

## GAP Project – Graffiti Art in Prison (Florence/online, 27 Mar – 1 Apr 23)

online / Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut, Mar 27–Apr 1, 2023

Natalie Arrowsmith, Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut

GAP Project – Graffiti Art in Prison

Modes of Expression and Resistance in Prison Environments: Graffiti in their Devotional and Political Dimensions

Sixth Intensive Study Week organized by Christine Kleiter (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut) and Federica Testa (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut)

Biblical scenes, figures of saints and martyrs, and depictions of Christ and the Virgin Mary are among the motifs most frequently represented on the walls of the Inquisition prisons as well as other places of reclusion and detention. In this workshop, we will explore the votive dimension of graffiti and the role of muralism as a form of political activism, social criticism, and vehicle for protest and resistance. Locally, we will also consider the historical legacy of sgraffito on Florentine palatial façades and its relationship to contemporary graffiti. We will start with the example of Florence's Le Murate, a former female monastery turned prison, and then move to prison islands as extreme examples of punitive isolation. Other Italian case studies, such as graffiti in the Inquisition prison in Narni, Oreste Nannetti's graffiti in Volterra former psychiatric hospital, and William Kentridge's 'political' frieze in Rome, offer the opportunity to discuss relationships between punishment and expiation, faith and devotion, art and dictatorship, freedom and censorship, and concealment and visibility. Collectively, we will reflect on the (im)permanence of graffiti and its intrinsic fragility as a medium entrusted with the precarious task of preserving memory.

### PROGRAM

This event will take place in a hybrid format. Speakers marked with an asterisk (\*) will take part from remote. To participate online please register in advance via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAVcOytrjorGNRMSQKhsgIQ4uAYNrXf-sp1>

MONDAY 27th MARCH – Political Prisons and Human Rights

Morning session (MAD – Murate Art District, Sala Ketty La Rocca, Piazza delle Murate / online)

09.30 Valentina Gensini (MAD – Murate Art District), MAD: The Urban Regeneration and The Uncomfortable Heritage

10.15 Gabriella Cianciolo Cosentino (Universität zu Köln), Prison Graffiti: A Genre?

10.30 Federica Testa (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut) and Christine

Kleiter (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut), Introduction

11.00 Coffee break

11.20 Antonella Tuoni (Sollicciano Prison), Institutional Greetings

11.30 Camilla Perrone (Università degli Studi di Firenze), I CARE: Turning the Prison of Florence (Italy) into a Peripheral Centrality via Social Inclusion, Suburban Regeneration and Participatory Design

Afternoon session (KHI – Palazzo Grifoni, Sala Conferenze, Via dei Servi 51 / online)

15.00 Gerhard Wolf (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut), Institutional Greetings

15.15 Vincenzo Scalia (Università degli Studi di Firenze), Isolation and Annihilations. Political Prisons and Bare Life

16.15 Sofia Ciuffoletti (Università degli Studi di Firenze), Symbols, Art and Resistance in Prison. A Legal-Anthropological Perspective

TUESDAY 28th MARCH – Prison Islands

Morning session (MAD – Murate Art District, Sala Ketty La Rocca, Piazza delle Murate / online)

09.30 Valerio Calzolaio\* (author), Hundreds of Prison Islands: The Double Isolation of the Sapiens on Prison Islands (talk in Italian)

10.30 Milica Prokić (University of Glasgow), Written in Stone, Written on Stone: A History of the Prisoners Art, Literature and Poetry on Goli Otok (Isola Calva)

WEDNESDAY 29th MARCH

- Part I: The Devotional Dimension of Graffiti

- Part II: Public Art as Palimpsest

Morning session (KHI – Palazzo Grifoni, Sala Conferenze, Via dei Servi 51 / online)

09.30 Mia Trentin (The Cyprus Institute – STARC), Devotional Aspects of Cypriot Medieval and Early Modern Graffiti

10.30 Anna Clara Basilicò, (Università Padova/Venezia), Showing Devotion. The Case of Narni Prison

11.15 Coffee break

11.30 Andreas Huth\* (TU Berlin), Wall Politics. Florentine Sgraffito Decorations of the 14th and 15th Century

12.30 Gerhard Wolf (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut), GAP

Public event (MAD – Murate Art District, Piazza delle Murate)

Multiplier Event of the GAP Project

18.00 Exhibition opening 102 m by Nicolò Degiorgis

18.30 Presentation of the GAP project results

THURSDAY 30th MARCH – Psychiatric Hospitals and Outsider Art

Morning session (MAD – Murate Art District, Sala Ketty La Rocca, Piazza delle Murate / online)

09.30 Marcos Larraz Rincón (Universidad de Zaragoza), A Decade of Change. Photography and Social Perception of Spanish Psychiatry in the 1970s

10.15 Virginia di Bari (Università degli Studi di Palermo), Carved in Stone: The Wall of NOF4

FRIDAY 31st MARCH – Conservation and Exhibition of Street Art

Afternoon session (KHI - Palazzo Grifoni, Sala Conferenze, Via dei Servi 51 / online)

15.00 Laura Barreca (Artistic Coordinator of the GAP Project / Accademia di Belle Arti di Catania),  
Introduction to the Session

15.15 Carlota Santabàrbara (Universidad de Zaragoza), Street Art Conservation in Spain

16.30 PhD round table and concluding remarks, moderated by Juan Carlos Lozano López (Universidad de Zaragoza) and Jorge Jiménez López (Universidad de Zaragoza)

SATURDAY 1st APRIL – #1 Open Day – I CARE: Carcere e Città

Sollicciano Prison, Via G. Minervini, 2/r

09.30 Study Day organized by Camilla Perrone (Università degli Studi di Firenze)

Contact:

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Reference:

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