

RIFUGIO DIGITALE

Homecoming Open Walls

10.09 - 16.09.2025

**September 10th at 7 p.m.
Opening at Rifugio Digitale**

***Homecoming Open Walls*, an art event organized as part of the 2025 Florentine Summer program, will open on September 10th at Rifugio Digitale and will continue until September 16th. Produced in collaboration with Forma Edizioni, the event is part of the national PN METRO PLUS 2021-2027 program involving cities in central and southern Italy.**

The event consists of two separate but complementary sections: in the Rifugio Digitale gallery, the exhibition will take the form of a daily focus devoted to each of the artists in the cycle, transforming the space into a place of in-depth exploration. At the same time, the façades of Fornace Suite will host an installation of immersive outdoor video-mapping, featuring the photographers, Lara Shipley (USA), Paolo Raeli (ITA), Kalpesh Lathigra (UK), Robin Hinsch (DE), Morganna Magee (AUS), Isa Rus (ES), and Claudine Doury (FR).

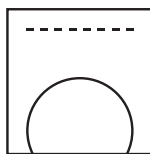
With this exhibition, *Homecoming* will expand beyond the walls of the gallery to occupy a public space, turning the city into its own outdoor gallery.

The definition of an "outdoor gallery" acquires a dual significance in this case. On the one hand, it indicates the transformation of urban space into an exhibition site, accessible to all and, on the other, it highlights the elimination of the traditional spaces reserved for art, which people visit for that reason – museums, galleries, exhibition halls – and brings the art to the city and its citizens, as part of the urban landscape. The dialogue between art and architecture is enriched by the use of innovative technologies like audio-visual mapping and 3D graphics, which have the ability to transform the surfaces of buildings into dynamic displays. The result is a contemporary installation, suspended between reality and fiction, in which the visual experience merges with an exciting emotional and communal involvement.



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Homecoming Open Walls does not merely take the pictures featured in the photographic exhibition cycle outdoors: it projects and reimagines them, blending them with an urban setting to amplify their evocative and political potential, targeting a range of goals. The most important is to expand the audience by removing the physical enclosure of the gallery as a means of democratizing art by making it accessible to all. Another is to stimulate a shared reflection on topics of social and cultural relevance, strengthening the sense of participation through a collective experience. In this way, the photographs become a visual property of the city, element of symbolic reappropriation of spaces and the starting point and ground work for the launch of new imaginings.

In this new urban setting, *Homecoming* becomes a choral narrative in movement, capable of interrogating each of us on what it really means to "come back home" – and on where, today, that home may still be found.

The photographic exhibition cycle entitled *Homecoming* – based on an idea by Irene Alison and curated by her, with Paolo Cagnacci – is a visual study on the meaning of returning. At the center, the concept of "home": an ancient, universal theme, but one that – more than ever before – is fraught with tension and ambivalence. In the two-year period 2023–2024, the theme developed through the cycle of exhibitions at Rifugio Digitale, and now it moves out into the surrounding territory, where the desire to belong meets the fragmentation of the contemporary world, marked by forced mobility, fluid identities and global connections.

With their different outlooks, experiences and artistry, the photographers involved draw intimate, collective trajectories in search of a place we can call home. But "home" is never, in this project, just a physical place: it is mainly an emotional tension, an affective memory, sometimes an absence. It is the need for roots, but also the awareness that those roots can be mobile, fragmented, even broken. Every picture becomes, thus, an attempt to give a name to what remains – or is lost – when we speak of origin, belonging, identity.

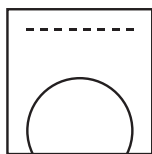
Exhibition indoor
RIFUGIO DIGITALE
10–16 September 2025
Florence, Via della Fornace 41

Video mapping outdoor
FRONACE SUITE
10–16 September 2025
Florence, Via della Fornace 3



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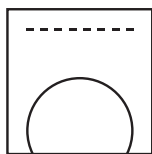




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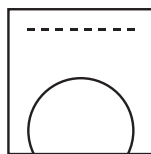
Video mapping, *SuperNatural Open Walls*
Charlotte Dumas, Ao 青, 2023.



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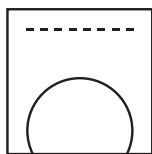
Lara Shipley, *Desire Lines*, 2023



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Paolo Raeli, *We Are Family*, 2023.



