



una boccata d'arte

20 artisti
20 borghi
20 regioni

Milan (MI) June, 27 2022

Una Boccata d'Arte returns for a third consecutive year
20 artists, 20 villages, 20 regions

Until 18th September 2022

The village of Morgex (AO) in the Aosta Valley
welcomes the intervention 'Ai camminatori di storie' by Antonio Della Guardia

www.unaboccatadarte.it

The third edition of Una Boccata d'Arte - a widespread contemporary art project by **Fondazione Elpis**, in collaboration with **Galleria Continua** and with the participation of **Threes Productions** - takes place **until 18th September 2022** throughout Italy and promotes a coming together of contemporary art with the country's artistic and scenic heritage through art installations, exhibitions and performances by **20 artists in 20 villages**, one for each region.

The village of Morgex (AO) in **Valle d'Aosta** will welcome *Ai camminatori di storie* by the artist **Antonio Della Guardia** (1990, Salerno, Italy), a site-specific intervention inspired by the history and the identity of the village, conceived after a short residency period and exploration of the territory.

Ai camminatori di storie is composed of seven walking sticks that refer to the local tradition of wood carving and invite those who use them to engage in performative behaviors.

Antonio Della Guardia: "It is perhaps from the valley's mountains that one experiences the truest sky. This is why it is important to protect the access to it and help walkers to find it".

Una Boccata d'Arte started in 2020 in the middle of the pandemic: a unanimous and original project that's akin to a **unique cultural itinerary** that each year invites the public to discover 20 new Italian villages, rich with centuries old traditions and natural beauty. Thanks to their small size, these villages become the perfect place for an **authentic and intimate contemporary art experience** that is unique for the surprising dialogue that it generates between the surrounding area, the artworks, the local people and the visitors. The installations contribute to an increase in local tourism; they are aimed at a broad and diverse audience, inviting us to rediscover the history and beauty of Italy, with a fresh perspective.

"Una Boccata d'Arte is a widespread project that involves local communities in beauty and culture throughout Italy. Since its conception in the midst of the pandemic, this project was proven to consolidate its original purpose of encouraging local communities and the art world, in order to gather together a network of artists, curators, associations and local entities today, that increases year by year", explains **Marina Nissim**, President of Fondazione Elpis. "With the participation of several artists from abroad in this upcoming third edition, an open dialogue between Italy and the current international situation is instated".

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Maurizio Rigillo, Director of Galleria Continua: *“The villages and the artists are at the core of the project which derives from a careful observation of the history and landscape of the former, and the research and work of the latter. The artists who visited and stayed into the villages for the very first time had the chance to have meaningful dialogues from which art projects and site-specific interventions were conceived. These values of generating encounters and dialogues have led us to research and involve three Ukrainian artists, who are different in personal experiences and artistic languages and have empowered this third edition of Una Boccata d'Arte by sharing their testimony and presenting their projects”.*

From emerging artists to well-known names, the artists selected for their talent and research have been invited to conceive **20 site-specific interventions inspired by the history and identity of the villages**. After a short residency period, supported in each project phase by a local coordinator, they have created twenty projects that cover many different art forms, from painting to sculpture, photography, video, sound and performance, the result of dialogue and encounter with the inhabitants and local artisans.

Una Boccata d'Arte is a unique exhibition experience that leads the public to embark on an extraordinary journey to discover contemporary art and the most authentic heritage of our country. It's a real **open-air museum** that year after year offers an unprecedented cultural experience that's for everyone: not only for professionals but most importantly for curious visitors and art lovers.

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Valle d'Aosta, Morgex (AO)

Antonio Della Guardia

Ai camminatori di storie

25.06 – 18.09.22

Widespread interventions throughout the village

Text by Matthew Noble

The project created by Antonio Della Guardia for the village of Morgex in the Aosta Valley focuses on the bond that the locals have with the valley, and in particular on their visceral tradition of wood carving. An instinctive process of pure expressive and personal necessity which, resulting from an endemic relationship with the mountain, celebrates the wood itself as the distinctive and representative soul of the local area. Starting from this aesthetic and cultural influence, the artist's project involves seven unique sculptures. These are walking sticks made of various types of wood with different shapes and heights, each characterised by the addition of different aluminium objects and by performative instructions engraved along the stem. The sculptures installed in various points of the village and supported by minimal steel structures anchored to the ground, can be taken by the inhabitants of the village and used while exploring the mountains, to then be returned to the same place on the way back. Designed to be used every day of the week, each is a starting point from which to embark on an array of activities that can be done in the Aosta Valley mountains.

Practically useful as walking sticks for explorers, during the journey the sculptures become objects that inspire the imagination. They give way to poetic performances, in which the connection between the orator and the environment is shown to be meticulously caring and able to remodel time and reality.

