

## **La Terra vista dal Mare** *The Land Seen from the Sea*

exhibition by the network *Little Constellation - Contemporary Art in the geo-cultural micro areas and small states of Europe*

### **Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Villa Croce, Genoa**

**Mussoni & Albani** (F)(RSM); **Yuula Benivolski** (CA); **Justine Blau** (L); **Canarezza & Coro** (RSM); **Martina Conti** (RSM)(F); **Nina Danino** (GB); **Oppy De Bernardo** (CH); **Hekla Dogg Jonsdottir** (IS); **Doris Drescher** (L); **Haris Epaminonda** (CY); **Barbara Geyer** (FL); **Paradise Consumer Group** (AND); **Anna Hilti** (FL); **Irena Lagator** (MN); **Jose Ramón Lozano**, Ceuta (E); **Ingibjörg Magnadóttir** (IS); **Mark Mangion** (M); **Christodoulos Panayiotou** (CY); **Marco Poloni** (CH); **Pierre Portelli** (M); **Luigi Presicce** (I); **Agnès Roux** (MC); **Sigurður Atli Sigurðsson** (IS); **Giancarlo Norese e Umberto Cavenago** (I); **Trixie Weis** (L); **Martin Walch** (FL); **Miki Tallone** (CH).

Curated by **Alessandro Castiglioni, Rita Canarezza & Pier Paolo Coro, Roberto Daolio, Francesca Serrati**

#### **Opening 4 February 2012, 6.30 p.m.**

at 6.30 p.m. Presentation by the authorities and curators

at 7 p.m. performances by **Martina Conti** (RSM) (F), **Ingibjörg Magnadóttir** (IS)

#### **from 4 February to 4 May 2012**

Open from Tuesday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.

Closed on Mondays.



The exhibition **La Terra vista dal Mare - The Land Seen from the Sea** by the network Little Constellation was presented to a large public **on Wednesday, January 11, 2012, at the State Secretariat for Culture of the Republic of San Marino**. It is to be exhibited in the evocative setting of the **Museo di Villa Croce in Genoa from February 4 to May 4, 2012**.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of San Marino, the **Hon. Antonella Mularoni**, expressed her "satisfaction with the project Little Constellation, which confirms the tireless work of promotion and dissemination of a multi-faceted project, whose raison d'être lies in the encounter between artists from the smallest states and geo-cultural areas of Europe, recognizing art as a powerful vehicle for cultural promotion and development."

The **Hon. Fabio Berardi**, Secretary of State for Tourism of San Marino, observed the relevance of the theme of the exhibition: "With the special location of San Marino, morphologically recognizable in its three-pointed profile, so advanced in relation to the Apennines and with the old common perception of our country as an island, while refining and reinforcing a new perception derived from the heightened awareness of our true identity."

Appreciation was also expressed by **Dr. Andrea Ranieri**, Councillor for the Promotion of the City, Cultural and Youth Policies of Genoa and ANCI National delegate for Cultural Policies. Genoa presents itself as an ideal place

to host a project that unites Northern Europe with the Mediterranean areas of the South. Some of the more than 30 artists represented in the exhibition will work in the city, exploring the complex issues confronting Genoa. Significant support came from the Ente Cassa di Faetano represented by its President **Dr. Maurizio Zanotti** and a significant contribution from **Dr. Sante Lonfernini** as the representative of the Fondazione San Marino, both main sponsors.

The project was then illustrated by **Prof. Roberto Daolio**, Contemporary Art Critic, **Dr. Alessandro Castiglioni**, Curator and Art Historian, **Dr. Francesca Serrati**, Curator of the Museum of Contemporary Art at Villa Croce in Genoa, and the artists and curators of Little Constellation, **Dr. Rita Canarezza**, of the Social and Cultural Activities Office and **Pier Paolo Coro** for NUA for new arts and contemporary research.

This new project, in continuity with the exhibition held at the Fabbrica del Vapore in Milan in 2010, shows that San Marino is consolidating its participation in an international dialogue devoted to contemporary visual arts through a project of cultural cooperation unique of its kind.