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Kalpesh Lathigra, *Memoire Temporelle*, 2024



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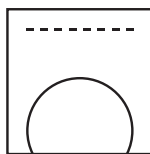


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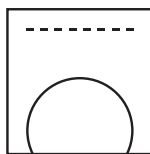
Lara Shipley is an American photographer whose work explores storytelling and place. She has exhibited in prestigious international venues including the Benaki Museum in Athens, the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, and Cortona On The Move. Her works are held in museum collections such as the MoMA and the Smithsonian. She is the author of two photobooks, *Devil's Promenade* (2021) and *Desire Lines* (2023), both published by Overlap. Her images have appeared in publications such as The New Yorker, Harper's Magazine, and Vice. She teaches photography at Michigan State University.

Paolo Raeli, an Italian-Danish photographer, began taking pictures at the age of 17 out of a fear of forgetting. His work, widely shared online, is a visual diary of youth, infused with nostalgia, pastel tones, and intimate atmospheres. Themes of memory, love, and diversity run through both his photographs and the videos he often creates alongside them. He lives in Palermo, where he has transformed his home into an artistic space. He has exhibited in cities including Rome, Los Angeles, and Seoul.

Kalpesh Lathigra is a British photographer of Indian heritage who combines documentary and visual research to investigate identity, history, and diaspora. Winner of the World Press Photo Award in 2000, he has explored subjects such as widows in India and Indian communities in South Africa and the UK. His book *Lost in the Wilderness* (2015) was critically acclaimed for its reflection on colonialism. In 2022 he published *Memoire Temporelle*, an intimate project on Bombay. He regularly exhibits in international galleries.

Robin Hinsch is a German photographer based in Hamburg and Berlin, known for addressing global political and economic issues through a hybrid approach combining photography, installation, and collage. He has documented realities in Iraq, Syria, Nigeria, Ukraine, and other countries. His awards include the International Photography Award, and he has been nominated for the Prix Pictet. Founder of the photographic lab "Format" and professor in Darmstadt, he is among the most prominent voices in contemporary German photography.

Morganna Magee, an Australian artist based in Melbourne, explores the relationship between humans and nature, with a particular focus on the ethics of representation and the experimental use of traditional photographic practices. Author of the book *Extraordinary Experiences* (2022), she is also co-editor of the publishing house Tall Poppy Press. Her work has received awards and been exhibited internationally, and she is currently pursuing a PhD on the colonial role of photography in representing Australian wildlife.



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Isa Rus is a Spanish photographer based in Germany. Her creative path began during the pandemic and focuses on deeply autobiographical themes such as motherhood, migration, and the search for identity. Her series *Birthmark* explores the emotions of early motherhood with an intimate and delicate gaze, offering a new narrative of the maternal experience. Her visual language blends emotional truth with everyday poetry.

Claudine Doury, a French photographer awarded distinctions including the World Press Photo and the Prix Niépce, has built a body of work reflecting on notions of memory, adolescence, and transition. She has published seven monographs, and her images are held in major public and private collections. Her style merges documentation and visual storytelling in a continuous exploration of identity in people and places. She is represented by the In Camera gallery in Paris and is a member of the Vu agency.



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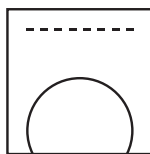


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Irene Alison

Professional journalist and photo-consultant by profession, Irene Alison was born in Naples in 1977.

She is the creative director of the DER*LAB studio of photographic consulting and design, and teaches at the European Institute of Design in Rome. She has collaborated as a tutor and consultant with several of the most prestigious Italian schools of photography (Isfci, Rufa, Scuola Romana di Fotografia in Rome and Fondazione Studio Marangoni in Florence, among others). As editor, she has worked for *Il Manifesto* and for *D - la Repubblica delle Donne*. As a freelancer, she has produced articles, with photographs, published in *Geo France*, *The Independent*, *l'Espresso*, *D*, *XL*, *Marie Claire* and *Riders*. Her articles of photographic criticism have also been published in periodicals like *La Lettura de Il Corriere della Sera*, *Il Sole 24 ore* and *Pagina99*. She has published two essays of photograph research, *My generation* (Postcart, 2012) and *iRevolution* (Postcart, 2014). Since 2020 she has been collaborating with CRFS Lipu in Rome, an important Italian rescue center for the recovery of wild animals, documenting its work photographically and managing its visual advertising. In 2022 the American publisher Yoffy Press put out *Holding Time*, a book written with the photographer Catherine Panebianco, for which Irene wrote the texts. Currently, she is the curator of the exhibition cycles *Homecoming* and *SuperNatural* at the Rifugio Digitale Gallery, devoted to contemporary photography.