Works

Ai camminatori di storie, 2022, 7 elements, wood, aluminum, enamel, variable dimensions.

- # 1 Place de l'Archet, Morgex
- # 2 Lavancher Chapel, Morgex
- # 3 Villair Chapel, Morgex
- # 4 Pascal de la Ruine Castle, Morgex
- # 5 Church of Santa Maria Assunta, Morgex
- # 6 Municipal oven in Pautex, Morgex
- # 7 Parco delle Lettura, Morgex

Ai camminatori di storie, 2022, seven drawings in Indian ink on cotton paper, 77 x 57 cm each, Tour de l'Archet, Morgex.

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Acknowledgments

Proloco of Morgex, Municipal Council of Morgex, Morgex Library, Fondazione Natalino Sapegno - Center for historical and literary studies, all suppliers and producers who offered their local products for refreshments, Antonio Del Giudice, Nolana Del Giudice Foundry.

Antonio Della Guardia (1990, Salerno, Italy)

Antonio Della Guardia's research focuses on the conditioning imposed by contemporary work on the body, on cognitive processes and on the most intimate spheres of private life, detecting their signs and at the same time imagining poetic forms and strategies of shared emancipation.

Among his personal exhibitions: *Per un prossimo reale*, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome (2021); *La luce dell'inchiostro ottenebra*, Galleria Tiziana Di Caro, Naples (2018); *Index*, Studioconcreto, Lecce (2018). Some of his group shows: *Burning Speech*, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin (2021); *Panorama*, Procida (2021); *There is no time to enjoy the sun*, Fondazione Morra Greco, Naples (2021); *The corrosion of character, l'uomo flessibile*, Izolyatsia Platform for Cultural Initiatives, Kiev (2019); *Kizart*, videoart festival, MAXXI, Rome (2019), *Samoupravna interesna zajednica u galeriji waldinger*, Galleria Wladinger, Osijek (2018); *Mind the gap*, Associazione Barriera, Turin (2018); *Sensibile comune, le opere vive*, Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Rome (2017); *Disio, nostalgia del futuro*, La Caja, Caracas (2017).

In 2016, he took part in the residence at the Fondazione Antonio Ratti in Como.

Antonio Della Guardia's project in Morgex is coordinated by **Matthew Noble**.

Morgex (AO), Aosta Valley

With about 2,000 inhabitants, Morgex is a municipality located over 900 meters above sea level in Valdigne, in the northwestern Aosta Valley. The first inhabitants of Valdigne were the Salassi, a population of Celtic origin who then had to succumb to Roman rule. From the 11th century, under the rule of the Counts of Savoy, Morgex experienced a long period of stability and freedom. Traces of that era can still be seen: the Bozel stronghold in Villair, Pascal Castle in La Ruine and the Tour de l'Archet, in the centre of the village. The tower built around 998 AD is one of the oldest in the region: measuring 21 metres high it makes up the oldest part of Morgex's castle, a stronghold of the valley floor that leads to France. Today, it is the seat of the "Natalino Sapegno" Center for Historical and Literary Studies Foundation, established in memory of the homonymous professor, literary critic and historian who is among the greatest scholars of fourteenth century Italian literature.

Morgex is home to the highest vineyards in Europe which extend up to 1200 meters above sea level. Here, the "Blanc de Morgex et de La Salle" and the "Chaud de lune" are produced, the grapes of which are harvested at temperatures below zero. The village is also known for its production of excellent produce such as fontina cheese, saffron, honey, apples, cereals, and mountain trout; there is also a historic tradition of coffee roasting. Morgex offers a great variety of routes for lovers of mountain trekking. Walking these routes, you can admire the beauty of the mountain landscapes: Lake d'Arpy, Lake Licony or the Marais Nature Reserve where it is possible to spot various species of water birds during the migratory seasons.

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Fondazione Elpis

Established in 2020 by Marina Nissim, an entrepreneur and collector of contemporary art, its aims are the protection, enhancement and promotion of the expressive forms of contemporary arts and creativity. Through the realization of projects - in particular *Una Boccata d'Arte* - exhibitions, residences and meetings, it focuses primarily on the support of young and emerging artists, coming from different countries and cultures, whose talent deserves opportunities for visibility and support. The new exhibition venue, currently undergoing renovation, will open to the public in Milan in the autumn of 2022.

