

## DUAL OPEN CALL FOR CURATORS AND ARTISTS "SGUARDI URBANI" / "URBAN GAZES"

Casa degli Artisti announces the launch of "Sguardi Urbani" / "Urban Gazes", a **double call for curators and artists** regarding a **period of residency from 20 February to 30 June 2023**.

Curators and artists may present their applications, with no limits of age, nationality or discipline **from 28 November 2022 to 16 January 2023**.

"Sguardi Urbani" is a research residency proposed by **Cecilia Guida**, as tutor of the project. She suggests investigating public space, in particular places of transit low in semantic content but capable of affecting the passer-by aesthetically. The residency will center around experiments in looking, discovering and observing in order to generate new visions and possibilities of interpretation nurtured by intuition, impressions, analogies. It will be a matter of walking around the city with eyes wide open, attentive to the people that inhabit it, what can be seen and what goes on, making each moment unrepeatable and unique, to be captured in a drawing, a photograph, a recording or a brief description.

"Sguardi Urbani" arises out of the need for **reflection on contemporary public spaces**, which emptied and imploded during the lockdowns, but which have now opened out and acquired new life. The question is, how can art rethink shared spaces, life together with other living beings and their relationships, through diverse forms of thought and action, including those of a participatory nature.

The double call addresses curators and artists who work with different languages, media and devices, in particular those whose artistic and curatorial research and practice is founded on correspondence and assonance with other disciplines (anthropology, psychology, architecture, biology, physics, music, literature etc.).

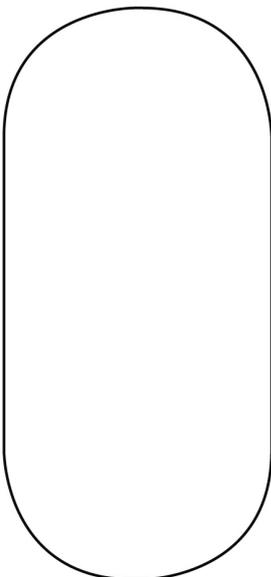
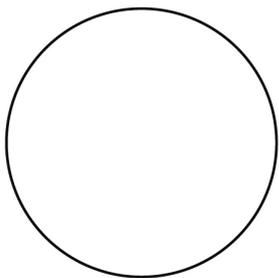
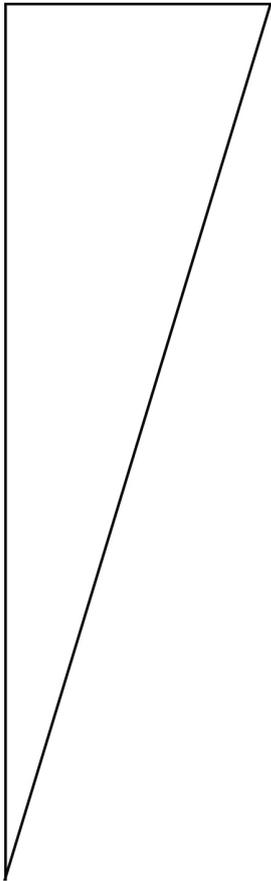
During the third week of February, the selected curators and artists will enter the Casa and take over the studios which will be made available to them for their residency and the realization of their projects. They will work together, with moments of individual critical analysis, exchange and collective reflection, to establish how they are going to proceed both inside the Casa and outside, in the city's public spaces, to locate the places where their research will be concentrated and developed.

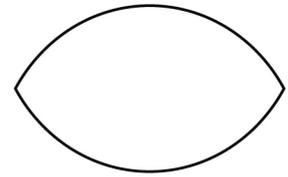
The residency will be accompanied by a **public program for further research** on the theme of artistic practices in public spaces. This will consist of presentations, lectures, talks, seminars, group walks, alternating activities inside the Casa with meetings outside in the city.

Cecilia Guida will select the two curators who take turns in participating with the board of the Casa degli Artisti in the subsequent selection of the six artists who will be in residency.

**The results of the residency**, whatever form they may take, material and/or non-material, will be **presented to the public from 20 to 30 June 2023** (with the possibility of extending the exhibition of the research material and any installations until the 16 July).

