



# IMAGONIRMIA AWARD

2017 : Variable displacement

## Call for proposals

### Elena.

Elena chose art as the horizon for her thoughts and as her own life style. Once you choose art as both your horizon and form, it means to bring new questions into the world and expose yourself as part of it. It is impossible to remain neutral for those who work with and within art: the men and the women in such a field are constantly creating, thinking, staring, asking, coming up with new ideas and points of view in the world.

Elena's point of view was one of someone who, through the observation of the contemporaneity and the processes of artistic production and fruition within it, detected the counterpoint between the power of the image the power of the imaginary and the deterioration of social ties, so much that if on one side everything aims to overproduction, and on the other side to fragmentation, are there – Elena asks us – any liberation spaces?

Elena's point of view was also about questioning the grey areas zones of a hegemonic art system mainly through the rhetoric of its own speech, hoping for a complex art able to bring back plurality, a choir of uneven voices, each one bearing its original and civil language. Elena delved into art thinking it as a space for relationship, sharing and common emancipation.

This is, together with the love that we gave and received from her as a human creature, Elena's heritage, which we draw fully from, in order to keep anew her search and young work, thanks to the Cultural Association IMAGONIRMIA of Elena Mantoni.

IMAGONIRMIA was thus born as an act of love for Elena and her research, and as a commitment to value projects, processes, actions, orientations that consider art as capable of creating languages and poetically regenerate the world.

By inheriting Elena's cultural legacy, IMAGONIRMIA translates its intents and develops paths for the production and promotion of art, namely yet not exclusively towards the younger generations, and places among its aims the support, the promotion and the disclosure both in Italy and abroad of intellectual, cultural and artistic expressions in all its forms, including awards, scholarships and the creation of educational programs.

In the spirit of such openness and taking into account the contradictions and the criticality as well as the creative and narrative potential of the contemporaneity, we identified in the poetics of the landscape and the garden, Elena's beloved, one of the our milestones on which to place our attention with Elena Mantoni's IMAGONIRMIA AWARD.

Nowadays more than ever, this is a theme we look at with confidence, as we rest assured that these processes related to social and economic innovation about which art can and should have its opinion, require collective and mutual systems of values between mankind, environment and territories.

### Imagonirmia. The association, the call, the award

The cultural association IMAGONIRMIA by Elena Mantoni was born in 2014 by the will of Mantoni family, that with the disappearance of his daughter Elena, is committed to manage its intellectual heritage. The Association's aim is to support the artistic thinking and production and contemporary culture in its various fields, through educational and working opportunities for who works in the creativity, arts and entertainment. The name of the association comes from the title of Elena's thesis, Imagonirmia: processes of deconstruction of the imaginary and new meanings of creative reappropriation, degree from NABA, MA Degree in Visual Arts and Curatorial Studies in the academic year 2011- 2012, and identifies in the word Imaginary, the origin of the projects that supports and promotes, to stimulate a new look on the present.

IMAGONIRMIA is based in Treviso and works at local and National level, interpreting its own actions as a growth path. Therefore it works for the dialogue, the deepening, sharing and networking of ideas, people, places, giving economic and strategic support (see Projects: [www.imagonirmia.org](http://www.imagonirmia.org)) with the clear intention to work towards a redistribution of opportunities, carry out useful, sustainable and replicable practices, in order to develop an important impact in the way to do, think, live, share and valorise art, culture and social fabric.

### SUBJECT

In this context, it was created the secon edition of IMAGONIRMIA Award that, with the title *Variable displacement*, keeps in consideration the Elena's idea, of "garden" as common good, and from here it intends to intercept the interest of artists whose work relates to the minor places, understood as the ground of civil affection in dialogue both with rootedness as with displacement. *Variable displacement* calls proposals able to examine routes and border areas between urban and rural world, where it's possible to engage the poetics, the policies and the practices of the garden in its real and symbolic, generative and regenerative results.

