

# GAP PROJECT

## Graffiti Art in Prison

### Modes of Expression and Resistance in Prison Environments: Graffiti in their Devotional and Political Dimensions

#### Sixth Intensive Study Week

Florence, 27th March – 1st April 2023

Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut  
Palazzo Grifoni Budini Gattai  
Via dei Servi, 51  
50122 Florence

MAD – Murate Art District  
Le Murate  
Piazza delle Murate  
50122 Florence

In collaboration with



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ART  
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## Modes of Expression and Resistance in Prison Environments: Graffiti in their Devotional and Political Dimensions

Biblical scenes, figures of saints and martyrs, and depictions of Christ and the Virgin Mary are among the motifs most frequently represented on the walls of the Inquisition prisons as well as other places of reclusion and detention. In this workshop, we will explore the votive dimension of graffiti and the role of muralism as a form of political activism, social criticism, and vehicle for protest and resistance. Locally, we will also consider the historical legacy of *sgraffito* on Florentine palatial façades and its relationship to contemporary graffiti. We will start with the example of Florence's *Le Murate*, a former female monastery turned prison, and then move to prison islands as extreme examples of punitive isolation. Other Italian case studies, such as graffiti in the Inquisition prison in Narni, Oreste Nannetti's graffiti in Volterra former psychiatric hospital, and William Kentridge's 'political' frieze in Rome, offer the opportunity to discuss relationships between punishment and expiation, faith and devotion, art and dictatorship, freedom and censorship, and concealment and visibility. Collectively, we will reflect on the (im)permanence of graffiti and its intrinsic fragility as a medium entrusted with the precarious task of preserving memory.



Carcere Duro (Punishment Block), Le Murate, Florence. Photo courtesy of Murate Art District

## PROGRAM

This event will take place in a hybrid format. Speakers marked with an asterisk (\*) will take part from remote. To participate online please register in advance via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/UAvcOytrjorGNRMSQKhsglQ4uAYNrXf-sp1>

### MONDAY 27th MARCH - Political Prisons and Human Rights

Morning session (MAD – Murate Art District, Sala Ketty La Rocca, Piazza delle Murate / online)

- 09.30 **Valentina Gensini** (MAD – Murate Art District), *MAD: The Urban Regeneration and the Uncomfortable Heritage*
- 10.15 **Gabriella Cianciolo Cosentino** (Scientific Coordinator GAP Project / Universität zu Köln / Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut), *Prison Graffiti: A Genre?*
- 10.30 **Federica Testa** (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut) and **Christine Kleiter** (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut), *Introduction*
- 11.00 Coffee break
- 11.20 **Antonella Tuoni** (Sollicciano Prison), *Institutional Greetings*
- 11.30 **Camilla Perrone** (Università degli Studi di Firenze), *I CARE: Turning the Prison of Florence (Italy) into a Peripheral Centrality via Social Inclusion, Suburban Regeneration and Participatory Design*
- 12.00 Visit of the *Carcere Duro*, MAD – Murate Art District

Afternoon session (KHI – Palazzo Grifoni, Sala Conferenze, Via dei Servi 51 / online)

- 14.30 Visit of the Photothek, Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz
- 15.00 **Gerhard Wolf** (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut), *Institutional Greetings*
- 15.15 **Vincenzo Scalia** (Università degli Studi di Firenze), *Isolation and Annihilations. Political Prisons and Bare Life*
- 16.15 **Sofia Ciuffoletti** (Università degli Studi di Firenze), *Symbols, Art and Resistance in Prison. A Legal-Anthropological Perspective*

Evening session (KHI – Via Giuseppe Giusti 44)

- 17.30 Visit of the Library, Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz

## TUESDAY 28th MARCH – Prison Islands

Morning session (MAD – Murate Art District, Sala Ketty La Rocca, Piazza delle Murate / online)

- 09.30 **Valerio Calzolaio\*** (author), *Hundreds of Prison Islands: The Double Isolation of the Sapiens on Prison Islands* (talk in Italian)
- 10.30 **Milica Prokić** (University of Glasgow), *Written in Stone, Written on Stone: A History of the Prisoners Art, Literature and Poetry on Goli Otok (Isola Calva)*

Afternoon session (Sollicciano Prison, Via G. Minervini, 2/r)

- 14.30 Workshop with **David Mesguich**

Evening session (MAD – Murate Art District, Sala Ketty La Rocca, Piazza delle Murate)

- 17.30 Film screening *Gorgona*, a documentary by Antonio Tibaldi (ITA/USA 2022, 90')

## WEDNESDAY 29th MARCH – Part I: The Devotional Dimension of Graffiti Part II: Public Art as Palimpsest

Morning session (KHI – Palazzo Grifoni, Sala Conferenze, Via dei Servi 51 / online)

