

# MicroCollection

the invisible side of art

[www.microcollection.it](http://www.microcollection.it)



Utopia of an invisible museum, *Cabinet de regard: waiting flowerbed*, 2010, Castello di Jerago, Italy

## **MicroCollection Museum**

MicroCollection Museum was founded in May 1990 when Elisa Bollazzi, its Director, was visiting the British Pavilion at the Venice Biennale and, almost by chance, picked up a few fragments that had accidentally fallen onto the floor from a fantastic work by Anish Kapoor.

These “microparticles”, overlooked by everyone else, represented the intuition of a new form of creation. From then on, the search was for new “micro-acquisitions” that would otherwise be trodden underfoot and chucked out with the rubbish, re-experiencing each time the magic of that special moment of intuition, the creative act.

Microcollection now counts hundreds of art-particles that can be viewed under the microscope, so the public can sense the invisible and become aware of the creative freedom.

Dozens of spontaneous collaborators constantly help enrich the collection.



*Cabinet de regard: Natura, 2014* - Museo Civico Palazzo Borea d'Olmo, Sanremo, Italy

## Collection

*MicroCollection* owns an important collection of contemporary art. In addition to a number of prominent movements such as Fluxus, Pop Art, Minimal Art, Conceptual Art and Arte Povera, many renowned international artists are represented in the collection.

Important works by artists like Joseph Beuys, Daniel Buren, Tony Cragg or Richard Long and major Italian artists like Alberto Burri, Piero Gilardi, Aldo Mondino, Giuseppe Penone, Giulio Paolini, and many others, are also present in the collection.

## Exhibitions

A basic item in the *MicroCollection Museum's* plans for growth is the organization of exhibitions and events.

Pivotal in these itinerant exhibitions are the *Cabinets de Regard*, which are simple, portable, compact “observation chambers”, fitted with a microscope so viewers can sense the invisible and see the true essence of art by changing the way they look at the “art system”.

The exhibitions will describe the various main tendencies in the history of contemporary art.



*Cabinet de regard: William Cobbing, Igor Eskinja, Petrit Halilaj, Camille Henrot , Xu Zhen, 2018*

## **CABINETS DE REGARD**

The exhibitions will describe the various main tendencies in the history of contemporary art



## **Solo Shows**

KAPOOR, Anish - *24 May 1990*

PAOLINI Giulio - *La casa di Lucrezio 1981-84*

BRAEIN Kristina - *The problem of functionality 2004 - 2008*

SEHGAL Tino - Fondazione Trussardi, 2008

RAMA Carol

FONTANA Lucio

## **Conceptual Experiences**

### **The forerunners**

DUCHAMP Marcel

RAY Man

BEUYS Joseph

### **Conceptual research**

PAOLINI Giulio

KOSUTH Joseph

GONZÁLES-TORRES Félix

### **The body**

ACCONCI Vito

NAUMAN Bruce

BARNEY Matthew

### **The world**

ARIAS-MISSON Alain

ART&LANGUAGE

VAUTIER Ben

CHIARI Giuseppe

ONO Yoko

## **Microitalics**

ALVIANI Getulio - *L'interrelazione cromo speculare*, 1969

ASSAEL Micol - *Elektron*, 2007

CATTANEO Alice - *Untitled*, 2007

CEROLI Mario - *Le bandiere di tutto il mondo*, 1968

COLOMBO Gianni - *Spazio elastico*, 1967-68

DADAMAINO - *L'inconscio razionale*, 1976 - 77

FAVELLI Flavio - *Palco Buffet*, 2007

FONTANA Lucio - *Ambiente spaziale*, 1968

MAROTTA, Gino - *Albero del paradiso*, 1972

MUNARI Bruno - *Filopeso*, 1981

PASCALI Pino - *La vedova blu*, 1968

PERRONE Diego - *La fusione della campana*, 2008

PISTOLETTO Michelangelo - *The Cubic Meter of Infinity in a mirroring Cube*, 1966-2007

