



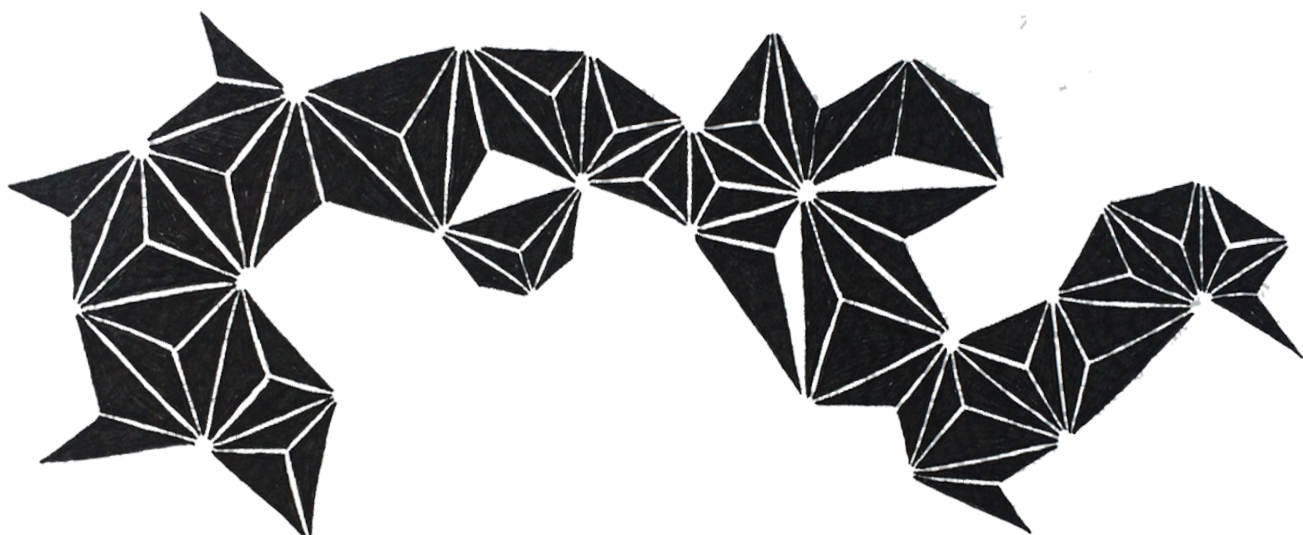
CASA DELLA CAPRA

arte + bici + cucina



LAGO DI MERGOZZO





SCAMBIO ART RESIDENCY

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LAGO DI MERGOZZO

*“My trip to Italy
and the time spent
at Casa della Capra
were an important
and transforming
time for me”*

_ Nara Rosetto

Textile Artist participant of SCAMBIO 2019



SCAMBIO

Casa della Capra is a restaurant and guesthouse run by an Italian-Brazilian couple in a completely refurbished 1910 house at Lake Mergozzo, in northern Piemonte. The project was born out of the idea of offering unique experiences that authentically connect people to the territory through Art, Bicycles and Cooking.

Since 2019 the couple hosts creative professionals for the “SCAMBIO” Art Residency, an opportunity for artists, designers and artisans from all over the world to develop exciting projects inspired by the local landscape, its history and its possible futures. Each individual impression and research, according to the participant’s areas of interest, compose a unique piece of art.

SCAMBIO means exchange or trade in Italian. In this program Casa della Capra offers hospitality in exchange for art. In other words, selected participants are invited to stay with us and get the chance to explore and receive support at every step of their creative process, allowing them to make one or more pieces of work that will remain as a legacy to the house. In the process they also have the opportunity to meet regular guests and local personalities, get exposure on our social media and exhibit work on common areas of the property.



*“Here the water is
daughter to the soil,
it flows from springs
into the lake,
layering with curvy
mountains and the
wind”*

_ Marcella Riani

Muralist participant of SCAMBIO 2019



PROJECTS

Selection

The selection of participants can occur through recommendations of previous participants, followed by special invitations and open calls, which will be shared through social media and other channels.

