



Gian Maria Tosatti

Sette Stagioni dello Spirito

2013 - 2016

Sette Stagioni dello Spirito (Seven Seasons of the Spirit) is a big work in seven chapters made in Naples between 2013 and 2016 like a large symphony for citizens and town.

The project involved completely the work of the artist for three years, in which have been created seven huge environmental installations representing the same number of rooms in which the soul of the human being is divided according to Sancta Teresa of Avila's book *The interior castle* (1577).

The task of the project was to make a trip in the human soul between the extreme limits of good and evil. It have been an investigation on the entire spectrum of the spirit, made in the body of what is the human city *par excellence*.

The seven works have been made in seven big historical and monumental buildings of Naples that were in state of abandon and decay. So the project activated a great urban operation that allowed the artist to give back to the institutions of the town those building in safe conditions to be open and used again.

The project have been organized and promoted by Fondazione Mora, with the support of Lia Rumma Gallery and the Madre museum, in collaborations with all the institutions of the territory.



title: 1_La peste (the plague)

year: 2013

technique: environmental installation

dimensions: site specific

brief description: This work is the first season of the spirit. It represents the most peripheral rooms of the inner castle described by Santa Teresa of Avila, those in which one lives almost outside of his own soul.

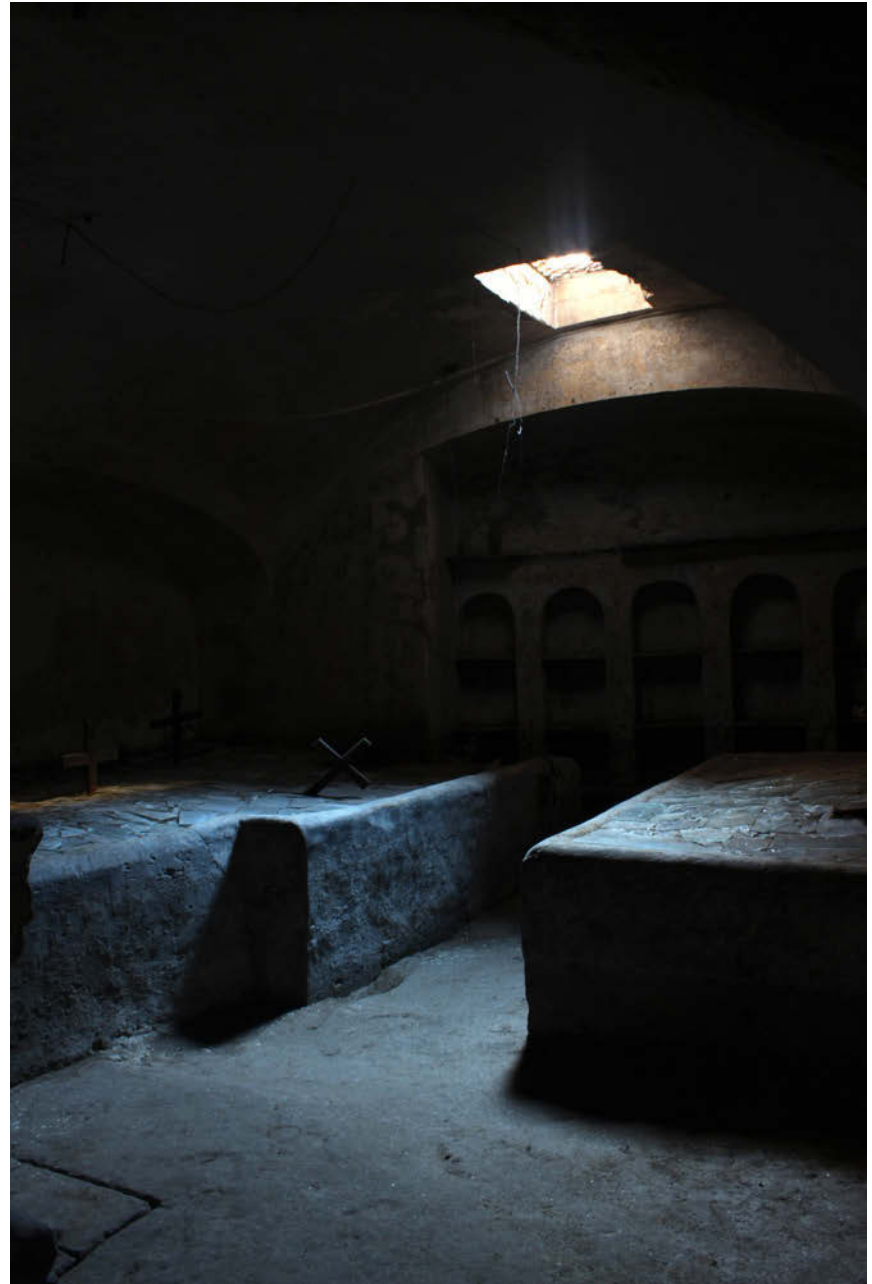
The installation has been made in a church closed since WWII, in the middle of a complex neighborhood of Naples. The main subject is the plague as an analogy of unconsciousness, a disease of the spirit which has killed an entire generation, as, in the past, other metaphoric (like nazism according to Albert Camus) or physical pestilences (like those told by Tacitus, Boccaccio or Manzoni).

@: Chiesa dei SS. Cosma e Damiano, Napoli

curated by: Eugenio Viola

produced by: Fondazione Morra

in collaboration with: Regione Campania, Comune di Napoli, Municipalità 2 del Comune di Napoli, Vicariato alla Cultura della Curia di Napoli, Soprintendenza per i Beni Architettonici e Paesaggistici per Napoli e Provincia, MADRe, Ordine degli Ingegneri della provincia di Napoli, Autorità Portuale di Napoli
Settembre 2013





title: 2_Estate (summer)

year: 2014

technique: environmental installation

dimensions: site specific

brief description: Estate (Summer) is a reflection about the inertia as a status of the spirit. It is a work on the hell, according to Pasolini's standpoint. The analogy used to speak about this theological concept is the history of the Republic of Italy, a country that little by little has lost its own identity and heritage leaving things going bad without doing anything. The space chosen for this work is the first registry office in Italy, currently abandoned. The belly of this building is full of all the documents of the citizens of Naples from 1809 to the present day. The installation is an epic of the decay. The falling of the building is the falling of the State itself, the decay of the walls, of the ceiling of that construction is the decay of a body in which every citizen is a living cell slowly dying.