RAMA Carol - *Presagi di Birnam*, 1970

TUTTOFUOCO Patrick - *Walkaround*, 2002

## **The Italian Art of the second half of the 20th Century**

### **The Great Masters**

BURRI Alberto

FONTANA Lucio

### **Arte Povera**

BOETTI Alighiero

GILARDI Piero

KOUNELLIS Jannis

MERZ Mario

PASCALI Pino

PENONE Giuseppe

ZORIO Gilberto

### **From Nouveau Réalisme to Transavanguardie**

ARIENTI Stefano

CHIARI Giuseppe

CUCCHI Enzo-POMODORO Arnaldo

ROTELLA Mimmo

SCHIFANO Mario

### **The new generations**

BIANCO-VALENTE

BORGHI Enrica

CATTANEO Alice

CECCHINI Loris

FANTIN Emilio

MORO Liliana-RUEDIGER Bernhard

PICCO Gabriele



Window, group video-Sketch, May 2020, Dreiviertel, Berne, Switzerland





Nicolas Wolf  
Pamela Breda  
Elisa Bollazzi  
Ilya Fedotov-Fedorov  
Ustina Yakovleva  
Maria Motyleva  
Bermet Borubaeva

and art students from  
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan  
Asan Dzhuzbaev  
Altynai Abdrakhmanova





Testimoni Oculisti, 2019, Zentrum, Varese, Italy



*Cabinet de regard: MicroItalics*, Kunstraum Dreiviertel, 2019, Bern, Switzerland



*Art Sowing: Italian Art, Kunstraum Dreiviertel, 2019, Bern, Switzerland*





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KUNSTRAUM  
dreiviertel.ch



ELISA BOLLAZZI  
**MICROCOLLECTION**  
15 - 28. Februar

Solo show, Kunstraum Dreiviertel curated by Anna Fatyanova, 2019, Bern, Switzerland



Solo show, Kunstraum Dreiviertel curated by Anna Fatyanova, 2019, Bern, Switzerland