The applicants are required to send a project proposal of a piece of work to be made and implemented *in situ* within 7 to 10 days. The proposal shall be written in maximum 2 A4 sized pages on PDF format containing a presentation letter, technique/medium, images, size and costs of the work. *Curriculum Vitae*, portfolio, website and social media contacts are also appreciated.

GO TO APPLICATION FORM

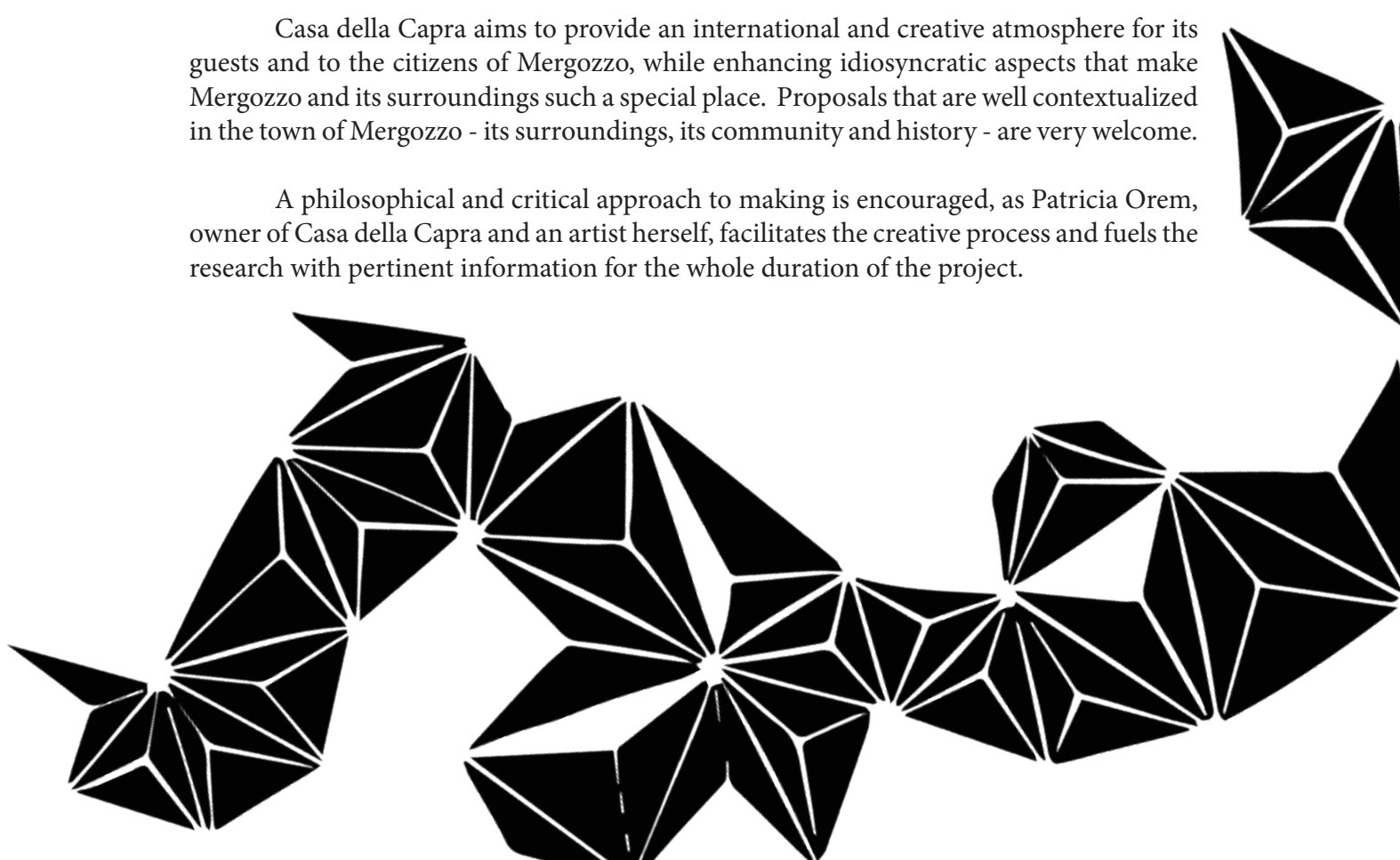
<https://forms.wix.com/3537997a-66c4-4aca-9735-b4140ce5517f:1bea3353-bed5-45e9-91cb-1c4df732264e>