@: ex Anagrafe Comunale, Napoli

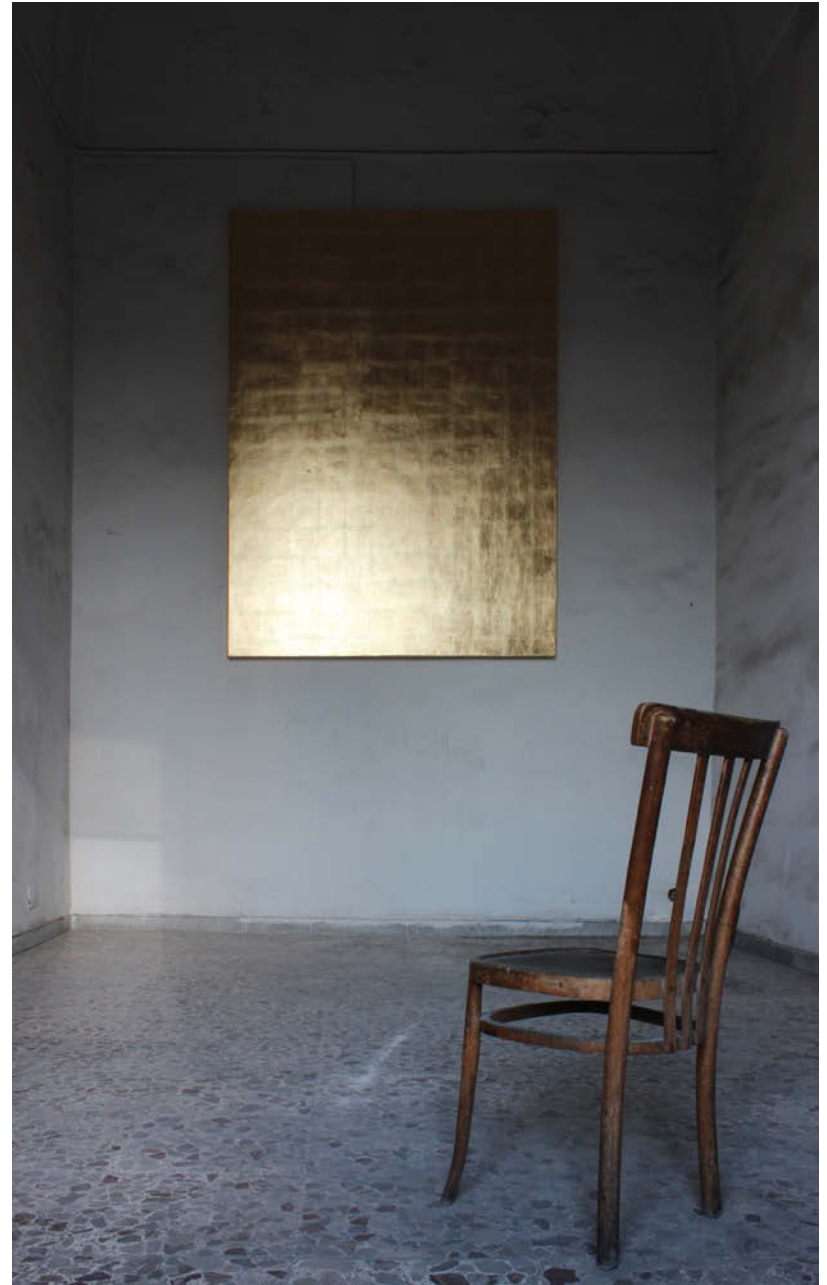
curated by: Eugenio Viola

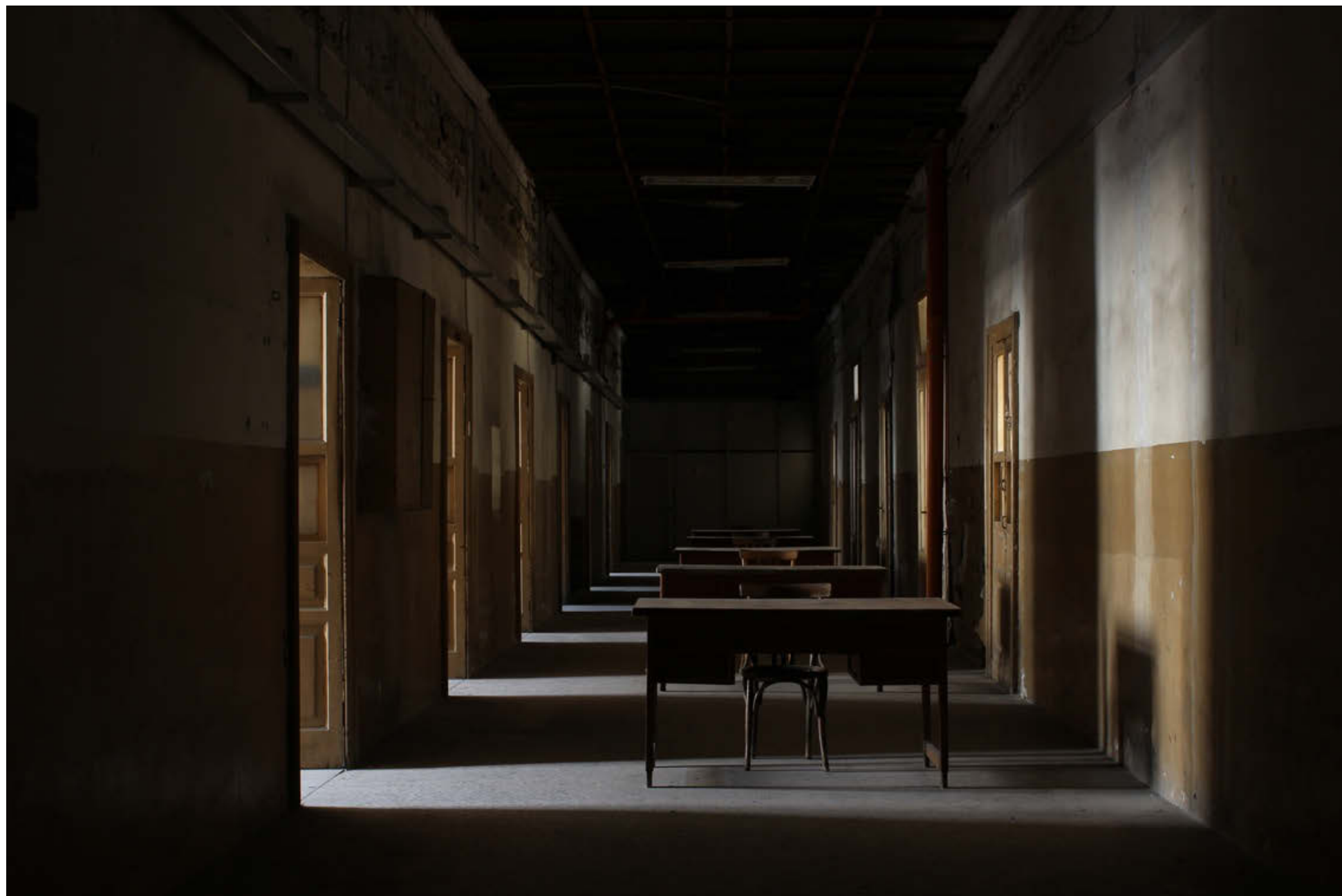
produced by: Fondazione Morra

in collaboration with: Regione Campania, Comune di Napoli, Municipalità 2 del Comune di Napoli, Vicariato alla Cultura della Curia di Napoli, Soprintendenza per i Beni Architettonici e Paesaggistici per Napoli e Provincia, Madre Museum, Ordine degli Ingegneri della provincia di Napoli, Autorità Portuale di Napoli
Maggio 2014











title: 3_Lucifero (Lucifer)

year: 2015

technique: environmental installation

dimensions: site specific (65.000 sq/f ca.)

brief description: Lucifero (Lucifer) is a research about the archetype of the devil. It is a research about the role of evil in God's plans, about the concept of "mistake" and about redemption. This third chapter of the project "Seven Seasons of the Spirit" works on a theological perspective, using the archetypes of Christianity as a widely shared symbolic plane which can create, with the visitor a deep dialogue that can, at the end, turn into a political perspective. This monumental work of 65.000 sq/f is focused on a solitary figure, the visitor itself, who finds himself in a constant game of reflections. Feeling confused, feeling like the devil can allow the visitor to feel the deep and infinite nostalgia of the light that dominates the character who gives the name to this installation.

@: ex Magazzini Generali del porto, Napoli

curated by: Eugenio Viola

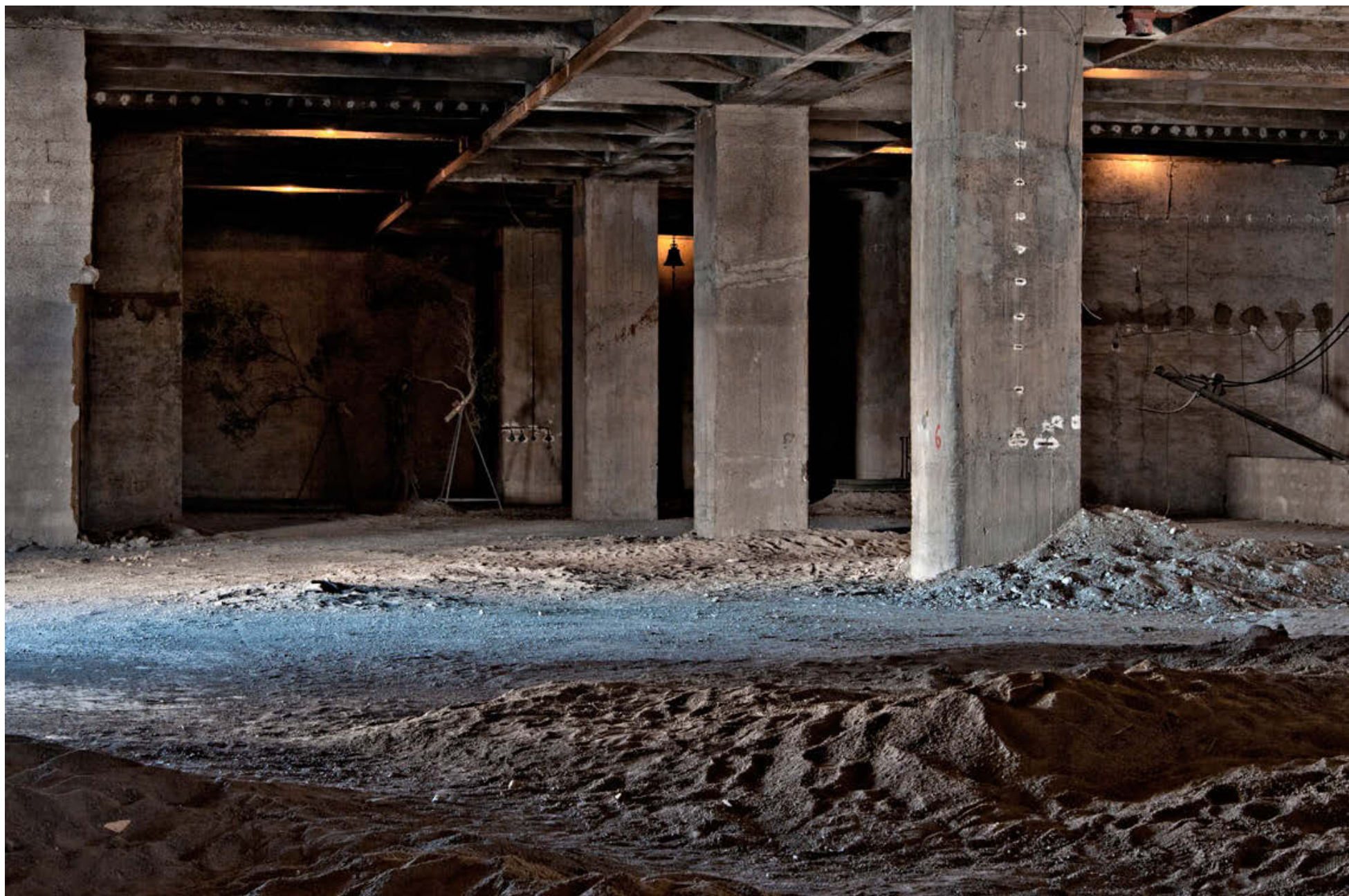
promoted and organized by: Fondazione Morra