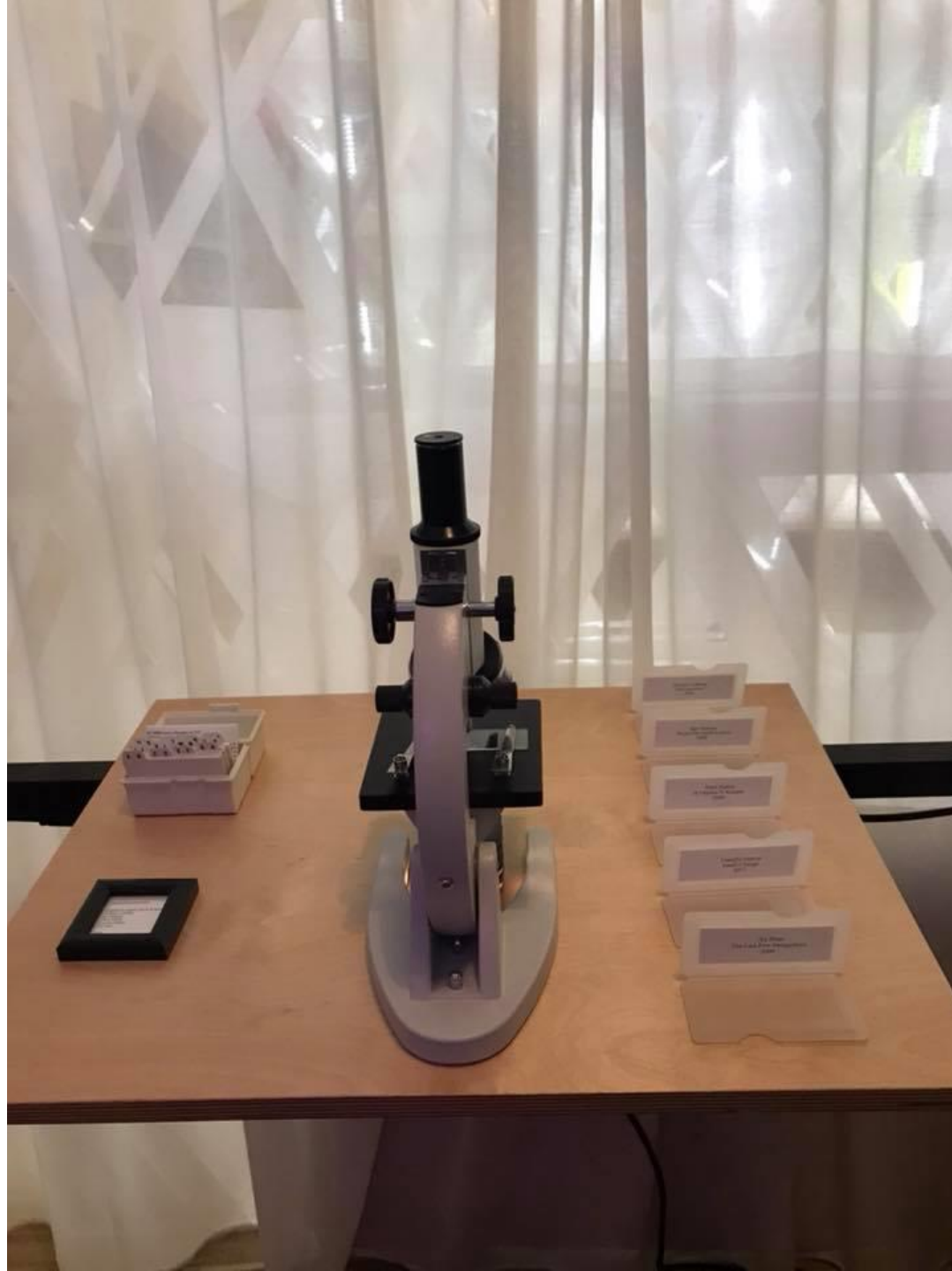


*Cabinet de regard: micro&macro, 2018 - NoPlace4, Ex Ceramica Vaccari, Santo Stefano di Magra, Italy*





*Cabinet de regard: micro&macro, 2018 in Hotello Abitare un ritardo, 999 domande, Triennale di Milano*





*CABINET PROJECT* curated by ArtSci Salon / Roberta Buiani, University of Toronto, Canada, 2017





*CABINET PROJECT* curated by ArtSci Salon / Roberta Buiani, University of Toronto, Canada, 2017





Sračok & Pöhlmann

For Real

Curated by Herzog & DeLaFlore

Petra Vartl + MicroCollection





NOPLACE 3 / 49° Premio Suzzara, *Cabinet de regard*: Anish Kapoor, 2016, Suzzara, Italy



Spazio Pachiderma/Motelb: *Cabinet de regard*: Lucio Fontana, 2013, Brescia, Italy

## Art sowings

In 2008 Elisa Bollazzi gave life to the so-called *Art sowings*, areas cultivated with microparticles of artworks whose titles refer to the botanical world, such as *The 3-metre tree* by Giuseppe Penone, *Watermelons* by Piero Gilardi, *Garden* by Paul McCarthy, and so on.

The public sits on benches set nearby and waits for an utopic art-garden to grow in a thought-provoking space, a meeting point where the artwork starts a process that stimulates creativity and changes the way we look at the “art system”.

In 2011, the so-called project *Art sowings on demand*, based on collaboration and faith, helps creating a cultural-artistic humus in parks and gardens in Italy and abroad.





*Art sowing: 7-meter Tree, 1980-82 by Giuseppe Penone, 2020 curated by Iskra Sguera - Orto sul tetto/Roof garden curated by Cornelius Gavril/studio Piuarch, via Palermo, 1 - Milan, Italy*





*Semina d'arte: Albero di 7 metri, 1980-82 di Giuseppe Penone, 2020 curated by Iskra Sguera - Orto sul tetto/Roof garden curated by Cornelius Gavril/studio piuarch, via Palermo, 1 Milan Italy*





*Art sowing*, 2020 curated by Annalisa Ferraro, project TraMe-Tracce di Memoria, Agency The Uncommon Factory, Regione Lazio and FESRFunds . **Museo Civico**, Medieval Botanical Garden and Porta San Giovanni, Rieti, Italy