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The call "Sguardi Urbani" will assign the **6 artists and 2 curators** a studio space from 20 February 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Each artist will be provided with **a co-working studio of around 30 sq m each**, equipped with a work bench and chairs (<https://www.casadegliartisti.net/residenze-casa-degli-artisti/>).

**A contribution of 1,000€** (subject to personal income tax but net of IVA) is provided per artist/curator to support their output. No reimbursement is foreseen for travelling, food or accommodation.

**To present an application as an artist or curator the following are required:**

- A letter of motivation (max 2000 spaces)
- A brief CV (max one page)
- Two/three projects already carried out, documented in whatever form preferred (max 2MB)
- One/two projects not yet completed (where they exist)
- Application, dated and signed
- Valid Identity Document

Applications not accompanied by the required documentation will not be admitted to the selection process.

**The application, which is not subject to limits of age, nationality or discipline, may be presented:**

- **For curators, by and no later than 4 January 2023.** The curators will be informed of the results by 10 January. The 2 selected will have to be available immediately to take part in the selection of the artists.
- **For the artists, by and no later than 16 January 2023.** The artists will be informed of the results by 6 February 2023.

Applications must be received at the email address: [opencall@casadegliartisti.org](mailto:opencall@casadegliartisti.org)

The present call is published on 28 November 2022.

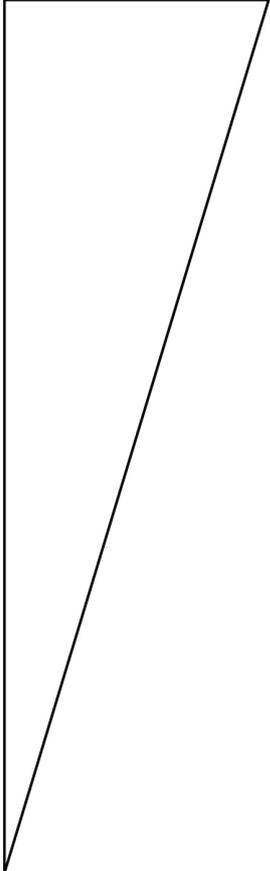
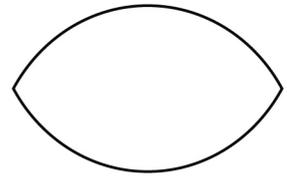
**The selection panel will consist of:**

- Cecilia Guida and the two selected curators
- Matteo Balduzzi, Francesca Comisso, Claudia Losi, Silvia Nessi, Alessandro Oldani, Chiara Organtini, Gaia Romani – as external members
- The Team of Casa degli Artisti

The panel members will then take part in the residency as visiting professors.

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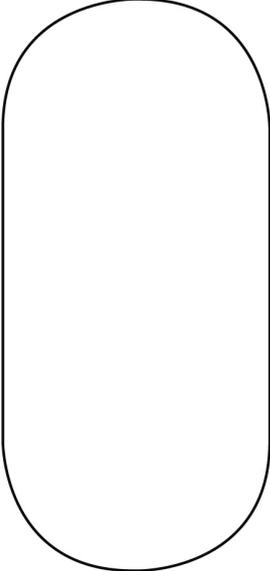
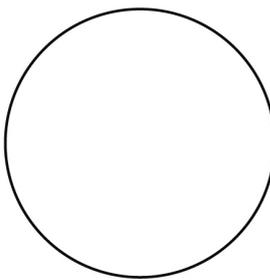
**Cecilia Guida.** Curator, art critic, Professor of Contemporary Art History at the Accademia di Belle Arti "Brera" in Milan, where she coordinates the two-year Specialist course in Sculpture. Holder of a PhD, she works on relations between public and participatory artistic practices, radical pedagogics and contemporary public space. She was head of the public program for the public art