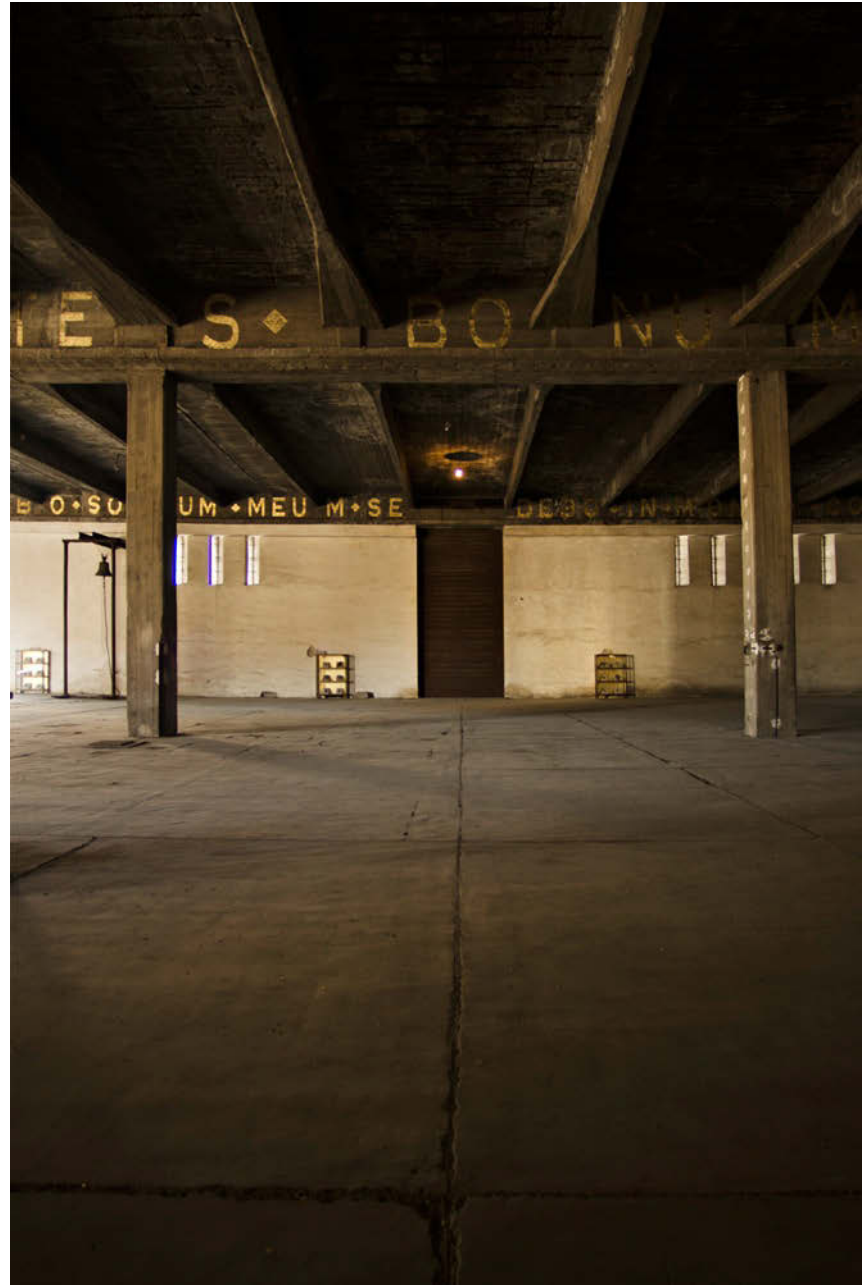
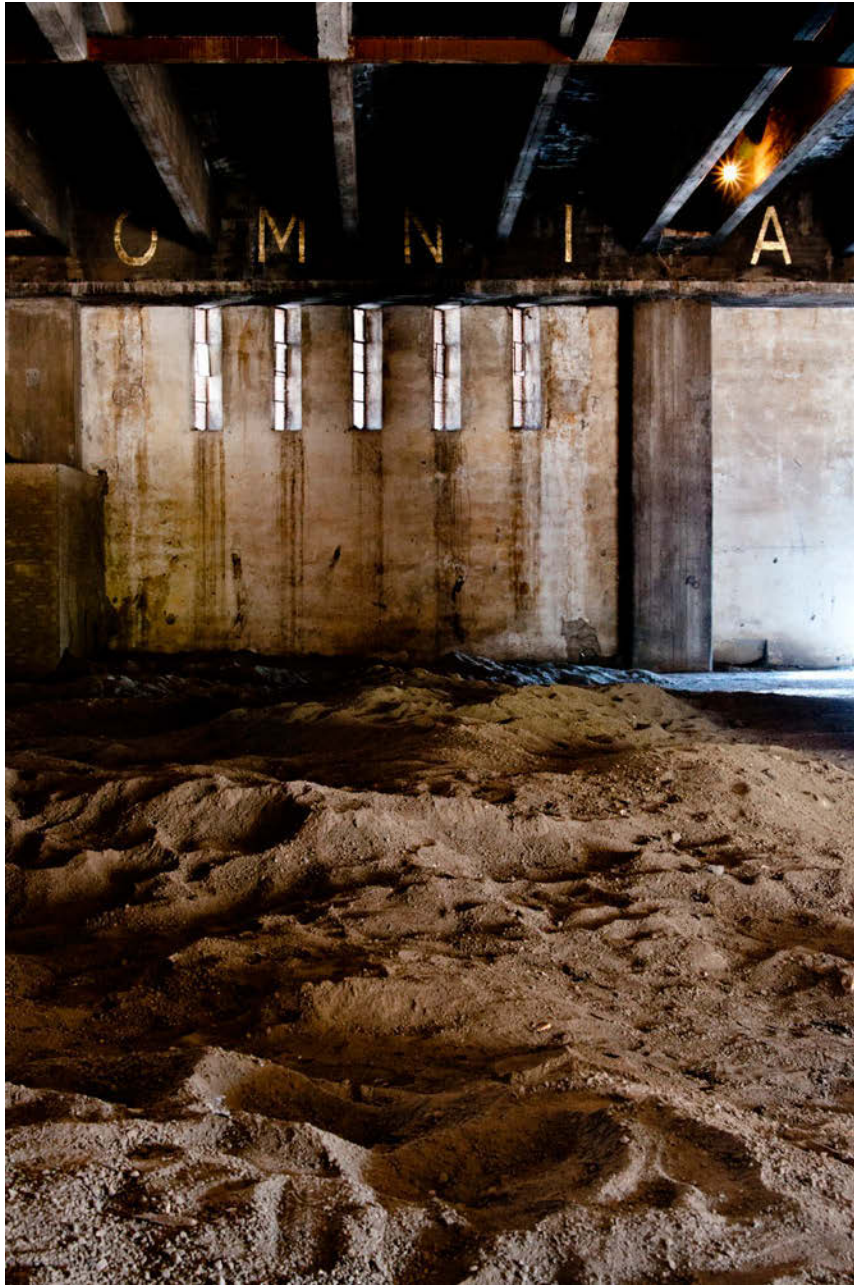
with the support of: Galleria Lia Rumma

in collaboration with: Regione Campania, Comune di Napoli, Municipalità 2 del Comune di Napoli, Vicariato alla Cultura della Curia di Napoli, Soprintendenza per i Beni Architettonici e Paesaggistici per Napoli e Provincia, Accademia di Belle Arti di Napoli, Ordine degli Ingegneri della provincia di Napoli, Autorità Portuale di Napoli *e con il* Matronato della Fondazione Donnaregina - Museo Madre