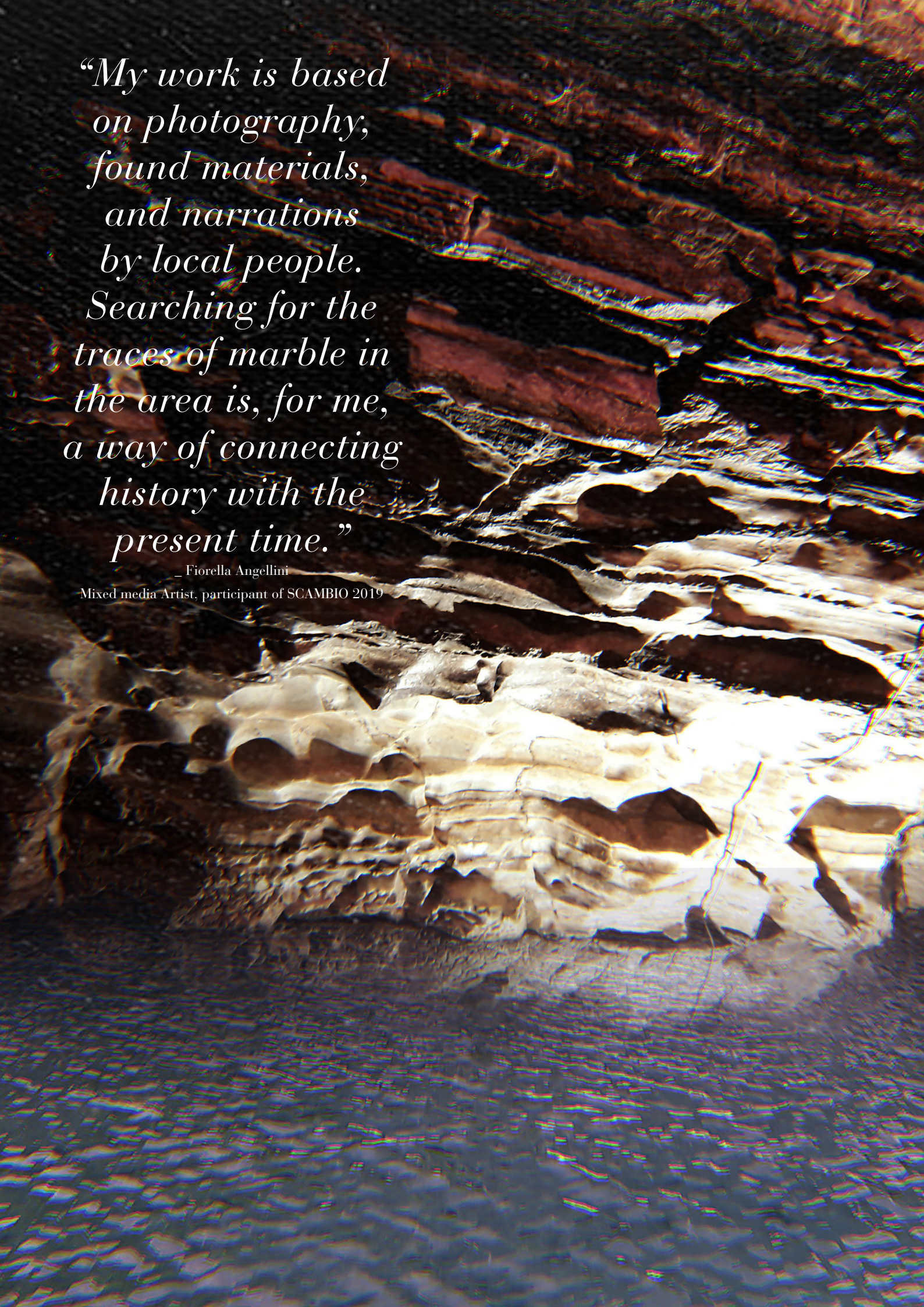
Once there is a confirmation of mutual availability for a certain date and an agreement upon the project proposal, the participants will be sent an official invitation letter by e-mail.