project “ArtLine Milano” (2018-2021) and director and curator of the international residency programme “UNIDEE” for the Pistoletto-Cittadellarte Foundation of Biella (2015-2017). She curated the Italian edition of the essay by Claire Bishop, *Inferni Artificiali, La politica della spettatorialità nell'arte partecipativa* (Lucasossella editore, Bologna, 2015). Her publications include *Spatial Practices, Funzione pubblica e politica dell'arte nella società delle reti* (Franco Angeli, Milano, 2012; ed. spagnola Metales Pesados, Santiago del Cile, 2021), with Laura Salas Redondo and Erick González León, *(d)estructura. Viajes por Cuba/ Cartografía Social* (Viaindustriae publishing, Foligno, 2018), with Lorenzo Balbi and Arturo fito Rodríguez, Muntadas. *Interconnections, interconnessioni, interconexiones* (ed. Corraini, Mantova, 2019) and, with Roberto Pinto, *Le relazioni oltre le immagini. Approcci teorici e pratiche dell'arte pubblica* (postmedia books, Milano, 2022). She collaborates with the website antinomie.it.

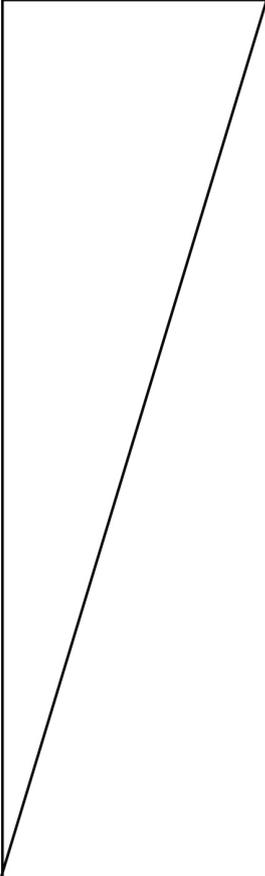
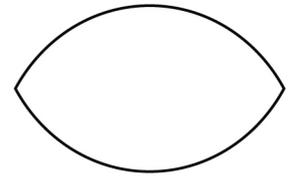
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## Selection Panel



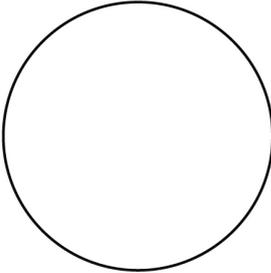
**Matteo Balduzzi.** Trained as an architect, he works in the field of public art and photography, understood mainly as a means of bringing people, the environment and individual and collective memory in relation to one another. He is curator of the Contemporary Photography Museum of Milan-Cinisello Balsamo, with which he has been working since 2004. For this institution he has produced numerous projects all marked by an intense dialogue with the territory and with the work of artists from the younger generations. In coordinating the Museum’s programming, since 2016 he has conceived and curated commissions, exhibitions, calls for young artists, shared projects and purchases for the original headquarters in Villa Ghirlanda and the Triennale of Milan. Amongst the most recent are *Tra cielo e terra*, with Claudio Beorchia (2019); *Immagini e testi, Notazioni visive*, with Armin Linke (2019); *West*, with Francesco Jodice (2022) and the collective showings *Chi non salta* (2020), *Abitanti* (2019), *REFOCUS* (2020), *10 Viaggi nell'architettura italiana* (2020), *Paesaggio dopo paesaggio* (2022). At the same time, he has collaborated on artistic projects in different parts of Italy, experimenting with photographs - artistic, family, vernacular - in an intense exchange between the public and the private, and between artist and citizens. A lecturer for the Master’s Course in Photography and Visual Design at NABA in Milano and for the IED in Turin, he has published texts and curated volumes for Electa, Quodlibet, Piccola Biblioteca Einaudi, Viaindustriae, Witty Books, A+M Bookstore, Silvana Editoriale. He is a member of Careof, the no-profit centre for contemporary art which has been operating in Milan for 35 years.

