

BRAL025 | Biennial of Art, Resilience & Landscape SOForest025 | 14 .01 Museo Sant'Orsola, Florence LWCircus-Onlus | Official Public Program



SOForest025 | Museo Sant' Orsola, Florence | 14th January 2025, 5.00 - 6.30 pm | EPHEMERAL LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION of TEMPORARY URBAN REFORESTATION, ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES + OPEN TALKS on Resilience, Social Inclusion and Sustainability

SOForest025 initiative at and in collaboration with the Museo Sant' Orsola, with the patronage of the Florentine Metropolitan City, made possible thanks to the support of Parma Agency Group and the French brand AYAQ, in support of the mission of the non profit organization LWCircus, for the development of initiatives based on RESILIENCE, SOCIAL INCLUSION and SUSTAINABILITY in the Mediterranean and in developing countries, involves the temporary installation of a portion of Mediterranean forest at the cloister of Museo Sant' Orsola, located in the San Lorenzo district, a lively place of public cultural life in the Florentine Metropolitan city, which for the occasion will be transformed into a portion of Mediterranean landscape (composed of Quercus ilex) to underline the dramatic and urgent theme at a global level of the need for reforestation of our soils, to help address the environmental crisis due to ongoing climate change, while at the same time offering the opportunity to temporarily change the haptic perception of the place, thanks to the presence of dozens of individuals of the Mediterranean forest that comes it, thus acting as a small urban green lung.

During the opening day, together with the presence of live artistic performances (curated by the theatre company of deaf actors of *Laboratorio Silenzio*, based in Milan, the French lithophonist *Tony Di Napoli* and the Sardinian saxophonist *Gavino Murgia*), the various protagonists, supporters and experts, with the occasion, will raise awareness among visitors on the importance of the fundamental issues relating to *RESILIENCE*, *SOCIAL INCLUSION* and *SUSTAINABILITY*.

Subsequently, in a second phase, starting from a second event scheduled for June 17, the project hopes that the portion of Mediterranean forest will leave the Museum to animate a significant part of the historic center of Florence, as a temporary urban reforestation, helping to cool the air, sequester CO2 emissions, counteract the sadly known phenomenon of heat islands, increasingly present in local Florentine life during the summer season.





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OPENING PROGRAM SOF025 I 14th January 2025, 5.00 - 6.30 pmEPHEMERAL LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION of TEMPORARY URBAN REFORESTATION,
ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES + OPEN TALKS on Resilience, Social Inclusion and Sustainability

OPEN to PUBLIC | INTRODUCTION - 5.00 pm

Annacaterina PIRAS + Carlo PIRAS LO PRESTI + Chiara de' ROSSI | LWCircus-Onlus | Firenze WELCOME | Morgane Lucquet Laforgue, Museo Sant' Orsola + Sara Funaro, Mayor Metropolitan City of Florence

OPEN TALKS | 5.15 - 6.00 pm

MODERATION curated by Annacaterina Piras LWCircus-Onlus | Florence Emanuela Paglia | LWCircus-Onlus, UNIFI | Florence

Vincent DEFRASNE & Mike HORN | Former Olimpic Champion and Explorer | Paris Salvatore PIRAS | Administrator of FORESTAS Agency | Sardinia Karin HELMS | Professor AHO, Architect and Design school | Oslo Henri BAVA | Founder and Director AGENCE TER | Paris Marina CERVERA | Executive Director 13th International Landscape Biennial of Barcelona | BCN Vittorio GAZALE | Director of Asinara National Park | Porto Torres (Sardinia) Vittorio RODESCHINI | ARKETIPOS President, LANDSCAPE FESTIVAL | Bergamo Valentina GENSINI | MAD, Murate Art District Director | Florence Patrizia ASPRONI | Confcultura President | Florence

PREVIEW SCREENING OF "The Urban Green Migration, from Scarpa to Mies van der Rohe" - 2023, produced among and in collaboration with Executive Direction of 12th Barcelona International landscape Biennial, HOOD Design Studio, Mies van der Rohe Foundation, Barcelona Park and gardens Department.

PERFORMANCES I 6.00 - 6.30 pm

- Theater Actors + lithopones | LABORATORIO SILENZIO, Milan + Tony Di NAPOLI, Corvessiat
- Saxophone & Voice I Gavino MURGIA, Nuoro

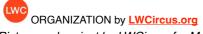
CLOSING of SESSION I Greetings & Acknowledgments to GUESTS, PARTNERS & SPONSORS by Annacaterina PIRAS, Chiara de' ROSSI & Carlo PIRAS LO PRESTI

INSTITUTIONS, PARTNERS & SPONSOR

LWCircus - ONLUS | Florence + Rome + CDMX - Museo Sant' Orsola | Florence - CITTA' METROPOLITANA DI FIRENZE - FO.RE.S.T.A.S., RAS, Regione Autonoma della Sardegna - MASE, Parco Nazionale dell'ASINARA | Porto Torres - 13th International Landscape Biennial | Barcelona - TURENSCAPE ACADEMY | Xixinan, Beijing - AYAQ | Paris - PARMA AGENCY GROUP | Antwerp, Munich, London - MAD, Murate Art District | Florence - LANDSCAPE FESTIVAL | Bergamo - LABORATORIO SILENZIO | Milan - SMALL_ZINE | Florence - LANDUUM | Merida.