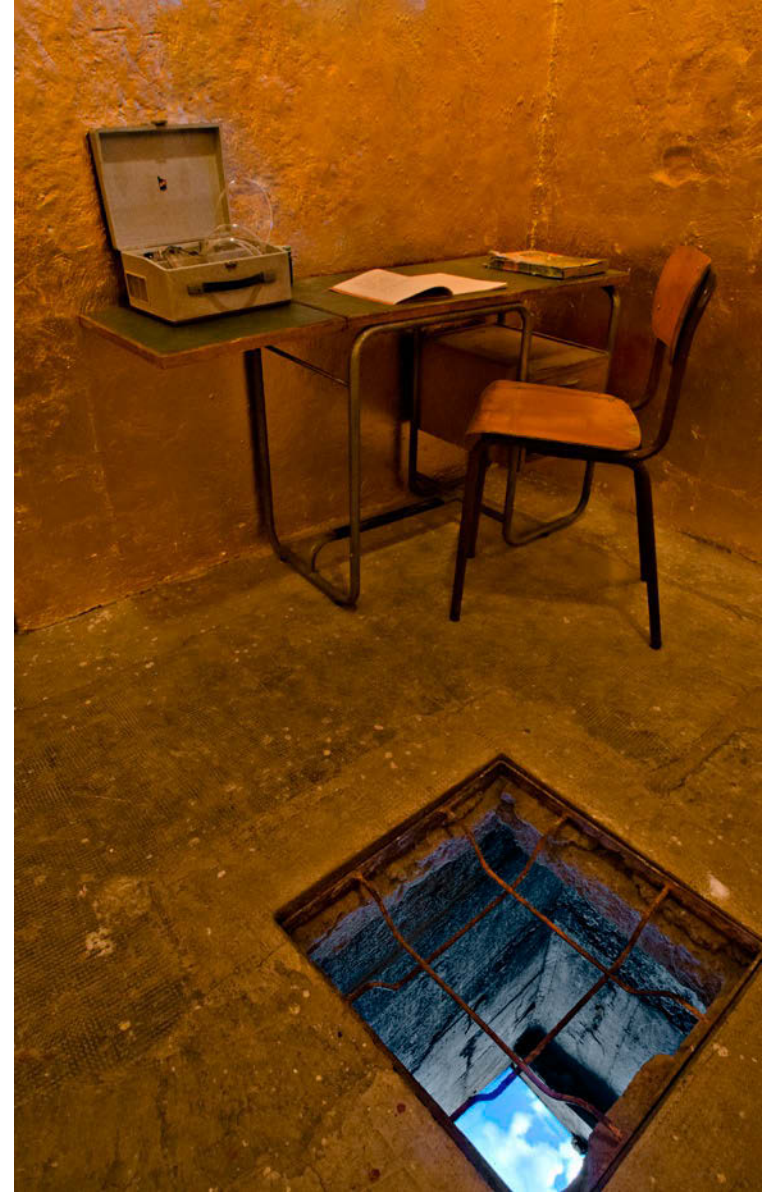
Aprile 2015











title: 4_Ritorno a casa (coming back home)

year: 2015

technique: environmental installation

dimensions: site specific (43.000 sq/f ca.)

brief description: 4_Ritorno a casa reflects on salvation and the strength you need to hold it. It is an installation made by a sequence of defined moments, almost a decomposition of human life in linked scenes, inside a computable perimeter, which is suspended in a large vacuum of time, in a desperate solitude.

Here we are in the aftermath of a catastrophe, of a season in hell, walking the border of the abyss between a new fall and the beginning of a rise.

@: ex Ospedale Militare, Napoli

curated by: Eugenio Viola

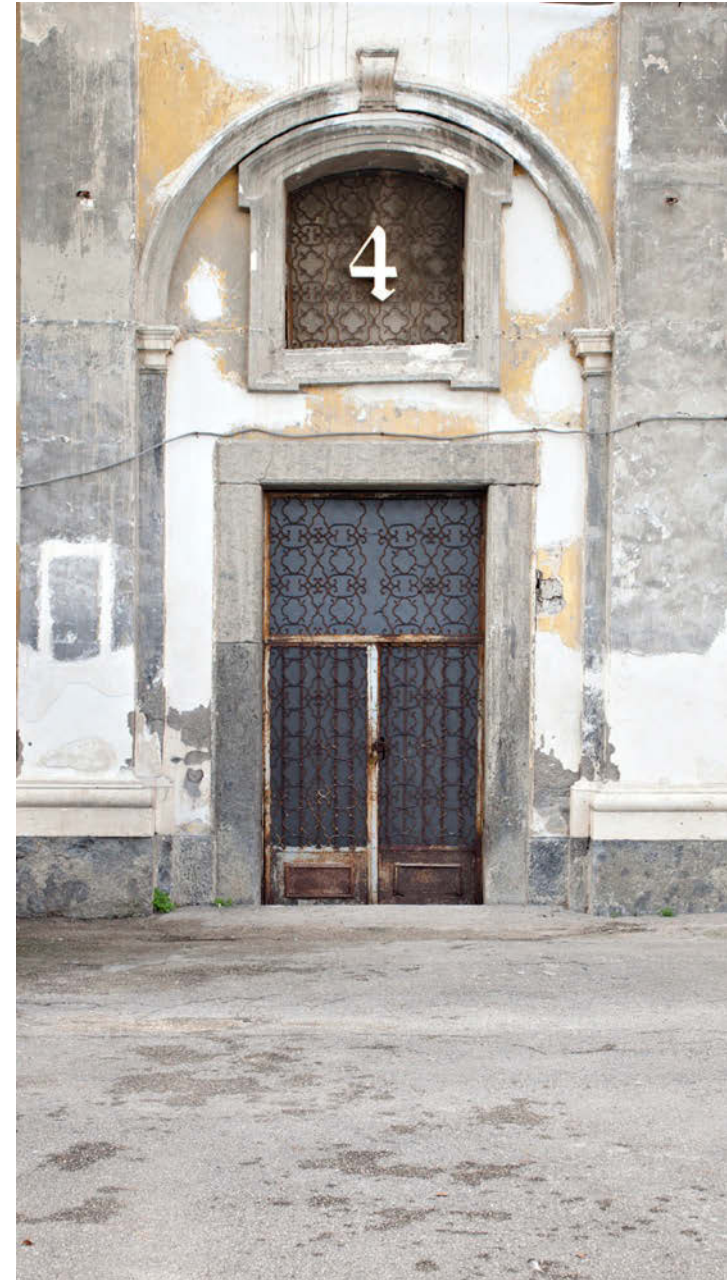
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e con il Matronato della Fondazione Donnaregina - Museo Madre

Settembre 2015















title: 5_I fondamenti della luce (the foundations of light)

year: 2015

technique: environmental installation

dimensions: site specific (32.000 sq/f ca.)

brief description: This work starts from a love letter written on Christmas day 1917, in a mental hospital of southern Italy by Paolina T, a 20 years old girl, interned because she was "poor" - so it was written in her record - and homosexual.