**Francesca Comisso.** She is an art historian and independent curator and works in collaboration with the staff of the Department of Culture of the City of Turin, on art, design and museums. In 1997 she was one of the founders of a.titolo, the first curators’ collective in Italy and amongst the first organizations to operate in the public space. With them she also directed the CESAC at the Filatoio art centre in Caraglio (2010-2014) and curated residencies, publications, research, training projects and exhibitions. As Italian representative for the programme of artistic production *Nuovi*

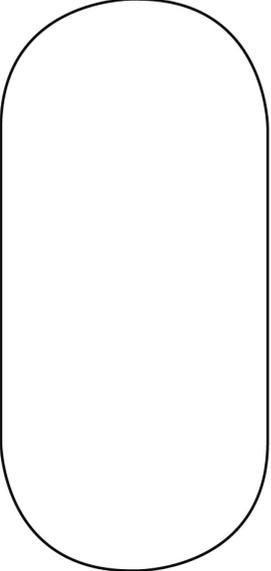


**Committenti (New Patrons)** of the Fondation de France in Paris, a.titolo curated the production of over twenty works destined for the general public. Recently they created transdisciplinary projects with the Castello di Rivoli Contemporary Art Museum and with the Fondazione Merz. She teaches at the IED Turin, at NABA in Milan, and has been a lecturer at the Accademia di Bergamo, on the course of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage for the Venaria Reale, at Ecodesign with the Turin Polytechnic. She is vice-president of the Archivio Gallizio, co-author of the General Catalogue of the works of Pinot Gallizio, and of many texts and exhibitions devoted to the artist.

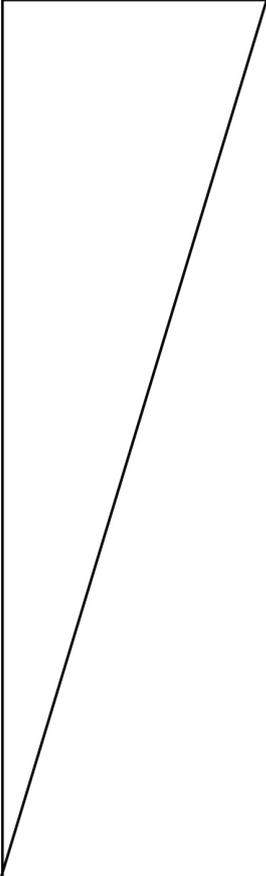
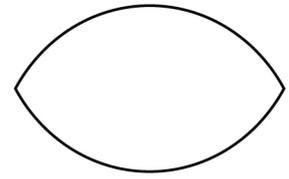
**Claudia Losi.** Her artistic practice starts out from observation of the environment, natural and man-made, where human beings live and relate to the rest of the living world. She has always been interested in the natural and human sciences and the action of bodies in space, and uses these perspectives in her research, the deep connections between collective and imagined narratives. She works with various media, such as site-specific installations and performances, sculpture, photography, video and works on fabric and on paper. She has exhibited on various occasions in Italy and abroad. Her project *Being There. Oltre il giardino* was amongst the winners of the Italian Council (IX Edition, 2020), received the award for Production from the Italian Ministry of Culture and in 2022 the work of the same name was published for Viaindustriae, Foligno. In 2021 she published *The Whale Theory. Un immaginario animale*, Johan&Levi and *Voce a vento*, Kunstverein Milan.



**Silvia Nessi.** A graduate of the Faculty of Architecture at the Milan Polytechnic, from 1998 she worked professionally on developing the practice of shared planning. As from 2012 she has written and developed projects of urban and social regeneration for Architetti senza Frontiere Italia, of which she is vice-president, and for the association Asisa, of which she is president. In Asf Italia she is responsible for the area devoted to social emargination in European contexts, focusing on the themes of public space and social living. In Asisa she promotes processes for the reappropriation of personal life environment through interactive cultural, social and collectively creative cultural and artistic projects. In her projects she makes use of the “Social carpentry” technique to build and consolidate groups based on context, planning “spatial devices” for facilitating opportunities for social living and inclusion. Since 2022 she has been a consultant on architectural planning for the company Kcity s.r.l.