*Art sowing*, 2020 curated by Annalisa Ferraro, project TraMe-Tracce di Memoria, Agency The Uncommon Factory, Regione Lazio and FESR Funds. Museo Civico, **Medieval Botanical Garden** and Porta San Giovanni, Rieti, Italy





*Art sowing*, 2020 curated by Annalisa Ferraro, **Medieval Botanical Garden**, Rieti, Italy





*Semina d'arte*, 2020 curated by Annalisa Ferraro, project TraMe-Tracce di Memoria, The Uncommon Factory, Regione Lazio and FESR Funds. Museo Civico, Medieval Botanical Garden and **Porta San Giovanni**, Rieti, I





*Art sowing, 2020* curated by Giorgio Barrera, Fattoria Montanine, Florence, Italy





Gallery  
Sweet  
Gallery  
OUTDOOR 2019

*Art Breeding Ground*, 2019 – Gallery Sweet Gallery Outdoor 2019, Mariano Comense, Italy





*Art sowing: 7-meter Tree, 1980-82 by Giuseppe Penone, FokiaNou Art Space, Athens, 2019*



*Art Sowing*, Festival non aligné(é)s, La Générale, 2017, Paris, France





*Art Sowing: Gardens, 2016, Susak Expo 2016, Susak, Croatia*





*Art Sowing: Petit Swiss, 2015 in collaboration with Hubert Renard - Merkurgarten, Zurich, Switzerland*



Erica Diamant

*Divine pine*

2011

Mirjam Wanner

Ulrich Mann

Tree of the knowledge of good and evil

2015

Cotton

*Asphaltflowers*

2012

Anna Kanai

*Brainflower*

2014

Zeljka Marusic

*Albero diametro 22*

2015

Veronica Tanzi





*Art breeding ground* in collaboration with Hubert Renard, ZOOart, 2014, Cuneo, Italy

**Albero di 7 metri, 1980 – 82 di Giuseppe Penone**

Famiglia: Arte Povera  
Dimensioni: fino a 7 metri  
Fioritura: primaverile  
Provenienza: Piemonte  
Certificato da: Microcollection nel 1991  
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Hubert Renard & Microcollection, *Jeunes pousses d'Italie*, 2013, CDLA, Saint-Yrieix-La-Perche, France







Microcollection selected Premio Pav 2011 - PAV Parco d'Arte Vivente, Turin, Italy

