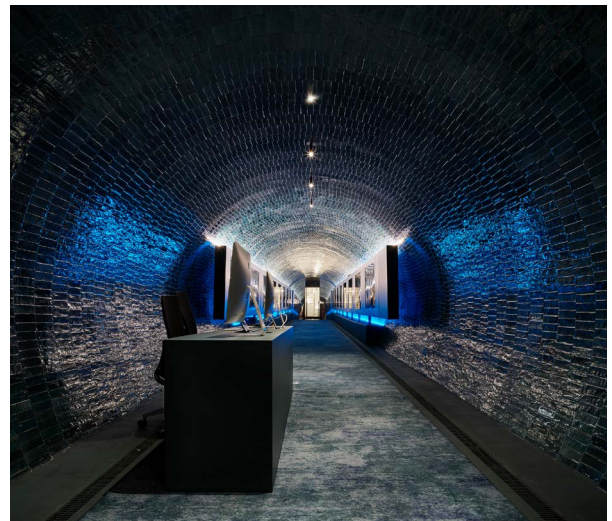
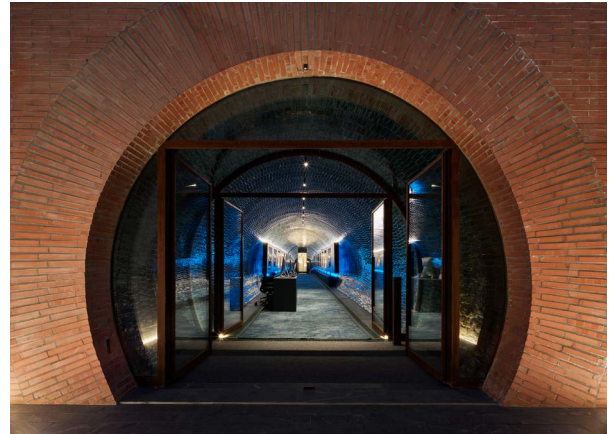
Rifugio Digitale occupies an area of 165 square meters and is a versatile structure ideal for organizing exhibitions, events, presentation, but also debates, lectures and simple discussions. It is expected to appeal to a vast public desirous of indulging their interest in ideas and novel cultural experiences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

## Rifugio Digitale

via della Fornace, 41  
50125 – Firenze, Italy  
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[info@rifugiodigitale.it](mailto:info@rifugiodigitale.it)



RIFUGIO DIGITALE



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