**Alessandro Oldani.** Since 2021 he has been head of Conservation of Cultural Heritage at the Art in Public Spaces Office of the Milan Municipality, an organism that promotes and supports projects focusing mainly on the public dimensions of the various contemporary artistic languages. His research and professional work concentrate at present on public art and contemporary sculpture. Before this position, he was Registrar and Assistant for Conservation at the Galleria d’Arte Moderna from 2011 to 2020, a period during which his research was concentrated on the museum’s collections and the building that houses it, Villa Belgiojoso-Bonaparte. He has also published essays and brief contributions to catalogues of exhibitions devoted to the sculpture (Adolfo Wildt, Medardo Rosso) and painting (Angelo Morbelli) of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries



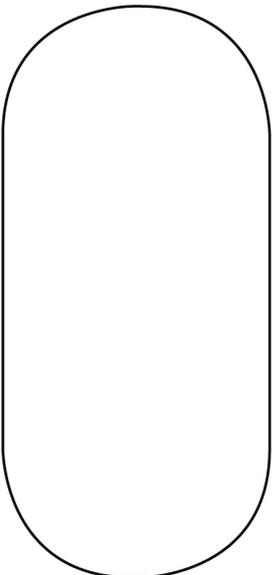
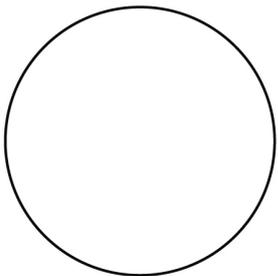
**Chiara Organtini.** A curator with a passion for interdisciplinary art and public space. For 12 years she was part of *indisciplinarte*, an organization supporting art as a tool of urban change, contributing to the development of CAOS Centro Arti Opificio Siri and the Terni international Festival of contemporary creation. Since 2019 she has joined the Santarcangelo Festival, curating *BEPART art beyond participation*, a project on European cooperation that involves partners in Europe and North Africa. Since 2022 she has been project manager of the Lavanderia a Vapore in Collegno (TO), Casa Europea della Danza and the Residency Centre of the Piedmont Region, managed by the Fondazione Piemonte dal Vivo.

**Gaia Romani.** City councillor for Civic Services, Participation, Transparency and Decentralisation Policies for the Milan Municipality. After completing her upper secondary school certificate in classical studies (*maturità classica*), in 2016 she became a member of the Municipio 8 Town Council, where she was head of the Commission on Social Policies, with responsibility for youth policy, equal opportunities, health and social services and associations. Having experienced at first hand the importance of implementing political participation by women, she co-founded *Onde Rosa*, a collective of young people under the age of 30, fighting gender inequality. As a practising job counsellor, after graduating in Law at the Università Statale in October 2021, she ran for the administrative elections in Milan with the programme *Generazione Milano*, drawn up by 500 young people. Winning 2,201 votes, she was the woman to receive the third highest number of votes in Milan and is at present the youngest city councillor on Sala's City Council, with responsibility for General and Civic Services.

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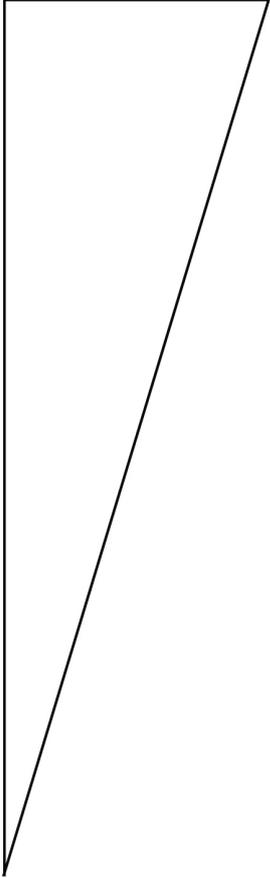
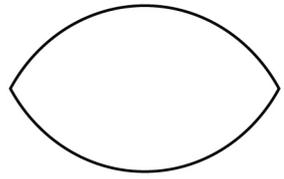
**Casa degli Artisti**, a space that was traditionally devoted to art at the centre of the Garibaldi-Brera neighbourhood, it re-opened in February 2020 as a centre for residency and the public production and enjoyment of art, focusing on its own research activities and the work of artists in the field of the visual, performing, acoustic and applied arts, literature and thought. A place with an interdisciplinary and international vocation and a gaze open to the city, the public sphere and urban space, in order to connect art and society and maintain its function as public heritage. Casa degli Artisti is located in via Tommaso da Cazzaniga, on the corner of Corso Garibaldi, 89/A - Milan. [www.casadegliartisti.org](http://www.casadegliartisti.org)

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Casa degli Artisti



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