Curation

Casa della Capra aims to provide an international and creative atmosphere for its guests and to the citizens of Mergozzo, while enhancing idiosyncratic aspects that make Mergozzo and its surroundings such a special place. Proposals that are well contextualized in the town of Mergozzo - its surroundings, its community and history - are very welcome.

A philosophical and critical approach to making is encouraged, as Patricia Orem, owner of Casa della Capra and an artist herself, facilitates the creative process and fuels the research with pertinent information for the whole duration of the project.



A photograph of a cave interior. The upper part of the image shows dark, layered rock formations with some reddish-brown hues. The lower part shows a pool of water with a blueish tint, reflecting the light. The overall scene is dimly lit, with light coming from the right side, creating strong shadows and highlights on the rock surfaces.

*“My work is based
on photography,
found materials,
and narrations
by local people.
Searching for the
traces of marble in
the area is, for me,
a way of connecting
history with the
present time.”*

_ Fiorella Angellini

Mixed media Artist, participant of SCAMBIO 2019



THE RESIDENCY

Exploring

The program starts with a recognition of the surroundings, in search for elements that will be used in the work on the following days. Trekking, cycling, kayaking and visiting around are encouraged as part of the research. E-bikes, kayaks and car rides can be made available for participants to reach places of interest. History books, access to the local museums and meetings with local personalities can also be arranged. It is advised to book them at least a week before arrival.


Making Work

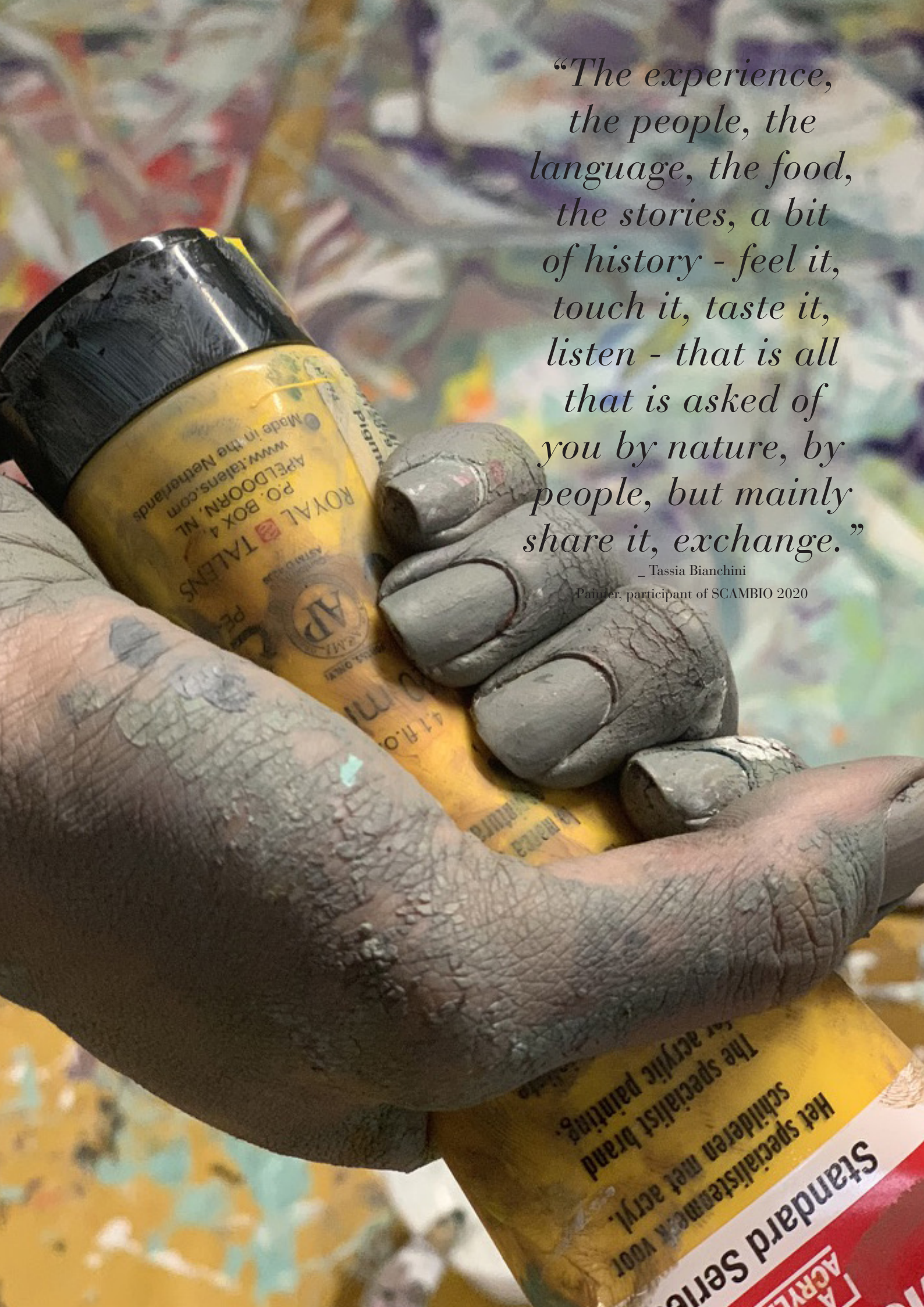
The making usually takes at least half of the time of the residency. The workshop/garage and the pergula are the most common areas for making work. While messy works that involve splashing, dust and noise are mostly done in the garage, tidier works can be produced in the pergula using the existing tables. Wi-fi, printer and power outlets are available too.