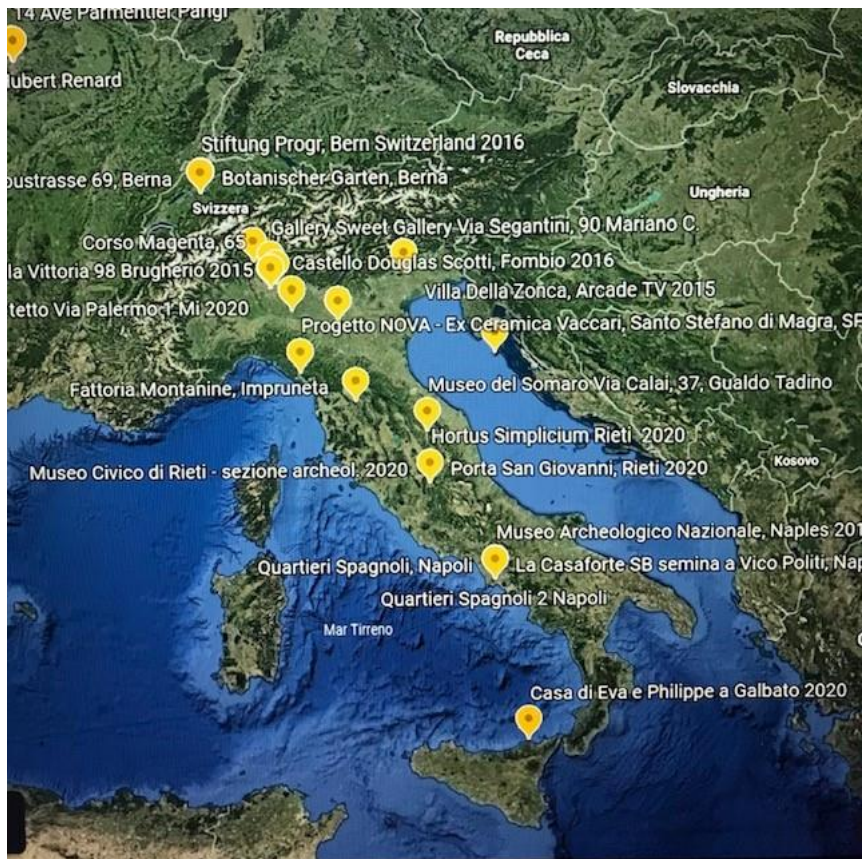




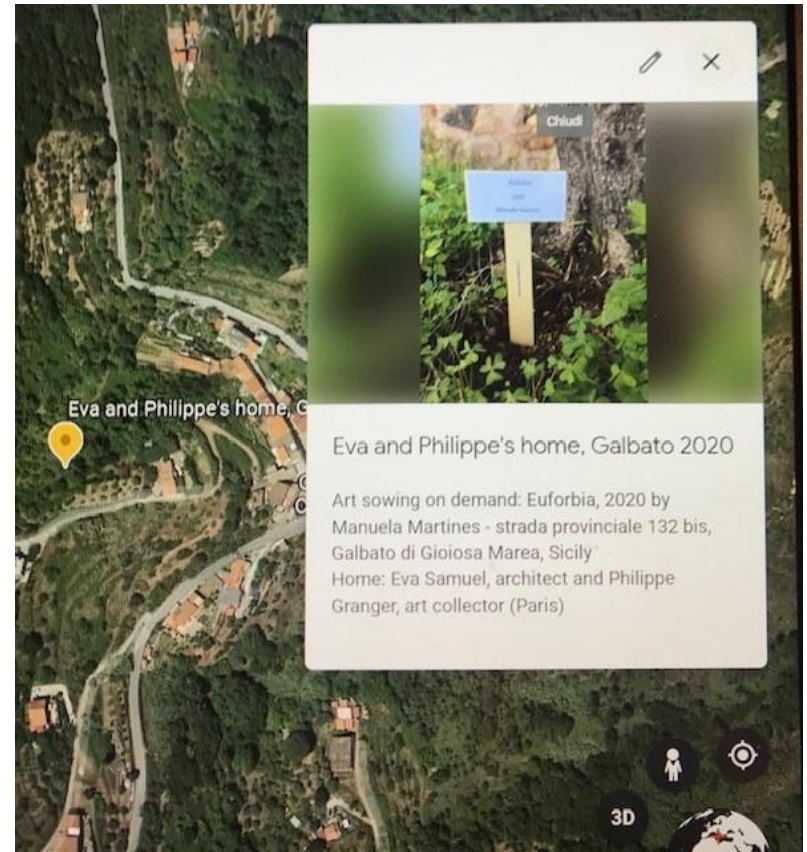
*Art Sowings: baby art trees, 2021 - selected Open Call The Traces We Leave, The Syzygy Project, USA*



## Some of the *Art Sowings* inserted in Google Earth



## Example of an *Art Sowing* in Sicily





*Sprout box: Watermelons, 1984, Piero Gilardi, 2016 - EMPATEMA, StudiFestival2, Milan, Italy*



## **Guided Tours to Microcollection Art Sowings**

*Guided Tours to Microcollection Art Sowings* is an innovative education project to help the public sense the invisible, the immaterial and become aware of creative freedom.

Students and teachers get involved in a participative approach of learning and teaching history of art.

Special Tour Guides:

art school students, art critics, art historians, collectors, etc



METTI IN CIRCOLO IL PITTORE, *Guided tours to Art Sowing*, 2014, Olgiate Olona, Italy  
( Art Academy students acting as tourist guides )





*Guided Tours to Art Sowings in Art Day of Art High School Frattini, 2012, Varese, Italy*



## **MICROCOLLECTION ARTISTS ( selection )**

ABRAMOVICH Marina

ALLORA Jennifer & CALZADILLA Guillermo

ANDRE Carl

ANTONI Janine

ARIAS-MISSON Alain

ARIENTI Stefano

ARLER Bastiaan

ARMAJANI Siah

ARMAN

ARMLEDER John M.