### ADMITTED PARTICIPANTS

*Variable displacement* Award opens a public call to artists currently residents in Europe, whatever their nationality, without restriction of artistic disciplines (visual and plastic arts, electronic arts, video, photography, film, music, theatre, poetry, literature, performance, participatory arts, net-art,

others) and no age limit as long as external to the established systems of production, promotion and distribution of art, for which the opportunities, provided by the call, are an opportunity not had before, and that they intend to use to strengthen their artistic paths.

The call is aimed at artists who, already sensitive and active on the issues called by us « urban dramaturgy » and « dramaturgy of the present » they want to face with the opportunities and the objectives of this call and the place of Chiaravalle (MI), Milan's southern outskirts, the habitat of intervention and restitution.

With the terms « **urban dramaturgy** » and « **dramaturgy of the present** » we mean those processes and works that, coming from different areas and languages of artistic expressions and opened to different expressive formats, they influence on territories and local communities in the awareness that art, creativity and culture are levers of common emancipation, engine of social cohesion, spaces of generation and regeneration of community relations. We are aware that art, involving a sensitive plan and by dialoguing with the material and the immaterial, with the real and the symbolic, it plays a precursor role in the society, as anticipation of meaning, it's able to network and link between different disciplines: economy, philosophy, natural sciences, human sciences, political science, and also ideas and practices of the common good, common resources, informal economies, biodiversity, intercultural, social rights...they consider art as a permeable and generous that brings the ability to read and live the present.

## PLACE / CONTEXT

Chiaravalle is the landscape environment and laboratory of ideas that we have identified as a place of confrontation, pool of design, development and acceptance of this call for proposal. Here in the XII century St. Bernard of Clairvaux founded the monastery and attributed to the place the name of Chiaravalle that expresses the intention: the valley, inhospitable land, it would be transformed by the monks, holders of technological innovation and territory management. The Abbey of Chiaravalle Milanese became one of the European agriculture cathedrals. Around the abbey, it developed the agricultural village, adjoining the city of Milan in 1923. Today it is a neighborhood on the southern outskirts of Milan inside the South Agricultural Park, surrounded by countryside, yet separated from the urban fabric where the interests of the local administration for the rural identity and the cultural centrality of amenity-resources are concentrated (abbey, Vettabbia park with educational rotten, historical paths of the network of farms and irrigation tracks of the fountains). Today being between rural and urban fringe through an social integrated laboratory is a important possibility to rethink the idea of the contemporary city.

## TIMES

The notice will be published in italian and english language on December 20th, 2016, through the AIR - artinresidence ([www.artinresidence.it](http://www.artinresidence.it)), an international network of artist residencies, and it will end on February 10th, 2017. The works of the artistic Commission will start from february 15th, 2017 compatibly with the number of submitted proposals, they will be completed later this month. During the month of March 2017, IMAGONIRMIA will publish the winner proposal.

## How to participate

The participation is free.

Each participant have to send an email to **info@farearte.org** with the subject « IMAGONIRMIA AWARD– Application » and attached the following documents:

--> The Application Form (doc 1);

--> cv of the artist and/or participant team.

--> The proposal with:

- Theoretic-poetic exposition
- practical indications of the implementation process and the final product;
- useful data for understanding the feasibility and economic sustainability;
- indication of the total costs;

Before writing the proposal, we recommend to download and analyse the project *monastery threshold | yards to the planetary garden* (doc 2) which takes place in Chiaravalle (Mi) and the photos dossier (doc 3), an example of experience virtuous linked to the territory that is related to the intents and poetics of the 2st edition of Imagonirmia Award.

For logistical and economical reasons, it is better to participate in max 1 or 2 people.

The texts have to be in doc or pdf and images in jpg or png.

For large files (over the 8mb) use specific programs as wetransfer.