5_The foundations of light is a work about the unsuppressible brightness that harbours in the depth of the human being and that is the engine of his existence even in the dark. This installation is an elegy suspended between the spiritual and the politic. This last aspect becomes in it very powerful, explicit and provoking. Does not exist, in fact, private without public and salvation cannot be but a collective, social, class action. As Paolina T. is poor, she's forced to write her love letter in the hell of a mental hospital of the early 1900. Though it is not so different from the present world, which is a large cage for brains from which you can escape only becoming lighter.

@: Santa Maria della Fede, Napoli

curated by: Eugenio Viola

promoted and organized by: Fondazione Morra

with the support of: Galleria Lia Rumma

in collaboration with: Regione Campania, Comune di Napoli, Municipalità 2 del Comune di Napoli, Vicariato alla Cultura della Curia di Napoli, Soprintendenza per i Beni Architettonici e Paesaggistici per Napoli e Provincia, Accademia di Belle Arti di Napoli, Ordine degli Ingegneri della provincia di Napoli, Autorità Portuale di Napoli

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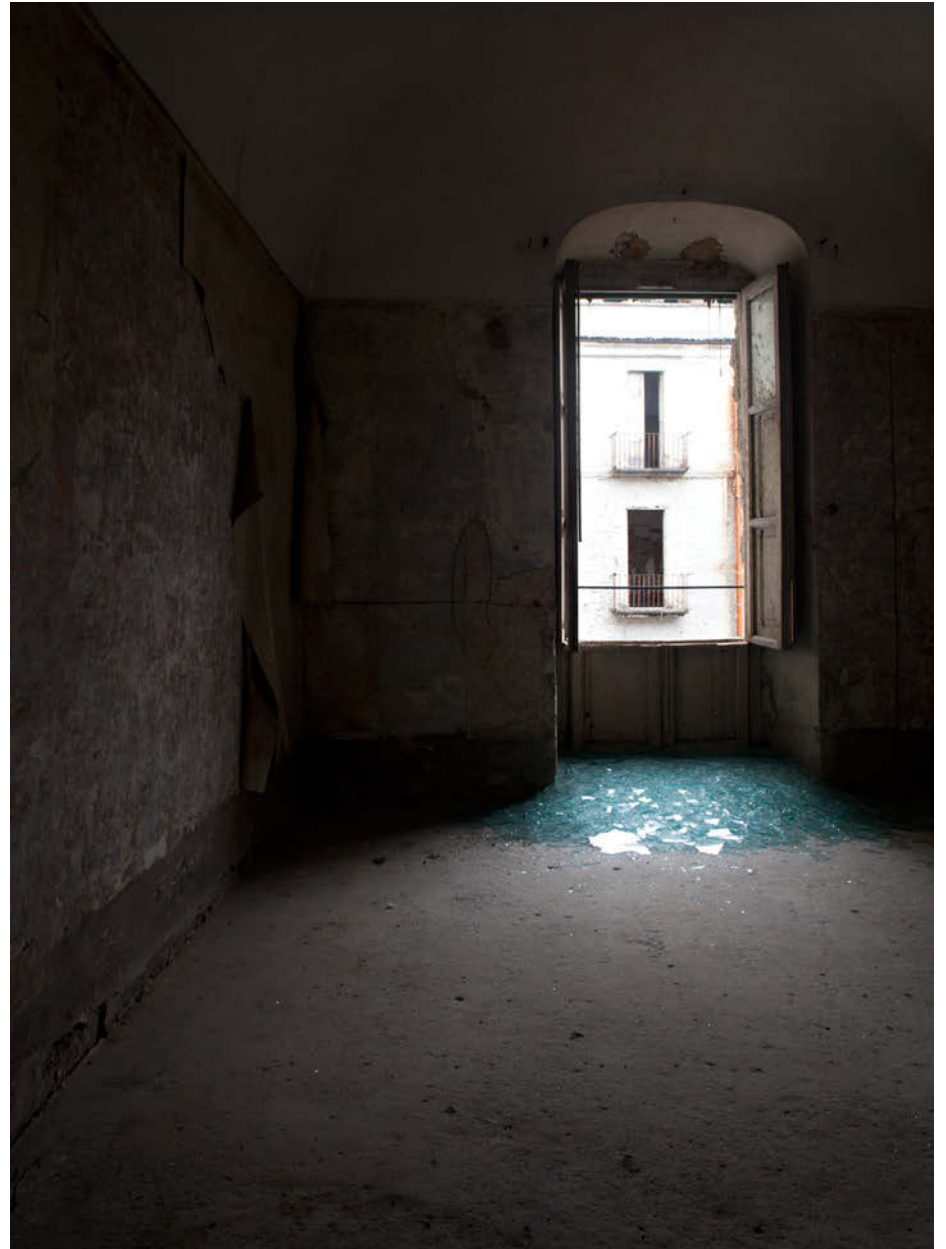
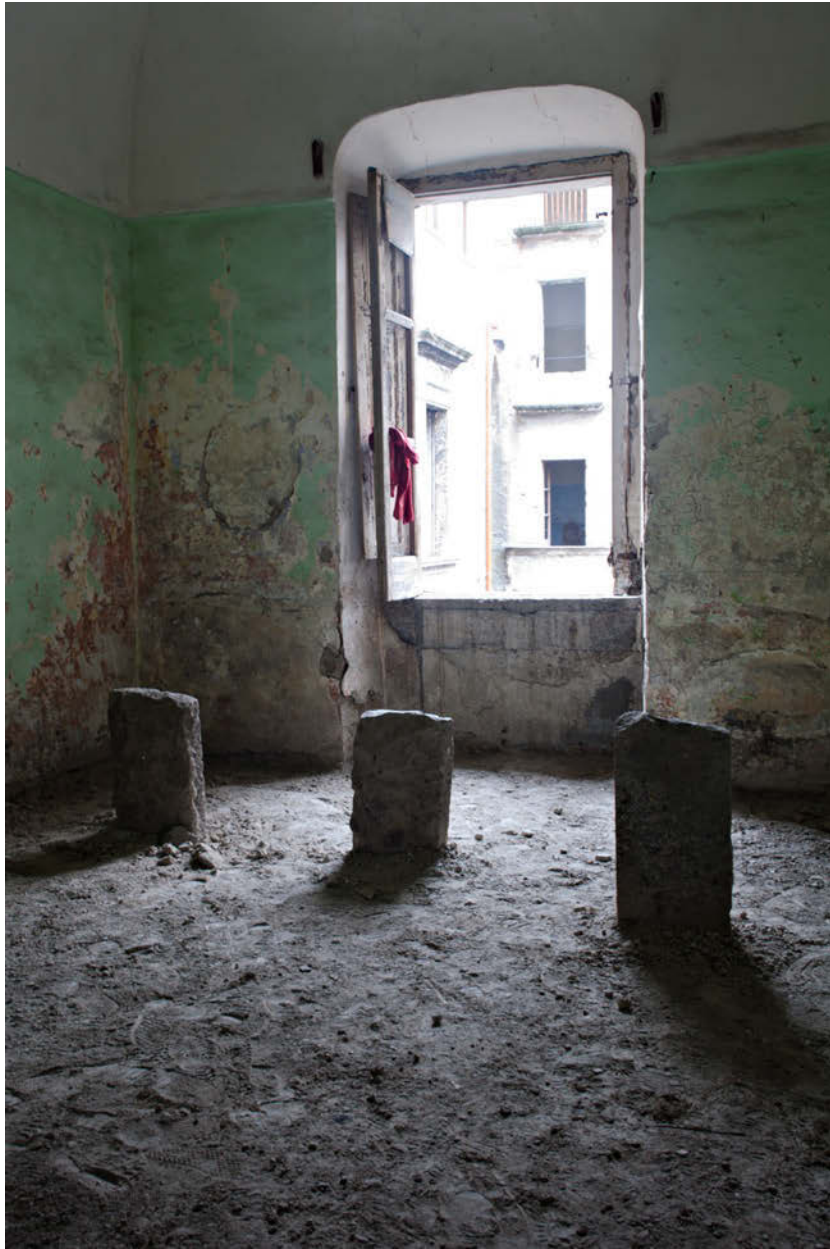
Settembre 2015

















