

CALL FOR ARTISTS 2021

venerazioneMUTANTE

spazioSERRA is an exhibition site located in Lancetti railway station in Milan. The heterotopic position and the particular glass architecture allow the constant fruition of the works, generally site-specific. For the previous season, spazioSERRA selected six artists to create solo exhibitions focusing on the topic of Horror Vacui. For the next exhibition season, spazioSERRA announces a theme inspired by the nature of the place: by the permanence of the unstable, by the ability to give life to the finished work of art and to change its features, to transform the shape and create an exhibition in progress. The new series of exhibitions of spazioSERRA will be entitled *venerazioneMUTANTE* (mutant veneration).

The mutation within our DNA has allowed us to evolve from single-celled organisms into the dominant species, but this process lasts millennia and man will never be able to see his changed form: this is where art comes into play, to perpetrate images and stories over time so that his traces are not lost. However, with the advent of new structures related to contemporary art, it has no longer fulfilled this principle, but rather has given devotion and image to things and objects, making it become an "expanded art". The fetishism of the objects that make up the works has become, in turn, a cult, a veneration, capable of giving even more value to the artwork itself. spazioSERRA wants to bring to the light of artistic veneration not a work, but its mutation. Creating a work that changes over the course of its existence means going against the idea of stasis and permanence, against the idea of conservation and restoration, against the idea of image and icon. It is an ongoing process that is often not decided

a priori, but whose final form depends on chance. The intent is to create a continuous and always different vision, which day after day is created and recreated, in a perspective of mutation linked to the different technologies of artistic methodologies.

From paper to wax, from body to sleep, in the last hundred years the artists have created works in constant mutation: in 1919 Marcel Duchamp made the Unhappy Readymade, a book hanging on the balcony peeled and destroyed by the wind; Kurt Schwitters began the Merzbau in 1923, an artwork of environmental dimensions including every kind of material, such as sheets, animals, objects and plaster, which never ended; in 1960 Jean Tinguely designed the self-destructing machine, changing again the concept of object in the art; in the sixties Dieter Roth worked with perishable materials, mostly food grade, to rot and putrefy the work; in the seventies, Orlan began a series of facial transformations that would lead her to have a constantly changing social aspect; in 1991 Félix González-Torres invited viewers to take the candies that he accumulated in an amount equal to the weight of his AIDS-affected partner Ross; in the nineties Janine Antoni worked on Slumber, a machine for weaving a blanket based on eye movements during her REM phase; since the 2000s Urs Fischer has been making wax sculptures that melt from the inside, dispersing their original shape; and many more. These artists make art temporary and without fixed representations, dynamic and fluid.

If change is the only certainty of science, art will necessarily have to demonstrate it.

Art.1 - PURPOSE

The call is intended to select artists for the creation of solo exhibitions in the 2021 season of spazioSERRA. venerazioneMUTANTE, the topic of the new call of spazioSERRA, moves from its natural characteristic of being a place where time sometimes stops, sometimes accelerates, but never flows ordinarily, and where the artworks are in a condition halfway between the precarious and the immanent.

The purpose of the call is to create exhibitions with works that have a perennial state of change and that can be seen having the feeling of constant transformation, albeit imperceptible. The idea of creating a work that has the concept of mutation as its basic requirement arises from an important feature of space, that of being alive. The call is aimed at young artists who, starting from their own research, want to create a changing exhibition, which presents a site-specific work capable of altering over the time of its permanence. This formal change may be due to several factors selected by the artist, based on his field of work and on the basis of the exhibition to be created.

Art.2 - ADMISSION CRITERIA

The call is open to all contemporary artists, individual or collective, of all nationalities and aims to select a maximum of 6 candidates for the 2021 exhibition season. spazioSERRA is one of the non-profit entities of the Artepassante project with the aim of providing opportunities to young contemporary artists: for this reason, the participation to the call is free for artists under 35. However, in order not to neglect its principles of fairness, spazioSERRA wants to give the opportunity to participate also to those born before January 1, 1985 asking an enrollment fee of € 20, which will cover the ordinary space management costs. Only candidates over 35 must carry out a wire transfer to the bank account registered to: Le Belle Arti Associazione di Promozione Sociale at the bank Intesa San Paolo S.p.A.