**The exhibition will document on the one hand contemporary artistic research through works, performances and installations by artists from 13 different geo-cultural areas and small states, which are the field of investigation of the project: Andorra, Cyprus, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, San Marino, Canton Ticino (CH), Ceuta (E), Gibraltar (UK), Kaliningrad (Russia),** while on the other presenting the results of workshops held in 2011, hosted at the **Library Archive of Little Constellation** in **San Marino**, the **MUDAM Luxembourg** (National Museum of Modern Art of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) and at the **Casino Luxembourg - Forum of Contemporary Art** of **Luxembourg**, the **National Gallery of Iceland** and the **NYLO Living Art Museum, Reykjavik**, and at the **Brown Project Space, Milan**, in collaboration with **Malta Contemporary Art**

***The Land Seen From The Sea*** is a complex exhibition project. Established around the **/Little Constellation/ network**, dedicated to contemporary artistic research which focuses principally on the small states and geo-cultural micro areas of Europe.

The exhibition itself, within this framework, is a further study of the perception of the **delicate dialogue, suspended between distance, isolation and relationship, which distinguishes these areas.**

**The exhibition, in the organization of its contents, stems from a series of workshops** hosted by various European institutions, following two main axes within a range of fundamental travels, which included a symbolic level, for the very meaning of the project as a whole: the crossing of the Mediterranean (Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus) and the transversal crossing of continental Europe (San Marino, Luxembourg and Iceland). At the center lies Genoa.

But if it is true that "while critics and theorists build axes and boundaries, artists destroy them" (as Pier Paolo Coro has consistently stressed). This exhibition is a constant undermining of principles that characterize and identify an area and the relations with otherness and identity, namely interior and exterior.

**The various works on display at Villa Croce, thirty in all, reflect on these issues,** presenting very different hypotheses of research, although all are complementary: from the sound installation by the Gibraltar artist **Nina Danino**, creating a radio link between the Pillars of Hercules and Genoa, to the complex video projects, devoted to the cultural identity of her territories by the Cypriot artist **Haris Epaminondas** and the Maltese artist and curator **Mark Mangion**.

**Part of the exhibition will be devoted to the controversial issue of the "stereotype", a cultural and communicational measure** into which a small state is often locked. Significant in this respect are the installation projects by **Justine Blau** (L) and the videos by **Oppy de Bernardo** (CH) and **Paradise Consumer Group** (AND).

**A third section** on which to focus attention especially at the opening of the exhibition, is **devoted to performances**, to be held on February 4 from 6.30 p.m. with projects by **Martina Conti** (RSM) (F) and **Ingibjörg Magnadóttir** (IS).

Until the conclusion of the exhibition on May 4, 2012, a **program of screenings, debates, round tables and workshops** will be presented in order to keep up interest in the project and transform the event into a venue for active and involving discussions and exchanges.

**Sunday, February 5, from 10 a.m.**

*Little Constellation* workshop with **Halldór Björn Runólfsson**, art historian and director of the **National Gallery of Iceland**.

The publication of the exhibition will be issued by **Mousse Publishing**.

Also to be published by Mousse Publishing, to mark the exhibition, will be **the work-documentary by Rita Canarezza and Pier Paolo Coro: *Small States on un-certain stereotypes***.

The work, which is the starting point for the entire *Little Constellation* project, is a **noteworthy boxed set consisting of 14 DVDs**, one for each of the thirteen countries covered by the research project and a fourteenth containing a film developed out of the thirteen documentaries and distributed separately from the set.

The video project will be screened in its entirety at the exhibition, as the starting point of the entire exhibition.

**Little Constellation**

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**Contemporary Art in micro geo-cultural and the Small States of Europe**

c/o NUA nuove arti e ricerche contemporanee

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*creators and curators of the project*  
Rita Canarezza & Pier Paolo Coro

*curators of the exhibition La Terra vista dal Mare, The Land Seen from the Sea*  
Alessandro Castiglioni, Rita Canarezza & Pier Paolo Coro, Roberto Daolio, Francesca Serrati

[www.littleconstellation.org](http://www.littleconstellation.org)

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