BABA-ALI Younes

BAJ & KOSTABI

BACON Francis

BALKENHOL Stephan

BANSKY

BARBA Rosa

BARLOW Phyllida

BARNEY Matthew

BEUYS Joseph

BOETTI Alighiero

BOURGEOIS Louise

CAVALIERE Alik

CHAMBERLAIN John

CUOGHI Vanni

CUOGHI CORSELLO

CURANDI KATZ

DADAMAINO

DEVELAY Frédéric  
DI CARLO Vittorio Maria  
DI GIACOMO Annamaria & ZOCCO Stefania  
DI GIORGIO Filippo  
DI MARO Daniela  
DION Damien  
ETKIN Susan  
FABRE Jan  
FABRO Luciano  
FISCHLI & WEISS  
FLEURY Sylvie  
FONTANA Lucio  
FORMENTO-SOSSELLA  
GELITIN  
GOBER Robert  
GONZÁLES-TORRES Félix  
HIRST Damien  
HIORNS Roger  
HOLMWOOD Sigrid  
INDIANA Robert  
KABAKOV Ilya & Emilia  
KAERSENHOUT, Patricia  
KAPOOR Anish  
KAPROW Allan  
KELLEY Mike  
KIEFER Anselm  
KOONS Jeff  
KOUNELLIS Jannis  
LAPPAS George



LAUER Ulla  
LAVIER Bertrand  
LEINARDI Ermanno  
LOHR Christiane  
LUCAS Sarah  
LÜTHI Urs  
MAGNUSSON Jenny  
MARISALDI Eva  
MAURI Giuliano  
MAZZUCCONI Marco  
McCARTHY Paul  
MERZ Mario  
MERZ Marisa  
NEVELSON Louise  
NITSCH Hermann  
NITTENWILM Jorg  
OLDENBURG Claes  
ONO Yoko  
PAOLINI Giulio  
PARRENO Philippe  
PIETROIUSTI Cesare  
PISTOLETTO Michelangelo  
PLESSI Fabrizio  
RAMA Carol  
RAY Charles  
SMITH Kiki  
VASCELLARI Nico  
WEINER Lawrence  
ZORIO Gilberto

## **EXHIBITIONS** ( selection )



2021

**The SyZyGy Project/ Open Call *The Traces We Leave*** selected with *Art Sowings*, Usa

2020

**ART SOWING** curated by Iskra Sguera, Roof Garden curated by Cornelius Gavril, via Palermo,1 / Piuarch, Milan

**ART SOWING** curated by Annalisa Ferraro, Trame-Tracce di Memoria, Agency The Uncommon Factory, Regione Lazio and FESR funds, Museo Civico Rieti, Medieval Botanical Garden and Porta San Giovanni, Rieti, Italy

**WINDOW**, group show video-Sketch, Dreiviertel, Bern, Switzerland

2019

**TESTIMONI OCULISTI**, Zentrum, Varese, Italy

**GALLERY SWEET GALLERY**, Outdoor2019, Mariano Comense, Italy

**DREIVIERTEL**, Bern, Switzerland

**FOKIANOU Art Space**, Athens, Greece

**ERMANN CRISTINI: SALON STYLE**, Nowhere Gallery, Milan, Italy

2018

**ENDA, École nationale d'art**, Microcollection visiting artist, Paris

**ORA e QUI**, EX-NEW Contemporary Art Centre, Sulbiate, Italy

**NOPLACE 4** curated by Umberto Cavenago, Ex Ceramica Vaccari, S. Stefano di Magra, Italy

**HOTELLO, SOMNIA ET LABORA. ABITARE UN RITARDO**, 999 *Una collezione di domande sull'abitare contemporaneo*, curated by Ermanno Cristini and Giancarlo Norese, La Triennale, Milan, Italy