## Commission

The members of artistic Commission are: Isabella Bordoni (curator Imagonirmia Call and Award), Pier Fabrizio Paradiso (member of Imagonirmia Association), Andrea Perini (Terzo Paesaggio and co-creator of *soglia monastero | cantieri per il giardino planetario*), Elisabetta Bianchessi (Center of Studies on Landscape and Garden Bergamo), Beatrice Oleari or Barbara Oteri (FARE). They will dialogue with all the members of IMAGONIRMIA Elena Mantoni's Cultural Association. The coordination work is done by Fare ([www.farearte.org](http://www.farearte.org)).

## The Award

The selected proposal wins the Prize of: o an artist's residency

--> A residency.

Stay of 5 consecutive weeks, at FARE, Frigoriferi Milanesi – Milano, to be agreed with the

artist between April and June 2017. The residency is continuously for one person and it can be extended occasionally to 2 people;

- > One contribution for living and travel expenses of 500 (five hundred) euro, in the case of a group, the share will be divided equally among the members.
- > One contribution for the travel until a max of 200 (two hundred) euro.
- > An economic contribution for the production of 2.500 (two thousand five hundred) euro. The amount should be considered net of any tax and/or withholding tax;
- > Curatorial support;
- > Educational courses to agreed.
- > Connection of the project with *monastery threshold | yards to the planetary garden* that will be realised in Chiaravalle between May and June 2016, to have recognition, effectiveness and visibility of the final result; o Printed publication with texts and images.

### [Connection to the prize with « \*monastery threshold | yards to the planetary garden\* » project](#)

Terzo Paesaggio Association, develops social innovation practices by electing the landscape – and in particular its undecided and marginal level – as a privileged field of action; it supports the concept of cultural landscape; it sensitizes users and residents to the value of the landscape as a relational space. The project *threshold monastery | yards to the planetary garden* activates cultural and regenerative policies for Chiaravalle focusing on the participation of the residents and city users like temporary residents. It rethinks Chiaravalle as Rural-Urban District with high cultural vocation reinterpreting, in a contemporary way, the aura of the Cistercian monastery.

[Attachment 1 – Application form](#)

[Attachment 2 – Project Summary of « \*monastery threshold | yards to the planetary garden\* »](#)

[Attachment 3 – Photos dossier/ Chiaravalle environment](#)

## PARTNER

### **FARE** ([www.farearte.org](http://www.farearte.org))

FARE was started in 2008 with the aim of endorsing and promoting culture. It principally focuses on the art sector but also extends to include wider contemporary culture. A defining characteristic of FARE and its work is an emphasis on 'listening' to the system and the people within it: what is missing, what needs to be done, what would people like to do, etc. Through consultancy, FARE interacts with public and private bodies with a view to networking and sharing interests, projects and strategies. This results in projects and collaborations with associations, training bodies, cultural organisations and more complex or 'public' projects such as the articulation and management of national and international networks in sectors such as education and mobility for artists, curators and cultural workers. FARE has created in 2010 AIR – artinresidence network, the Italian network of artists residencies ([www.artinresidence.it](http://www.artinresidence.it)) that provides information about registered residences and reports news, events and open call. It's a reference point for the Italian residences and not only thanks to an internationalization process just started.

**Open Care** ([www.opencare.it](http://www.opencare.it)), **Frigoriferi Milanesi** ([www.frigoriferimilanesi.it](http://www.frigoriferimilanesi.it)) Open Care – Servizi per l'Arte is an art facility centre and has been a leader in its field since 2003. Open Care provides integrated services for the management, enhancement and conservation of works of art and precious objects, in premises that are equipped with the most innovative technologies and the support of handling, conservation, restoration and art consulting experts. Open Care's headquarters are in via Piranesi in Milan, in the historic Frigoriferi Milanesi complex which was built in 1899 as an ice factory. It hosts the beautiful Liberty building Palazzo del Ghiaccio and numerous professional firms operating in the artistic and cultural spheres.

### Contacts

FARE

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