In 2023 her first photographic book was published by Postcart (*La Madre Attesa*, curated by Laia Abril).

In 2024 she expects to public a new essay, *Muse col Muso*, the imaginary animal in contemporary photography: animals, and their cultural and iconographic representations, of which she write in her blog, *Zazie Dogzine*.

Paolo Cagnacci

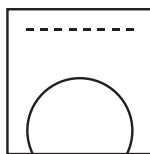
Professional photographer and photography teacher, Paolo Cagnacci was born in Florence in 1971.

He studied photography at Fondazione Studio Marangoni, where he currently teaches portrait photography and lighting techniques. He has done photographic projects for Regione Toscana, Festival della Creatività, Festival dei Popoli, Osservatorio dei Balcani, Fondazione Michelucci, Tempo Reale, Unicoop Firenze, Comune di Firenze, Fondazione Telecom, Mibact, CNA. He has worked for companies such as Patrizia Pepe, Diesel, Paula Cademartori, Peuterey, Starbucks, Stefanel, Ottodame, Dmail. He has published his images in magazines such as *D la Repubblica*, *Corriere della Sera*, *la Repubblica*, *La Stampa*, *Sette*, *SportWeek*, *L'Espresso*, *Pagina99*, *Specchio*, *Left*, *Donna Moderna*, *Famiglia Cristiana*, *La Lettura*, and *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. His projects have been distributed by Luz Photo Agency and Parallelozero Agency.



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MOSTRA PROMOSSA DA
AN EXHIBITION PROMOTED BY
Rifugio Digitale

IN COLLABORAZIONE CON
IN COLLABORATION WITH
Forma Edizioni

DIREZIONE ARTISTICA
ART DIRECTION
Laura Andreini

COORDINAMENTO SCIENTIFICO
SCIENTIFIC COORDINATION
Beatrice Papucci
Andrea Benelli
Chiara Mezzabotta
Ester Menichelli

TRADUZIONI
TRANSLATIONS
Katherine Fay

TESTI IN MOSTRA
EXHIBITION TEXTS
Irene Alison

RELAZIONI ESTERNE
EXTERNAL RELATIONS
Irene Borsotti

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

PROGETTO GRAFICO E DI ALLESTIMENTO
GRAPHIC AND SET-UP PROJECT
Veronica Paoli
Vitoria Muzi
Mattia Gerardi

INSTALLAZIONE VIDEO
VIDEO INSTALLATION
Associazione Rifugio Digitale E.T.S.

INSTALLAZIONE VIDEO-MAPPING
VIDEO-MAPPING INSTALLATION
TNT Events

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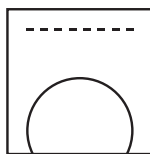


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Estate Fiorentina 2025

From June 1 to September 30, 2025, the Florentine Summer returns — the major cultural event promoted by the Municipality of Florence that enlivens the city with a rich program of events spread across all neighborhoods.

This year's edition features the participation of 139 organizing entities, presenting a total of 121 projects, 14 active summer venues, and 9 major multidisciplinary festivals. The program ranges from concerts, theater and dance performances, film screenings, exhibitions, talks, and live performances to art and literary festivals, offering a diverse and inclusive schedule designed for a broad and varied audience.

Estate Fiorentina remains an opportunity to enhance the city's cultural heritage and to promote active community participation through culture, art, and shared experiences.

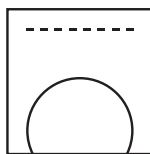
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Forma Edizioni

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* 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 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.

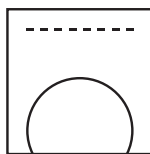
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Rifugio Digitale

Rifugio Digitale (Digital Refuge) 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.

