

Confiscated Properties: Architecture, Ideology and Performance

16th June – 4th November 2018
Opening performance: Saturday 16th
June from 11 am

Magazzino Brancaccio
Via Fichidindia, Palermo

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Confiscated Properties: Architecture, Ideology and Performance, curated by Valentina Sansone, initiates a process of activation and re-appropriation of a confiscated property, through musical and performance practices, with the participation of local communities.

A warehouse of around 2000 square meters, adjacent to the High School for Humanities and Languages “Danilo Dolci”, in Via Fichidindia in Brancaccio, Palermo, will host a calendar of events and self-organised activities open to all, which will run continuously for 140 days (from 16th June to 4th November 2018).

Magazzino Brancaccio, part of the properties confiscated from the builder Ienna, together with the school where it is located, will be open to the public for the first time, almost twenty years after its seizure. It can represent a new and permanent facility for the neighbourhood and the city.

For the project's opening event, on **16th June 2018**, the collective of musicians **The Great Learning Orchestra** (Stockholm) has invited composers **Tony Harris** and **Barry Russell** (UK) to develop participatory forms of experimental music for properties confiscated in Palermo. A new piece of music, collectively composed and performed by an ensemble of around 200 people, will be presented on the day the warehouse is re-opened.

The complex issue of the management of assets confiscated from organized crime in Italy highlights the limits and potential of a resource that cities are not yet able to assimilate. What are the benefits of collective participation in this immense patrimony of which, in Palermo alone, there are around two thousand assets, confiscated and assigned for rehabilitation through community use?

More than a year ago, with the participation of visual artists, cultural operators, teachers, journalists, students and activists, the project **Confiscated Properties: Architecture, Ideology and Performance**, launched a preliminary investigation on episodes of self-management, local cultural production and the city's heritage. All this led to the identification of a space and its history, and to a specific request: the restitution of the property to the community and to make it accessible to the public.

A series of **Preliminary Events** and preparation for the project **Confiscated Properties: Architecture, Ideology and Performance** has taken place since March 2017:

13th June 2018 “The (im) possibility of a Gesamtkunstwerk: A lecture/workshop on community music practice and possible new directions”, with Barry Russell and Tony Harris, Auditorium," Vincenzo Bellini "Conservatory, Via Squarcialupo 43, Palermo (5.00 pm).

17th April 2018 “Danilo Dolci” meets the students of the “Donatelli Pascal” High School in Milan, to promote the #tivogliobene campaign, as part of the “Scuola di Cittadinanza Europea” project of the Feltrinelli Foundation, Milan. The communication campaign is aimed at raising the awareness of local institutions and citizens about the return to the community of the warehouse located in Via Natale Carta in Brancaccio, on part of the school’s compound.

15th-20th March 2018 Workshop on *Open Data and civic monitoring*, by Andrea Borruso (Confiscati Bene), with the participation of 4th grade students from the “Danilo Dolci” high school and Prof. Ferdinando Siringo.

5 March 2017 Newspaper Theatre Performance and Debate on the management of confiscated assets and the homeless emergency in Palermo, the Salesian Centre of Santa Chiara in Ballarò, Palermo.

The Great Learning Orchestra (Stockholm) is a network of musicians that organizes experimental music and education events since 1999. The name derives from a work by the composer Cornelius Cardew, first performed by the late 1960s musical collective The Scratch Orchestra.

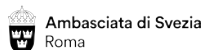
Tony Harris is a performer, composer and educator. He is Dean of Academic Studies at the Institute of Contemporary Music Performance (ICMP), London.

Barry Russell is an British composer, performer and animateur. He has directed numerous music education projects with the participation of local communities, for institutions and orchestras throughout Europe.

Robin McGinley is a musician, curator and educator. He is Associate Professor in Curating Art at Stockholm University, and has been part of GLO since 2000.

Valentina Sansone is art critic and independent curator.

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