www.fondazioneelpis.it

Galleria Continua

A contemporary art gallery founded in 1990 by Mario Cristiani, Lorenzo Fiaschi and Maurizio Rigillo, today it has seven locations around the world: in 1990 it opened in San Gimignano, a small Tuscan village; in 2004 in Beijing, in the 798 district; in 2007 in Les Moulins, in the Parisian countryside; in 2015 in Havana, Cuba; in 2020 in Rome, inside The St. Regis Rome, and in São Paulo, Brazil, inside the Pacaembu sports complex. In January 2021, it inaugurated a new exhibition space in Paris, in the Le Marais neighborhood. In November 2021, it opened a temporary exhibition space in Dubai inside the Burj Al Arab, Jumeirah.

www.galleriacontinua.com

Threes Productions

Curatorial team and creative agency based in Milan, which focuses its practice on projects that intersect sound, art and landscape. For the third edition of *Una Boccata d'Arte*, Threes curates the interventions of Riccardo Benassi in Friuli Venezia Giulia, Eva Marisaldi in the Marche and Hanne Lippard in Basilicata.

www.threesproductions.com

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Information

Una Boccata d'Arte III edition

20 artists, 20 villages, 20 regions

25.06 – 18.09.2022

A project by Fondazione Elpis, in collaboration with Galleria Continua,
with the participation of Threes Productions.

www.unaboccatadarte.it

For information: info@unaboccatadarte.it

Social

IG: @unaboccatadarte | FB: Una Boccata d'Arte | #unaboccatadarte

Artists participating in the third edition

Simone Bacco (1995, Rome, Italy), Fabrizio Bellomo (1982, Bari, Italy), Riccardo Benassi (1982, Cremona, Italy), Lucia Cantò (1995, Pescara, Italy), Ludovica Carbotta (1982, Torino, Italy), Isaac Chong Wai (1990, Guangdong, China), Antonio Della Guardia (1990, Salerno, Italy), Victor Fotso Nyie (1990, Douala, Camerun), Serhiy Horobets (1985, Lviv, Ukraine), Alina Kleytman (1991, Kharkiv, Ukraine), Hanne Lippard (1984, Milton Keynes, Great Britain), Luis López-Chávez (1988, Manzanillo, Cuba), Dessislava Madanska (1991, Smolyan, Bulgaria), Giulia Mangoni (1991, Isola del Liri, Frosinone, Italy), Eva Marisaldi (1966, Bologna, Italy), Diana Policarpo (1986, Lisbona, Portugal), Alice Ronchi (1989, Ponte dell'Olio, Piacenza, Italy), Tommaso Spazzini Villa (1986, Milan, Italy), Natália Trejbalová (1989, Košice, Slovakia), Anna Zvyagintseva (1986, Dnipro, Ukraine).

Villages participating in the third edition

Albori (SA), Aggius (SS), Castiglione di Sicilia (CT), Castropignano (CB), Cigognola (PV), Fumone (FR), Grottole (MT), Malamocco (VE), Montegridolfo (RN), Montemarcello (SP), Morgex (AO), Neive (CN), Panicale (PG), Pesariis (UD), Rocca San Giovanni (CH), San Costanzo (PU), San Donato di Ninea (CS), San Lorenzo Dorsino (TN), Sorano (GR), Spinazzola (BT).

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**The pairings of artists
and villages for the third edition
of Una Boccata d'Arte**

Aosta Valley	Antonio Della Guardia in the village of Morgex (AO)
Piedmont	Natália Trejbalová in the village of Neive (CN)
Liguria	Alice Ronchi in the village of Montemarcello , fraction of Ameglia (SP)
Lombardy	Alina Kleytman in the village of Cigognola (PV)
Trentino-Alto Adige	Giulia Mangoni in the village of San Lorenzo Dorsino (TN)
Veneto	Lucia Cantò in the village of Malamocco , a hamlet of Venice (VE)
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	Riccardo Benassi in the village of Pesariis , a hamlet of Prato Carnico (UD)
Emilia-Romagna	Diana Policarpo in the village of Montegridolfo (RN)
Tuscany	Serhiy Horobets in the village of Sorano (GR)
Umbria	Luis López-Chávez in the village of Panicale (PG)
Marche	Eva Marisaldi in the village of San Costanzo (PU)
Lazio	Dessislava Madanska in the village of Fumone (FR)
Abruzzo	Victor Fotso Nyie in the village of Rocca San Giovanni (CH)
Molise	Tommaso Spazzini Villa in the village of Castropignano (CB)
Campania	Fabrizio Bellomo in the village of Albori , a hamlet of Vietri sul Mare (SA)
Puglia	Simone Bacco in the village of Spinazzola (BT)
Basilicata	Hanne Lippard in the village of Grottole (MT)
Calabria	Anna Zvyagintseva in the village of San Donato di Ninea (CS)
Sicily	Isaac Chong Wai in the village of Castiglione di Sicilia (CT)
Sardinia	Ludovica Carbotta in the village of Aggius (SS)

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