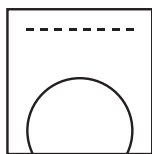
Rifugio Digitale

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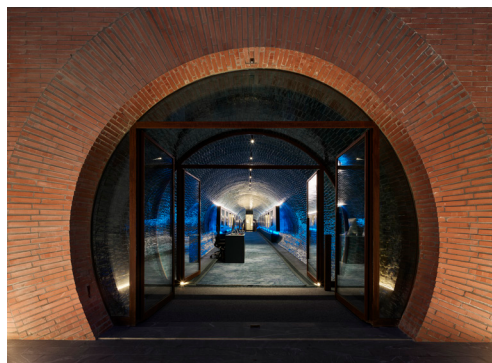


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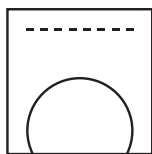


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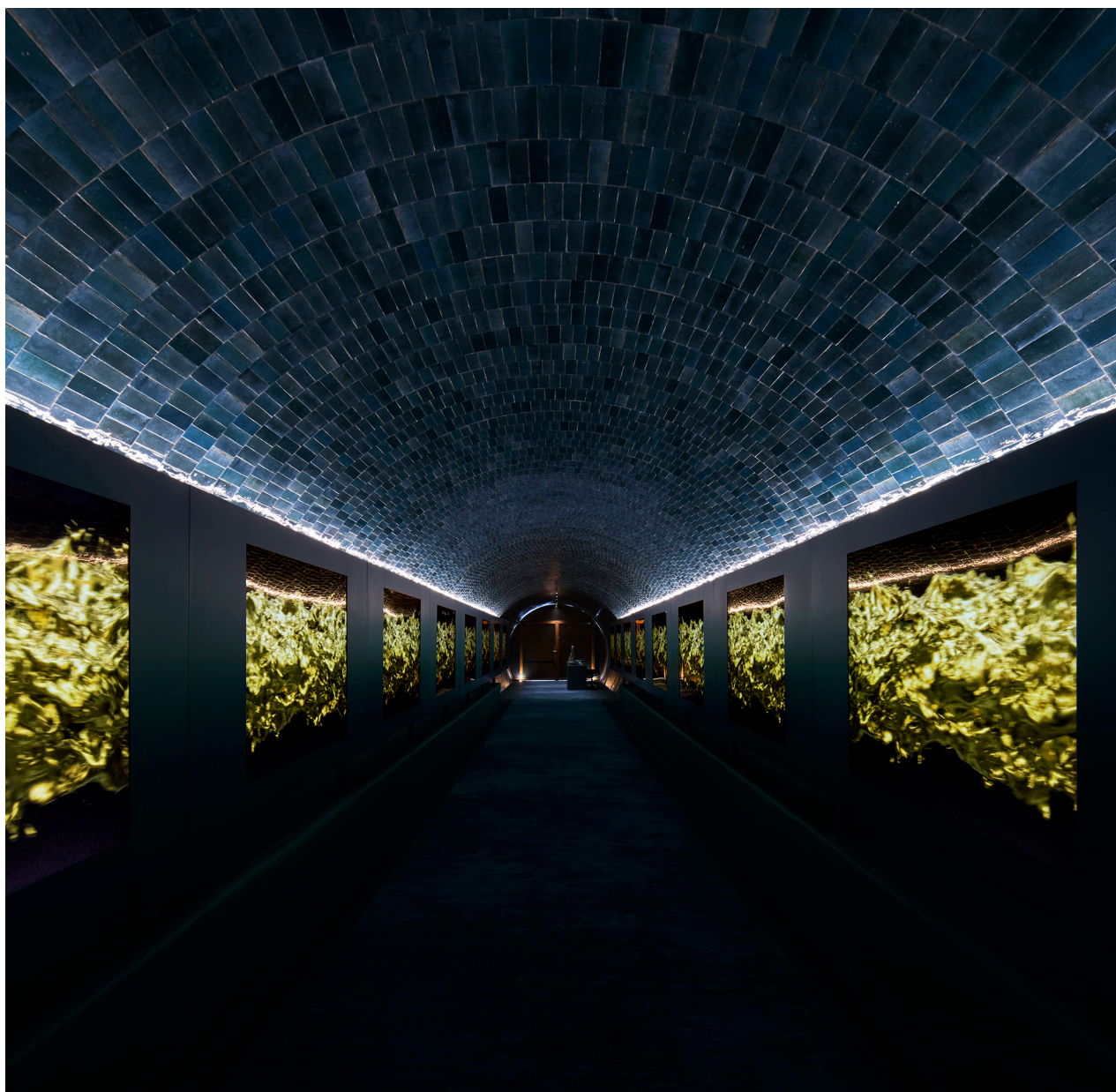


Archea Associati, Rifugio Digitale, Firenze, 2022
ph. Pietro Savorelli e Associati





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



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