



Inventory. The Fountains of Za'atari
a project by Margherita Moscardini
exhibition curated by Marcello Smarrelli

Opening 11 July 2018 at 7pm

12 July - 24 November, 2018
Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Roma

Inventory. The Fountains of Za'atari is the project of artist **Margherita Moscardini**. It is the fruit of work developed inside Camp Za'atari in Jordan, which is the second largest refugee camp in the world; the project is supported by the **Fondazione Pastificio Cerere in Rome**.

The exhibition is curated by **Marcello Smarrelli**, Artistic Director of the Foundation.

The project is the winner of the first edition of the **Italian Council 2017** prize, a competition conceived by the Directorate-General for Contemporary Art and Architecture and Urban Peripheries (DGAAP) of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Activities and Tourism, to promote contemporary Italian art in the world.

The central nucleus of the exhibition are the **book** and the **sculpture** destined for the collection of the **Madre · Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Donnaregina** in Naples.

Inventory. The Fountains of Za'atari has also been created with the support of the Italian Embassy in Amman, Jordan; The Khalid Shoman Foundation, Darat al Funun, Amman; AICS Amman; and the UNHCR, in collaboration with the collective directed by Abu Tammam Al Khedeiwi Al Nabils and Marta Bellingreri.

Project

Camp Za'atari was opened in 2012 in Jordan to welcome Syrians escaping from the civil war. In 2015 the population there reached 150,000 people, becoming the fourth greatest city in Jordan. Currently there are 80,000 Syrian residents.

"Za'atari is a privileged observatory into which enormous resources have been invested and advanced technologies for services and energy systems have been trialed. Up to this point, Za'atari has given us the opportunity to be part of the rapid process of city formation: within five years the desert has been turned first into a tent city and then into a city with its own economic system" (Margherita Moscardini).

Since September 2017 Margherita Moscardini has worked in the field observing it through the double paradigm set by the conditions of the refugees that, on one side call into question the concept of Europe, the United Nations and the nation state, and on the other side make us consider the camps as urban realities. Can these cities be thought of not simply in terms of the result of a humanitarian emergency, but in the

long term, as virtuous systems to which the best minds have devoted their skills so that they become juridical, economic and social models to be exported, perhaps even able to replace the concept of nation state?

Presentations

In addition to the exhibition being held at the Fondazione Pastificio Cerere in Rome there will be numerous presentations of the project that will follow the first one that took place on June 15 at the Gallery of Modern Art in Palermo during the opening of Manifesta12.

Confirmed future presentations: Italian Institute of Culture, Istanbul (September 2018); MAXXI, National Museum of 21st Century Arts, Rome (27 September 2018); Polytechnic of Milan (1 October 2018); Italian Institute of Culture, Bruxelles (3 October 2018, 7pm); Centre of Photography, Geneva (Autumn 2018); Columbia University, New York (Autumn 2018); Nando and Elsa Peretti Foundation, Barcelona (Autumn/Winter 2018).

Margherita Moscardini

(Italy, 1981) she currently works in Jordan and in Italy.

She received her degree from the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna with a thesis in Cultural Anthropology under professor Roberto Daolio (2006); she attended the XIV Advanced Course in Visual Arts, Fondazione Antonio Ratti, Como, Visiting Professor Yona Friedman (2008). She has developed her own projects as guest of various institutions among which: Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris (2012); Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome (2012-2013); MMCA Changdong, Seoul, Korea (2014); and ISCP, New York (2015). In 2015 she was a fellow of the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies in America, Columbia University, New York. Her work has been presented via talks and lectures in: SVA, ISCP, IIC and Columbia University, NY; Base progetti per l'arte, Florence; Museum MAXXI and Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome.

Main personal exhibitions

ATLAS. On the Human Condition, Places and Times, Ex Elettrofonica, Rome, Italy, 2016; *Istanbul City Hills - On the Natural History of Dispersion and States of Aggregation*, IIC of Istanbul, Turkey, 2013; *1xUnknown*, Macro Museum, Rome, Italy, 2012.

Main collective exhibitions

THAT'S IT! MAMbo, Bologna, Italy, 2018; *16th Rome Quadrennial*, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, Italy, 2016; *Istanbul City Hills - On the Natural History of Dispersion and States of Aggregation*, Section Volume and Synthesis, MAXXI Collections, MAXXI Foundation, Rome, Italy, 2016; *30 projects for ArtLine*, Palazzo Reale, Milan, Italy, 2015; *We have never been modern*, SongEun ArtSpace, Seoul, Korea, 2014; *Aryan de Rothschild Prize*, Palazzo Reale, Milan, Italy, 2011; *Emerging Talents*, CCCS, Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, Italy, 2011.



FONDAZIONE PASTIFICIO CERERE

Among the many prizes she has won are: the first edition of the *Premio Pinacoteca Giovanni e Marella Agnelli*, Turin (2008); *6Artista 2012 prize*, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome; *New York Prize 2014-2015*, of the State Department and Columbia University, NY; *Italian Council grant 2017* (in collaboration with Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome) promoted by MIBACT.

For more information:

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