- 09.30 **Mia Gaia Trentin** (The Cyprus Institute – STARC), *Devotional Aspects of Cypriot Medieval and Early Modern Graffiti*
- 10.30 **Anna Clara Basilicò**, (Università Padova / Venezia), *Showing Devotion. The Case of Narni Prison*
- 11.15 Coffee break
- 11.30 **Andreas Huth\*** (TU Berlin), *Wall Politics. Florentine Sgraffito Decorations of the 14th and 15th Century*
- 12.30 **Gerhard Wolf** (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut), *GAP*

Lunch, KHI – Casa Zuccari, Via Gino Capponi 22)

- 13.30 Light lunch (for guests and speakers only)

Afternoon session (Palazzo Dardinelli-Fenzi, Via Cavour 39)

- 14.30 **Eleonora Pecchioli** (Palazzo Spinelli Institute for Art and Restoration, Florence), *Exploring Florentine Sgraffito Facades* (guided tour for guests and speakers only)

Public event and suggested activity for GAP students (MAD – Murate Art District, Piazza delle Murate)

### Multiplier Event of the Gap Project

- 18.00 Exhibition opening *102 m* by **Nicolò Degiorgis**
- 18.30 Presentation of the GAP project results

## THURSDAY 30th MARCH – Psychiatric Hospitals and Outsider Art

Morning session (MAD – Murate Art District, Sala Ketty La Rocca, Piazza delle Murate / online)

- 10.30 **Marcos Larraz Rincón** (Universidad de Zaragoza), *A Decade of Change. Photography and Social Perception of Spanish Psychiatry in the 1970s*
- 11.15 **Virginia di Bari** (Università degli Studi di Palermo), *Carved in Stone: The Wall of NOF4*
- 12.00 Coffee break
- 12.30 Film screening *I Graffiti della mente*, a documentary by Erika Manoni and Pier Nello Manoni (ITA 2002, 20')

Afternoon session (Sollicciano Prison, Via G. Minervini, 2/r)

- 14.30 Workshop with **David Mesguich**

## FRIDAY 31st MARCH – Conservation and Exhibition of Street Art

Morning session, Volterra

- 08.30 Departure by bus from Florence (meeting point: Piazza Donatello)
- 10.30 Visit of the former psychiatric hospital, guided by **Andrea Trafeli** (Onlus Inclusione Graffio e Parola)
- 13.30 Departure from Volterra

Afternoon session (KHI – Palazzo Grifoni, Sala Conferenze, Via dei Servi 51 / online)

- 15.00 **Laura Barreca** (Artistic Coordinator GAP Project / Università degli Studi di Palermo / Accademia di Belle Arti di Catania), *Introduction to the Session*
- 15.15 **Carlota Santabàrbara** (Universidad de Zaragoza), *Street Art Conservation in Spain*
- 16.30 PhD round table and concluding remarks, moderated by **Juan Carlos Lozano López** (Universidad de Zaragoza) and **Jorge Jiménez López** (Universidad de Zaragoza)

## SATURDAY 1st APRIL – #1 Open Day – I CARE: Carcere e Città

Sollicciano Prison, Via G. Minervini, 2/r

- 09.30 Conference organized by **Camilla Perrone** (Università degli Studi di Firenze)
- 14.30 Workshop with **David Mesguich**

## GAP | GRAFFITI ART IN PRISON

<b>Project Number</b>	2020-1-IT02-KA203-080009
<b>Project Leader</b>	Paolo Inglese, Università degli Studi di Palermo, SiMuA – Sistema Museale di Ateneo
<b>Partner Institutions</b>	Abadir – Accademia di Design e Comunicazione Visiva; Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max-Planck-Institut; Università degli Studi di Palermo – Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche e delle Relazioni Internazionali; Universidad de Zaragoza, Departamento de Historia del Arte
<b>Patronages</b>	Ministero della Giustizia, Ministero della Cultura
<b>Scientific Coordination</b>	Gabriella Cianciolo Cosentino
<b>Artistic Coordination</b>	Laura Barreca
<b>Project Management</b>	Gemma La Sita
<b>Scientific Committee</b>	Laura Barreca; María Pilar Biel Ibáñez; Giovanna Fiume; Rita Foti; Ascensión Hernández Martínez; Jorge Jiménez López; Juan Carlos Lozano López; Gerhard Wolf
<b>Associated Partners</b>	Universität zu Köln; CoopCulture; Accademia di Belle Arti di Palermo; Associazione Acrobazie Palermo; Gli Amici di Ambra Agnello Onlus Palermo; Associazione Un Giorno Nuovo
<b>Media Partner</b>	SKY Arte