**SOLO SHOW**, KCC Kunsthalle Castello Cabiaglio, Castello Cabiaglio, VA, Italy

2017

**KUNSTBRULÉ IN PALMO DI MANO** curated by Zentrum, Brugherio, Italy

**FESTIVAL NON-ALIGNÉ (E)S** curated by Jean-Charles Agboton-Jumeau & Laurent Marissal, La Générale, Paris

**ERMANN CRISTINI. SALON STYLE**, at Francesca Petrolo's, Milan, Italy

**GLITCH-The Aesthetics of Failure** curated by Chel Logan, The Old Courts, Wigan, UK

**THE CABINET PROJECT** curated by ArtSci Salon, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

**FOR REAL**, through Shim, ArtHelix Gallery, Brooklyn, NY

2016

**NOI PIANTIAMO GLI ALBERI E GLI ALBERI PIANTANO NOI**, curated by LaCasaforte S.B., Naples, Italy

**NOPLACE 3** curated by Umberto Cavenago / 49° Premio Suzzara, Suzzara, Italy

**SUSAK EXPO 2016** curated by Daniel Devlin, Susak, Croatia

**EMPATEMA** curated by Alberto Mugnaini, Corrado Levi, Yari Miele in StudiFestival#2, Milan, Italy  
**MANN**, Museo Archeologico Nazionale, matronage of Fondazione Donnaregina, Madre, Naples, Italy  
**NOPLACE 2** curated by Umberto Cavenago, Castello di Fombio, Italy  
**CAFFÈ LETTERARIO DI ARTE VISIVA E POESIA** curated by Laure Keyrouz, Villa Relais, Barco Zonca, Arcade, TV, Italy

## 2015

**NOI PIANTIAMO GLI ALBERI E GLI ALBERI PIANTANO NOI** curated by LaCasaforte S.B. Naples, Italy  
**NOPLACE 1** curated by Umberto Cavenago, Brugherio, MI, Italy  
**OASIS** curated by Laure Keyrouz and Susanna Crispino, Arcade, TV, Italy  
**YEARZERO** curated by KukK, Zurich, Switzerland  
**PETIT SWISS** in collaboration with Hubert Renard, Merkgarten, Zurich, Switzerland  
**SINGOLARE PLURALE**, Studio Roberta Toscano, Turin, Italy  
**INCHIOSTRO E PIETRA 3**, Villa della Zonca, Arcade, TV, Italy

## 2014

**NOI PIANTIAMO GLI ALBERI E GLI ALBERI PIANTANO NOI**, curated by LaCasaforte S.B., Naples, Italy  
**EXCHANGE RATES**, Bushwick Brooklyn, NY  
**ZOOart** in collaboration with Hubert Renard curated by Associazione Art.ur, Cuneo, Italy  
**Qua//Là** art project by Ass. P.I.R. curated by Francesca Conchieri and Mauro Cossu, Cedegolo, BS, Italy  
**METTI IN CIRCOLO IL PITTORE** curated by Annamaria Guidi, Parco di Villa Gonzaga, Olgiate Olona, VA, Italy  
**SAPERE-SAPORE**, curated by Rebecca Ballestra, Museo Civico Palazzo Borea d'Olmo, Sanremo, Italy

## 2013

**WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MY FRIENDS**, Museo Maga, Gallarate, VA, Italy  
**FUTURE NATURE CULTURE** with Maria Rebecca Ballestra, Goat Major Projects, Cardiff, UK  
**PERFORMA FESTIVAL** curated by Jean-Marie Reynier, Losone, Switzerland  
**PRIERE DE TOUCHER** curated by Ermanno Cristini in NOVELLA GUERRA with Patrizia Giambi, Imola, Imola  
**MUSEO DELLE SCIENZE MUSE**, Opening Day with Galleria Testoni and Maria Rebecca Ballestra, Trento, Italy  
**COMBINATORIA** curated by Claudio Ruggieri, Circolo degli artisti, Turin, Italy  
**GRAND SHOW** curated by Giancarlo Norese, Micro Gallery, Tirana, Albania



**HUBERT RENARD & MICROCOLLECTION, Jeunes pousses d'Italie**, CDLA Centre des Livres d'Artistes, Saint-Yrieix-La-Perche, France