The participant must bring their own cameras, electronic devices, recorders and special tools that are essential for the realization of the project. Material costs can be covered up to €100,00. Materials must be brought by or pre-ordered by the participants and an invoice must be presented for reimbursement. The use of existing, recyclable or biodegradable materials is encouraged. Scraps from previous workshops and art residencies may be available. Please ask!

Setting the Show

By the the final day of the residency it's time to exhibit the work. The installation of the work is a responsibility of the participant. The work should be ready for inspection by 5 pm. The hosts will open the doors to the general public and offer a space in the restaurant for a vernissage between 6 pm and 7 pm of the last night of the residency. The participants may take this time to present themselves and talk about their creative process. Proposals that include interaction with the public and live actions such as pocket workshops, performances and dynamic experiments are also welcome. The work can be presented alongside with other works, previously made by the participant.





*“The experience,
the people, the
language, the food,
the stories, a bit
of history - feel it,
touch it, taste it,
listen - that is all
that is asked of
you by nature, by
people, but mainly
share it, exchange.”*

– Tassia Bianchini

Painter, participant of SCAMBIO 2020

FURTHER DETAILS

Packing

Comfortable working clothes according to the season, walking shoes, swimming clothes and at least one smart outfit for the vernissage evening are recommended.

Images and Promotion

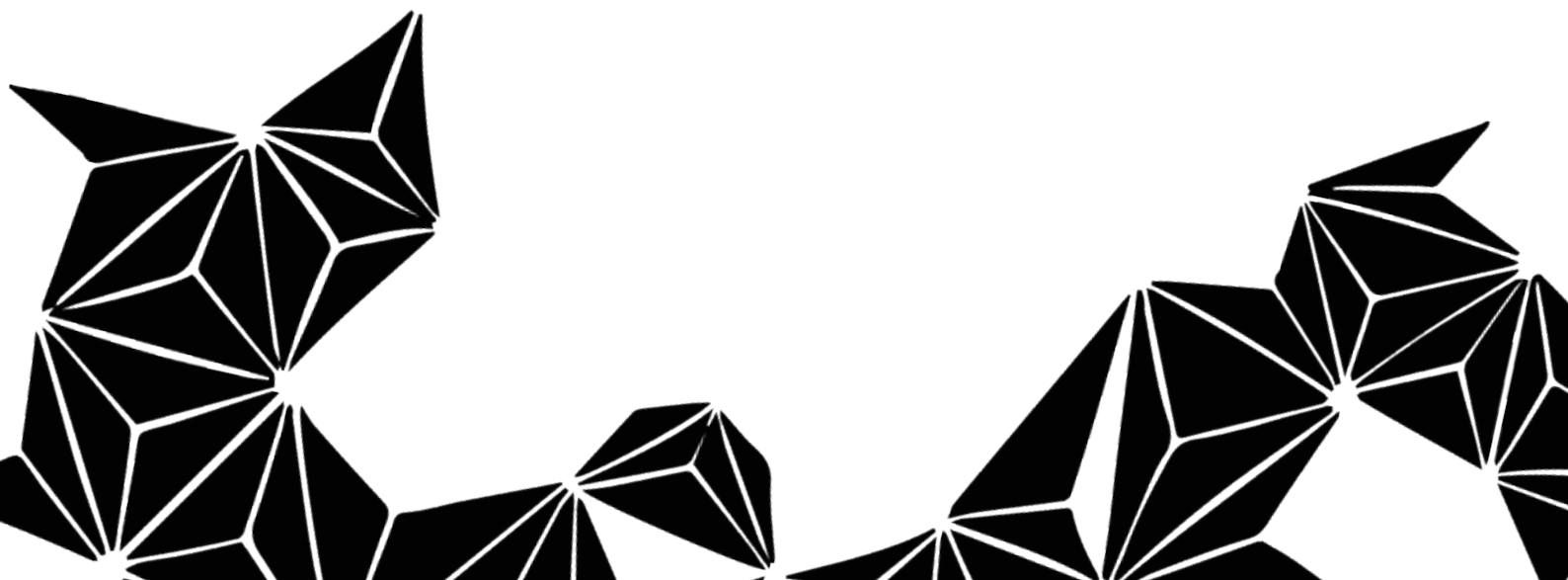
Images of previous work can be used for promoting the artist as well as images of the work made during the residency. Documentation of the creative process is very important and should be made available to be shared on social media and future publications.

Legal and Financial Aspects

The SCAMBIO art residency does not foresee payment by the guest or the host or configure a labour relation between parts. It must be clear that the “exchange” is limited to the previously defined artwork made by the participant during their stay and the accommodation for the duration of one week. Material costs of up to €100 will be covered by the house.