titolo: 6_Miracolo (miracle)

year: 2015

technique: environmental installation

dimensions: site specific

brief description: Heaven does not exist if it is not a place to build everyday. His existence itself becomes the space of doing, and the artwork sacrifices the image to become practice. In this sense 6_Miracle, represents a change in the narrative of Seven Seasons of the Spirit. The opening, on October the 17th of a door riddled by firearm shots as the access of an hypothetical heaven have been the beginning of a collective performance made by simple daily actions. These actions in the space get a symbolic charge and then when they come back to the daily life, to the houses, they keep that high and positive charge.

Taking care of a place, healing it as if it was a sick person, cleaning it, taking the bullets out of the walls like they were arrows in the body of a wounded animal, closing with one's own hands the cracks that reveals the fragility of the shells that we live, becomes a training, a (spiritual?) exercise to read the everyday present in a larger perspective, a vertical perspective.

@: Via delle Zite 40, Napoli

curated by: Eugenio Viola

promoted and organized by: Fondazione Morra

with the support of: Galleria Lia Rumma

in collaboration with: Regione Campania, Comune di Napoli, Municipalità 2 del Comune di Napoli, Vicariato alla Cultura della Curia di Napoli, Soprintendenza per i Beni Architettonici e Paesaggistici per Napoli e Provincia, Accademia di Belle Arti di Napoli, Ordine degli Ingegneri della provincia di Napoli, Autorità Portuale di Napoli

e con il Matronato della Fondazione Donnaregina - Museo Madre
Ottobre 2015













title: 7_Terra dell'ultimo cielo (land of the last heaven)

year: 2016

technique: environmental installations

dimensions: site specific

brief description: ...

@: ex Ospedale Militare, Napoli

a cura di: Eugenio Viola

organizzato e promosso da: Fondazione Morra

con il sostegno di: Galleria Lia Rumma

in collaborazione con: Regione Campania, Comune di Napoli, Municipalità 2 del Comune di Napoli, Vicariato alla Cultura della Curia di Napoli, Soprintendenza per i Beni Architettonici e Paesaggistici per Napoli e Provincia, Istituto Suor Orsola Benincasa, Accademia di Belle Arti di Napoli, Ordine degli Ingegneri della provincia di Napoli, Autorità Portuale di Napoli e con il Matronato della Fondazione Donnaregina - Museo Madre

... 2016



Gian Maria Tosatti (Roma, 16.04.1980) made his first steps in 2002 at the Centre for Theatrical Research and Experimentation of Pontedera working on performances. In 2005 Tosatti moved to Rome to undertake an artistic research between architecture and visual arts which inspired all subsequent works resulting in site specific installations.

In addition, two projects came out of this: «Devozioni» and «Landscapes», undertook in collaboration with Fondazione Volume!. The first is a cycle of ten works for specific architectural spaces of Rome, the second is a project of public art in areas in which acts an urban conflict.

Gian Maria Tosatti is currently working on two new projects, «Fondamenta», based on the identification of contemporary age archetypes and «Le considerazioni...» dedicated to the aenigmas of personal memories and to the traces that human beings leave behind them.

Between 2013 and 2015 his research is focused on a work which will embody the whole city of Naples. It's title is "Sette Stagioni dello Spirito" (Seven Seasons of the Spirit). It is a triennial project in collaboration with Lia Rumma gallery, Fondazione Morra, MADRe museum and all the institutions of the city. Tosatti is also a journalist. He had been editor chief of the weekly cultural newspaper [«La Differenza»](#) and has collaborated with several italian newspapers and magazines as columnist.

In 2011 he curated the project RELOAD, prototype of cultural urban intervention about the temporary use of improductive spaces and since 2013 he's founder of the project "La costruzione di una cosmologia" (www.unacosmologia.com).

His work have been shown at the Hessel Museum of CCS BARD (New York – 2014), the LMCC (New York - 2011), American Academy in Rome (Roma – 2013), Museo Villa Croce (Genova – 2012) Andrew Freedman Home (New York - 2012), Tenuta dello Scompiglio (Lucca - 2012), Palazzo delle Esposizioni (Roma - 2008), Chelsea Art Museum (New York - 2009), BJCEM (2014), Centrale Montemartini – Musei Capitolini (Roma – 2007), Casa Testori (Milano – 2014), MAAM (Roma, 2011), Castel Sant'Elmo (Napoli).