**YOURNEY INTO FRAGILITY** curated by Maria Rebecca Ballestra, Papagayo Gulf, Costa Rica

**SOLO SHOW** curated by Motelb, Spazio Pachiderma di Luciano Pea, Brescia, Italy

## 2012

**YOURNEY INTO FRAGILITY** curated by Maria Rebecca Ballestra, Singapore

**IL FUNESTO DEMIURGO** curated by Michele Mariano, Koma Art Gallery Montagano, Italy

**ARSPOLIS2** curated by Jean-Marie Reynier, Lugano, Switzerland

**YOURNEY INTO FRAGILITY** curated by Maria Rebecca Ballestra, FuYang, Cina

**ALBUME** solo show curated by Stefano Venezia, Cuneo, Italy

**ARTDAY** curated by Liceo Artistico Frattini di Varese, Giardini Estensi, Varese, Italy

**CAFFE' LETTERARIO COMO**, Como, Italy

**FUORI SARPI/FUORI E' VERDE** curated by Iskra Sguera, Milan, Italy

**ART SOWING**, Museo Maga, Gallarate, VA, Italy

## 2011

**ART SOWING**, Lisson Gallery, Milan, Italy

**ART SOWING**, Galerie Carzaniga, Basel, Switzerland

**WEEKEND DEL LIBERTY**, Palace Hotel, Varese, Italy

**DISSIPARTY** curated by Associazione Stralis, Parco Morselli, Gavirate, VA, Italy

## 2010

**IL MUSEO DEI MUSEI** curated by Museo Teo, Lambretto Art Project, Milan, Italy

**UTOPIA DI UN MUSEO INVISIBILE** curated by A. Castiglioni with Associazione Terra Arte e Radici, Castello di Jerago, Italy

**ARTPARTY SFERICA 2010**, Civico Museo d'Arte Moderna, Castello di Masnago, VA, Italy

## 2009

**ROAMING.STREAMING TIME** curated by Alessandro Castiglioni, 91mQ Art Project Space, Berlin, Germany

**ROAMING. FILOSOFIA DELLE PICCOLE COSE** curated by Alessandro Castiglioni, La Rada, Locarno, Switzerland

2008

**ROAMING. TABULA RASA** curated by Alessandro Castiglioni, Manifesta7, Bozen, Italy

**ROAMING TAPIS VOLANT** curated by Alessandro Castiglioni, Musée de Saint Denis, France

**ROAMING. REPETITA IUVENT** curated by Alessandro Castiglioni, Assab One, Milan, Italy

**MICROCOLLECTION is 18 years old today**, 24.05.08, Galleria Ar/ge Kunst Bozen, Italy

**APARTMENT ART**, in the province of Varese and Milano, 2006-08

**EXPO-PROMENADE** curated by Alessandro Castiglioni, Pau, France

2007

**L'ESPERIENZA DELLA TRASFORMAZIONE**, Gam, Gallarate, VA, Italy

**KUNSTBRULÈ** curated by Umberto Cavenago, Brugherio, MI, Italy

2006

**XV BIENNALE DE PARIS** curated by Alexandre Gurita, Paris, France

1994

**GRANCIA D'ARGENTO** 13° Premio d'arte contemporanea, presentata da Ida Panicelli, Serre di Rapolano, SI, Italy

**L'INVASIONE DEGLI ULTRAPICCOLI** curated by Alessandra Galletta, Galleria Transepoca, Milan, Italy

1993

**INVENTARIO 2**, Galleria Loft Arte, Valdagno, VI, Italy

1992

**FIN DU SIECLE**, Galleria Luciano Inga-Pin, Milan, Italy

1991

**SOTTO OSSERVAZIONE** curated by Edoardo Di Mauro and Carlo Alberto Sitta, Spazio Baldassini, Gubbio, Italy

**VILLA GIOIOSA** curated by Mario Gorni e Bianca Tosatti, Villa Gioiosa, Italy

1990

**SOLO SHOW**, Galleria Pinta, Genoa, Italy





Microcollection is looking for new art fragments ...