The artist may sell their work during their stay: small works, prints, reproductions or any work that can be sold at a final price of no more than €200 is advised. The taxation of artworks in Italy of 22% and the house takes an additional commission of 20%. In case a work is sold, the participant must be able to provide an invoice and certificate of authenticity.

Each participant is expected to have a mature approach to work and be able to manage their own time and workspace while respecting the house rules. The disrespect of such rules may incur in the cancellation of the residency and payment of the accommodation fees by the participant.



*“Agility, creativity,
flexibility and
adaptability are key
words that summarise my
experience at the Scambio.
Various learnings brought
me closer to the artistic
side of photography and
opened a world of new
possibilities”*

_ Maja Juzwiak

Photographer, participant of SCAMBIO 2021



TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION

Travel

There are several ways to get to Mergozzo. For international participants flying over to Italy, Milano Malpensa is the closest airport. The distance from the Airport to Mergozzo is 62 km. Travel costs and times are to be managed by the participants. Some of the alternatives for getting here from the airport are: [Alibus Shuttle From Malpensa to Fondotoce](#), [Train to Malpensa to Gallarate + Train to Mergozzo](#), [Car Rental](#), Transfer From Malpensa to Mergozzo.

Accomodation

There are two alternatives for accomodation: a comfortable double room with private bathroom at Casa della Capra (recommended for up to 2 people) or an appartement with one double bed and one sofa bed, bathroom and kitchen (recommended for artist duos or collectives up to 4 people). The single participant may bring an assistant, if previously communicated.

Meals

Breakfast and one meal per day are offered by the hosts. Conviviality is an important part of the project, therefore, hosts and participants usually gather for lunch or dinner to know each other and catch up on the development of the work. Trying local restaurants and socializing with locals is also highly reccomended. Mergozzo is only an 8 minute walk away and has several bars and restaurants worth trying.

Contact

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