Prizes

2008. Premio Terna 01 (Terna Prize 01) - winner
work: I giorni del silenzio – devozioni IX – I

2009. Cavalierato Giovanile della Provincia di Roma
awarded the title of Knight for the Arts

2009. Co.Co.Co, (Como Contemporary Contest) - mention
work: San Sebastiano - landscape VI

2011. Talent Prize - special mention of the jury panel
work: L'ospite #01

2013. Un'opera per il castello
promoted by MIBAC (Italian ministry of culture) and SSPSAE-NA
winner
work: My dreams, they'll never surrender

2014. Talent Prize - winner
work: 2_Estate (video)

2014. Premio Furla - honorable mention of the jury panel

2015. Premio Rotary-Brera, MiArt - winner
work: Editto

Special mentions

One of the 30 most interesting international artists of his generation for the annual ranking "Future Greats" of the magazine ArtReview in 2015

Best show in the world for 2015 according to the Newyorker art-blog *Eyes Towards the Dove*
work: 3_Lucifero

Top 10 of the best exhibitions in the world for 2014 according to the international magazine Domus
work: My dream, they'll never surrender

Best young artist for 2013 according to the italian magazine *Artribune*

Top 10 of 2011 according to the American art-blog *Eyes Towards the Dove*
work: I've already been here - Apt #102

Residencies

2011. Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (LMCC). New York

2013. Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte. Banna (May-June)

2013. Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte. Banna (September)

2014. Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte. Banna (May)

2015. City of Lille (department of Visual Arts) + La Malterie. Lille (Nov-Dec)

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2015. Histoire et destin - No man's land (Nativité)
Lille, Eglise Sainte Marie Madeleine

2015. 6_Miracolo
curated by Eugenio Viola
Naples, Fondazione Morra, MADRe Museum, Lia Rumma gallery

2015. 5_I fondamenti della luce
curated by Eugenio Viola
Naples, Fondazione Morra, MADRe Museum, Lia Rumma gallery

2015. 4_Ritorno a casa
curated by Eugenio Viola
Naples, Fondazione Morra, MADRe Museum, Lia Rumma gallery

2015. 3_Lucifero
curated by Eugenio Viola
Fondazione Morra, Madre Museum and Galleria Lia Rumma
Napoli - ex Magazzini Generali del porto

2014. My dreams, they'll never surrender
curated by Claudia Borrelli and Angela Tecce
Napoli - Castel Sant'Elmo (permanent work)

2014. Per un museo della polvere
curated by Antonello Tolve e Stefania Zuliani
Salerno - Museo Archeologico

2014. 2_Estate
curated by Eugenio Viola
Fondazione Morra and MADRE Museum
Napoli - ex Anagrafe Comunale.

2014. HomeLand
curated by Cloé Perrone
Annandale-on-Hudson, New York - CCS BARD Hessel Museum of Art

2013. 1_La peste
curated by Eugenio Viola
Fondazione Morra and MADRE Museum
Napoli - Chiesa dei SS. Cosma e Damiano.

2012. Spazio #06
curated by Angel Moya Garcia
Lucca - Tenuta dello Scompiglio.

2012. Tetralogia della polvere
curated by Julia Draganovic and Alessandro Facente
in collaboration with: Comitato d'Amore per Casa Bossi and Rest-Art
Novara - Casa Bossi.

2011. Headache
Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and National Park Service of the U.S.
New York - Building 513a on Governors Island.

2011. Apt #102

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council

New York - Building 513c on Governors Island.

2011. Testamento - devozioni X

curated by Alessandro Facente

Fondazione Volume!

Roma - Water tower of the San Camillo Hospital.

2009. Le considerazioni sugli intenti della mia prima comunione restano

lettera morta – spazio #01

CIAC Centro Internazionale d'Arte Contemporanea

Genazzano (RM) – Castello Colonna.

2008. I giorni del silenzio - devozioni IX.

curated by Alessandro Facente

Fondazione VOLUME!, L'UNION arte contemporanea, DROME magazine.

Roma – Idrovora della Centrale Montemartini. 2008

2007. Il sangue speso di tutte le mie stelle – devozioni VIII.

curated by Alessandro Facente.

L'UNION arte contemporanea

Roma – via Panisperna 61

Selected Group Exhibitions

2015. Format à l'Italienne
work: 2_Estate (videomemory)
Lille, Espace Le Carré

2015. Inside the matter
work: Senza Titolo (dream)
Milano, Fondazione Rivoli 2

2015. Sodobna Istria
curated by Ludovico Pratesi
Portorose (SL), Monfort.

2015. Inside the Matter
Milano, Fondazione Rivoli2

2014. Amalassunta collaudi
curated by Christian Caliandro
Ascoli Piceno, Museo Licini

2014. Giorni Felici
curated by Marta Cereda
Milano, Casa Testori

2013. Mediterranea 16 – BJCEM
Ancona, Mole Vanvitelliana. June 6th 2013

2013. The idea of Realism
curated by Christian Caliandro and Carl D'Alvia
Roma, American Academy. January 30th 2013

2012. Carta Bianca - Roma
curated by Luca Lo Pinto, Sguardo Contemporaneo and Carla Subrizi
Genova, Museo Villa Croce. 2012 May the 26th.

2012. This Side of Paradise.
curated by Manon Slome for No Longer Empty
New York - Andrew Freedman Home. 2012 April 4th

Click or Clash - 3rd Stage
curated by Omayra Alvarado and Julia Draganovic
Milano, Galleria Bianconi

2010. Il raccolto d'autunno continua ad essere abbondante
curated by Milovan Farronato and Chiara Agnello
Milano - Via Farini, Careof, DOCVA. 2010 November the 30th

2010. Il Cimitero della Memoria
curated by Angel Moya Garcia
Vorno, Capannori (Lucca) - Tenuta dello Scompiglio. 2010 May the 29th

2009. Connectivity
curated by Gianluca Marziani
New York – Chelsea Art Museum. 2009 June the 24th

2009. Quotidiana 09
curated by Teresa Iannotta and Stefania Schiavon
Padova - Palazzo Trevisan. 2009 May the 7th

2008. Premio Terna 01
curated by Gianluca Marziani and Francesco Cascino
Roma - Palazzo delle Esposizioni. 2008 November the 25th

2007. Art Territory
curated by Simona Cresci and Dominique Lora.
Roma – Musei Capitolini I Centrale Montemartini. 2007 January the 20th

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