

FONDAZIONE PASTIFICIO CERERE

Presents

Buffer Zone

A solo exhibition by **Meletios Meletiou**

curated by Gaia Bobò

Opening: Tuesday 13 September 2022 from 6:30 to 9 pm

14 September to 21 October 2022

Spazio Molini, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere

Via degli Ausoni 7 – Rome

On Tuesday 13 September 2022, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere will present ***Buffer Zone***, the first solo exhibition in Rome by **Meletios Meletiou** (Lemesos, Cyprus, 1989) curated by **Gaia Bobò**, which will be open to the public from Wednesday 14 September to Friday 21 October 2022.

The project – conceived for **Spazio Molini** as a **site-specific intervention** – investigates the **apparent familiarity of the motifs and patterns of public space**, activating a critical enquiry into the theme of **hostile architecture**, understood as an expression of a "paranoid and anxious" (Robert Park) design that conflicts with the bodily experience of individuals in urban space, compromising their personal and political freedoms.

Meletiou assumes the **ambiguity of the concept of decorum** as his starting point, intended on the one hand as decoration, and on the other as decency, by drawing on everyday objects to convert them into high-tension systems. The use of imagery linked to **play** is an important element in his production, as expressed in the reference to children's merry-go-rounds or abacuses. The process of gradual dramatisation of the material alters the primordial vocation of these objects, revealing a new inhospitable and insidious nature, as stated in the ambiguous parallelism with the structures of hostile architecture.

The artist's works are in turn architectures that create **physically impacting paths**. Impediments, obligatory directions and openings to unexplored viewpoints direct spectators' attention by affecting their possibilities of movement. In this sense, one could not avoid the reference to the **Cypriot socio-political context**, echoing in the symbolic concept of wall or barrier.

On the occasion of the exhibition, the artist's book *Epidermis*, published by **Viaindustriæ**, will be produced and presented. The publication will bring together a series of theoretical contributions on the main themes of the exhibition and a selection of limited edition prints by the artist.

The exhibition is realised in partnership with the Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus in Rome.

The project, which is promoted by Roma Capitale – Department of Culture, is the winner of the 'Estate Romana 2022 - Riaccendiamo la Città, Insieme' Public Notice curated by the Department of Cultural Activities

Biography

Meletios Meletiou (Lemesos, Cyprus, 1989) lives and works between Cyprus and Rome. He studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome, where he graduated in Visual Arts and Decoration in 2016. His studio is located in the Pastificio Cerere complex. In 2016, he launched the *Imaginary Friends* project, consisting of workshops for migrants held between Lesbos and Athens, which was documented in the volume 'The Others'. The main exhibitions he took part in include *Porta Portese*, SPAZIOMENSA, Rome 2021; *Fenêtre Jaune Cadmium*, curated by Sarah Linford, French Cultural Institute, Rome 2018; *Maps-Spam*, curated by Alessandra Arancio, Società Geografica Italiana/Villa Celimontana, Rome 2018; *Developing Cities*, curated by Angelica Gatto and Emanuele Ricconi, Superstudio, Milan 2018; *Quattro artisti al Castello*, curated by Cecilia Casorati, Castello di Santa Severa, 2016. In 2020, he exhibits the installation *ReSize To Fit* for the Una Vetrina project, curated by Giulia Pollicita.

Press kit

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/pc7330yy340kqpdboxd9gy/h?dl=0&rlkey=xnz4z17r7t1oqybs8vvnvmzce>

CONTACTS

Fondazione Pastificio Cerere

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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Opening: Tuesday 13 September 2022, 6:30 – 9 pm

Opening days: 14 September – 21 October 2022

Venue: Fondazione Pastificio Cerere and Spazio Molini, Via degli Ausoni 7 – Rome

Hours: Summer Hours (June to September) Monday to Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Winter Hours (October to May) Tuesday to Saturday from 15:00 to 19:00.

www.pastificiocerere.it Info: info@pastificiocerere.it; Tel. +39 06 45422960

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