IBAN IT24P0306909606100000136886

With the reference:

“Bando spazioSERRA 2021 - Name Surname”

The payment receipt must then be uploaded in the appropriate section on the website.

Art. 3 - TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Interested artists can register by Sunday 27 September 2020, on the website www.spazioserra.org providing a portfolio in pdf format containing:

- a selection of works;
- short biography;
- artistic curriculum;
- a project proposal indicating the artist's intentions (practical and conceptual);
- links to any artist promotion pages;

- references (telephone number, e-mail address).
The portfolio must weigh a maximum of 30 MB.

Art. 4 – THE FINAL EXHIBITION

After having passed all the selection phases, the artist will be contacted by spazioSERRA for the planning and organization of a personal exhibition in all its parts and modalities. spazioSERRA's resources will be dedicated to the artistic research of the selected artist and his exhibition, which must be pertinent to the theme of the call, under penalty of exclusion. The exhibition will be curated, communicated and managed by spazioSERRA which will guarantee maximum visibility on the various communication channels. Including its preparation, exhibition and dismantling, the exhibition will occupy the venue for no longer than two months: the presence of the artist is required for its preparation, for the vernissage, for the dismantling, the finissage and any related events.

Art.5 – THE VENUE AND THE JURY

spazioSERRA was born from the Artepassante project, a program for the regeneration of urban spaces, headed by Le Belle Arti APS in collaboration with RFI (the Italian railway network), with the patronage of the Municipality of Milan and the recognition of “Subject of regional relevance” of the Lombardy Region. spazioSERRA is a non-profit exhibition space that was created with the aim of enhancing the Milanese territory through the work of young artists, in a place, the suburban one, not dedicated to art, where art becomes an accident.

The space has an octagonal structure built in metal and with glass walls. To access it there is a glass door on one side and on the opposite side there are two sliding windows that can be opened only during the presence of the artist or the space managers. The space has five neon lights on the ceiling and does not present any source of electricity, therefore works that need electricity will have to provide for an autonomous power supply system. The space can be used at will of the selected artist as long as it is returned at the end of the exhibition in the same conditions in which it was delivered. The artworks in the venue can be of any type, shape and material, but must consider the health regulations and the safety of the spectators.

The following collaborate in the realization of the exhibitions: critic and curator Vincenzo Argentieri, event management Silvia Biondo, administration and coordination Virginia Dal Magro, staging Angelo Di Matteo, social media coordination Massimiliano Fantò and Giacomo Lambrugo, web design Nicolas North, graphics Valentina Toccaceli, photography Cristiano Rizzo. The jury will be composed of the spazioSERRA Collective.

Art.6 - DEADLINES AND PHASES

Call deadline:

September 27, 2020

First selection:

by October 14, 2020

Second selection with individual interviews:

by October 30, 2020

Finalists announcement by email:

31 October 2020

Start of the exhibition season:

winter 2021

Art. 7 - COSTS CHARGED TO THE SELECTED ARTIST

The exhibitions created in spazioSERRA according to this call are totally free, the selected artist will not have to pay any cost for renting the venue or remunerating the work of spazioSERRA resources.

The costs to be paid will be exclusively:

- The annual membership card of Le Belle Arti APS at a cost of € 20;
- The production costs of the artwork, that will remain his property;
- Travel, board and lodging costs in the period which includes the setting up and the events scheduled for the exhibition.

Art. 8 - RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SELECTED ARTIST

The space must be periodically sanitized and kept in order. The winners of the call will be required to sign a regulation, which will be provided in advance by spazioSERRA to the artists selected for the individual interviews.

Art. 9 - CONSENT

Each candidate expressly authorizes spazioSERRA to process personal data transmitted pursuant to law 675/96 ("Privacy law") and subsequent amendments of Legislative Decree 196/2003 (Privacy code). Each participant in the call grants free of charge to the spazioSERRA Collective the reproduction rights of the works and texts released, for the purpose of publication on the website and other forms of communication, promotion and activities of the organization. The Collective reserves the right to make changes if the need arises. Membership and participation to the call implies unconditional acceptance of all the articles contained within it.

For more information and for any technical problems contact info@spazioserra.org