+ INFO & RESERVATION REQUIRED (LIMITED ACCESS): apiras.lwcircus@gmail.com, +39 347 8054065

The project, supported by *Parma Agency Group* and *AYAQ*, born within the activities planned by *LWCircus-Onlus* and its national and international partners, as opening activity and collateral events palled for the *BRAL025*, *Biennial f Resilience*, *Art and landscape in Asinara*, for the exceptional alignment of constellations of architecture and landscape biennials that will be held between Venice, Versailles, Asinara and Barcelona during 2025.





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LWCircus-Onlus, www.lwcircus.org The *LWCircus-Onlus* non-profit organization was founded in 2017 to promote its participatory operative program and the series of action - based workshops *LWCircusLab*, focused on experimental methods in the search for new strategies for sustainable urban and rural development, together with the enhancement of cultural landscapes, through social inclusion, thanks to design methods based on shared practices, choral attitudes and osmotic processes within resilient communities in particular sensitive areas of the Mediterranean and developing countries.

Working with an international creative community of architects, artists, landscape architects, photographers and filmmakers, and in close collaboration with local communities from the South, North, East and West, all over the world, *LWCircus* has developed over time a methodology that contemplates the implementation of a participatory project through the exchange of cultural codes, seeking to create a model that is universally replicable, but commensurate with different geographical and social contexts.

Since its foundation, *LWCircus* has been working between Florence, Rome and the Asinara Natural Park, as well as rural villages in the Yucatan and China, with the series of action-based design workshops *LWCircusLabs*, (*ArnoLabs*, *ChinaLabs*, *MayaLabs* and *AsinaraLabs*, held continuously from 2017 to 2024) culminating with the establishment of *BRAL*, *Biennial of Resilience*, *Art and Landscape*, based on Asinara island, which was born as a result of the fruitful multi-year collaboration between *LWCircus* and the Asinara Natural Park, consecrated by participation in the 17th and 18th *Venice Architecture Biennial* (2021 and 2023) and the XI and XII *International Landscape Biennial of Barcelona* (2021 and 2023), together with which it organizes activities over the years to bring the two disciplines of architecture and landscape into dialogue, stimulating a debate on the role of art and artistic languages in the context of the enhancement of cultural heritage and cultural landscapes, through social inclusion.

MUSEO SANT' ORSOLA. "Museo Sant'Orsola, run by the non profit foundation Fondation Artea Storia and directed by curator Morgane Lucquet Laforgue, will open its doors in 2026 in part of the former convent of the same name which is currently under redevelopment. In anticipation of its official opening the museum organizes exhibitions in different spaces of the building site and invites contemporary artists to create site specific works that enter in dialogue with the monument and its history. These exhibitions herald the unique direction that this new Florentine cultural reality will take, conceived as a crossroads between a historical, archaeological and fine arts museum and a contemporary art center with its own collection of 21st century artworks."

THE CONVENT OF SANT'ORSOLA, AN ANCIENT CONVENT IN THE HEART OF FLORENCE. A place steeped in history, the Sant'Orsola complex, which covers more than 17000 m2, has undergone several transformations, and remained inaccessible for over 40 years. Founded in the early 14th century as a convent of Benedictine nuns, in 1435 it became a convent of Franciscan nuns. Since 1542, the tomb of Lisa Gherardini lies there. Identified as the Mona Lisa painted by Leonardo da Vinci, she is the most famous face in history of art! With an edict in 1810, Napoleon definitively put an end to its function as a convent and the dissolution of Sant'Orsola's artistic heritage began. Between 1818 and 1940, the building was converted into a tobacco manufactory and underwent extensive renovation. After the Second World War, the former factory became a refugee centre for Italian families expelled from Istria by Tito's regime. In the 1980s, the Ministry of Finance bought the building to convert it into a military barracks and create new offices. The work undertaken irreparably damaged and denatured the former convent. Both the interior and exterior walls were covered in reinforced concrete. The work was never completed, and Sant'Orsola remained closed and unused until the competition for its restoration, launched by the Metropolitan City of Florence and won by the French group Artea in 2020.

MUSEO SANT'ORSOLA, A MUSEUM BETWEEN MEMORY AND CONTEMPORARY ART. One of the main aspirations of the Museo Sant'Orsola is to help reveal the past of the site through contemporary artistic expression. The museum has taken on a twofold mission: to enhance the tangible and intangible heritage of the former convent and to create a new heritage that is relevant to our times and the issues we face. A permanent exhibition will present the testimonies of yesterday and today, in a fruitful dialogue between past and present, to help us better understand and build the future. The museum will be managed by the Fondation Artea Storia, a corporate non-profit foundation set up by the French group Artea - manager of the entire Sant'Orsola complex for the next 50 years and in charge of the renovation works. The foundation also aims to support contemporary creation in general, through specific commissions and a programme of artistic residencies for emerging talent, that has been launched in summer 2022. (Morgane Lucquet Laforgue)



