



Lo schermo dell'arte announces the fundraising campaign

ARTISTS' FILM ITALIA RECOVERY FUND

to support the production of original video works by artists under 35 who are citizens or residents of Italy

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/artistsfilitaliarecoveryfund>



Adrian Paci, Centro di permanenza temporanea, 2007, Courtesy the artist, Peter Kilchmann Gallery, Zurich, kaufmann Repetto, Milano, New York

This campaign, which will be open on GoFundMe until 15 June 2020, will be followed by a public call, with one or more projects to be selected by a jury made up of Leonardo Bigazzi, Lucrezia Calabrò Visconti, Sarah Cosulich, Lorenzo Giusti and Andrea Lissoni.

One limited-edition copy of each of the videos produced through this campaign will be donated to the permanent collection of GAMEC - Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea in Bergamo.

“Promoting and supporting young artists is a fundamental part of Lo schermo dell'arte’s mission. We feel compelled to respond to this terrible crisis by offering an alternative production model that can provide artists with immediate, concrete resources. This fund is meant to restart projects that have been put on hold due to

***the emergency, giving artists a heartening prospect to work towards.*" – Leonardo Bigazzi, curator, Artists' Film Italia Recovery Fund and Lo schermo dell'arte**

Florence, 14 May 2020

Italy is one of the countries worst affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and its cultural sector is in a state of emergency. And while many public and private initiatives have been springing up in other European countries to offer financial assistance to artists, **Italy has yet to take action.**

Art is a cornerstone of our identity, an essential record of the present, and a vital part of our economy. With their special way of looking at the world, artists have always helped us grasp the most complex moments in human experience. In these months of isolation, their work has been a comfort to many of us. It has become clear that we may be able to survive without art, but we can't really live. **Because art nourishes the soul.**

To respond to the grave difficulties and lack of support that the sector is facing right now, **Lo schermo dell'arte**, a non-profit cultural association that explores the relations between film and contemporary art, is **launching a fundraising campaign** and **organizing a network of individuals and institutions** to help produce original video works by young artists who are citizens or residents of Italy. More than **20** Italian and international institutions and associations are supporting and promoting the initiative: Art House, Blitz Valletta, La Casa Encendida, CASTRO, Centro per l'arte contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Club GAMeC, Collection von Kelterborn, Collective, Fondazione Merz, Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi, FST-Fondazione Sistema Toscana, FRAC Bretagne, GAMeC - Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Bergamo, Han Nefkens Foundation, ICA Milano, In Between Art Film, Kunsthalle Basel, MACRO — Museo di Arte Contemporanea di Roma, MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna, MAN_Museo d'Arte Provincia di Nuoro, Manifattura Tabacchi, MART - Museo d'arte moderna e contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto, MYmovies, Palazzo Grassi - Pinault Collection, La Quadriennale di Roma, Triennale di Milano, Tromsø Kunstforening, Senzacornice, Seven Gravity Collection

Why artists' film and video?

More than any other artistic medium, the moving image has proved capable of travelling beyond the exhibition space, taking full advantage of the digital technology available to us today.

But artists who employ the language of video are the ones who depend the most on public support, institutional commissions, and private patronage, and there is usually a very limited market for their works.

Moreover, making an artist's video is a **collective process** that involves other professionals as well: studio assistants, curators, producers, audio and video technicians, camera operators, set designers, etc.

Providing aid to artists today will also preserve the entire production chain that revolves around their vision and offer new content to museums and non-profits, by supporting projects that have been put on hold by the crisis.

On 15 June 2020, at the end of the campaign, a **public call** will invite artists to submit proposals for an original video production. Precedence will be given to projects that have been put on hold because of the crisis, or ideas that have taken shape in these critical months and which explore the pressing issues of our time.

The entire sum raised by the campaign will be allocated to one or more of these artists, selected by a jury made up of: **Leonardo Bigazzi**, curator, Lo schermo dell'arte and Artists' Film Italia Recovery Fund, **Lucrezia Calabrò Visconti**, independent curator, **Sarah Cosulich**, artistic director, La Quadriennale di Roma, **Lorenzo Giusti**, director, GAMeC-Bergamo, **Andrea Lissoni**, artistic director, Haus Der Kunst, Munich.

The minimum budget allocated to each production will be €5,000, up to a maximum of €10,000, including the artist's fee. The jury will decide how much to award based on the available funds and the financial needs of each proposal.

The winning works will be presented at the Schermo dell'arte Film Festival in 2021 and at Italian and international art institutions and festivals. One limited-edition copy of each of the videos produced through this campaign will be donated to the permanent collection of GAMeC - Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Bergamo. This decision will not only add to Italy's public cultural heritage, but will support a local institution in the part of the country that has been worst hit by the virus.

Lo schermo dell'arte, the campaign organizer

Founded in Florence in 2008, Lo schermo dell'Arte is a unique project dedicated to exploring and fostering the relations between film and contemporary art. Throughout the year, it organizes premieres, special events, exhibitions, production and distribution projects, and training initiatives. In its twelve years of activity, it has worked with over 300 artists and directors, and over 50 institutions around the world. Drawing on an archive of over 1000 titles, Lo schermo dell'arte regularly organizes screenings of films by artists and about contemporary art.

This campaign reflects one of the key objectives in Lo schermo dell'arte's mission: to promote and support younger generations of artists. Projects like VISIO European Programme on Artists' Moving Images (2012-) and Feature Expanded (2015-) have made Lo schermo dell'arte an internationally recognized platform of dialogue and experimentation.

Lo schermo dell'arte is supported by Regione Toscana, Comune di Firenze and Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze.

Press contact: Studio Ester Di Leo | Florence | +39 055 223907 | +39 3483366205
ufficiostampa@studioesterdileo.it