

MAGIC CARPETS LANDED

5 November 2021 – 23 January 2022
at **Kaunas – European Capital of Culture 2022**

curated by **Benedetta Carpi De Resmini**

The international exhibit *MagiC Carpets Landed* is coming to **Kaunas – European Capital of Culture** from 5 November 2021 to 23 January 2022. This is the final event of the four-year project *MagiC Carpets*, co-financed by **Creative Europe**, designed to boost visibility for emerging artists throughout Europe. This journey around Europe, with its gaze set on the future, actively involved young audiences and local communities in the fifteen partner countries.

The title and concept for the MagiC Carpets platform came from an idea of the curator, **Benedetta Carpi De Resmini**, art critic, curator and art director of Latitudo Art Projects. The exhibition will present the work of **57 European artists** who, over the four years of the project, provided specific artistic interpretations of the residence locations in different countries.

In Kaunas, each artist will provide reflections on pertinent topics such as marginalization, crossing borders, nationalism, and migration. The common thread connecting the various sections the curator organised the exhibit into, however, is really the social energy that brings out movements of change within communities.

From Italy, *MagiC Carpets Landed* will include the participation of **Sara Basta, John Cascone, Nicola Di Croce**, the duo **Grossi Maglioni, Elena Mazzi, Jacopo Natoli, Guendalina Salini, Virginia Zanetti**, as well as **María Ángeles Vila Tortosa, Hrvoslava Brkušić, Melanie Garland, Patricia Geraldès, Mykolas Juodele, Yves Mettler** and **Yaryna Shumska**, the non-Italian artists who participated in the four editions of MagiC Carpets in Rome, carrying out meaningful projects for the capital's suburban areas.

Gian Maria Tosatti will also participate, with extensive documentation of his project *My Heart is a Void, the Void is a Mirror*, in the section *Rhizone*.

And MagiC Carpets Landed aims to go beyond the exhibition itself: “The exhibit will be more than just a showcase of artwork,” explains Carpi de Resmini. “It will be an ‘integrated exhibition’ intended to rethink the very format of an exhibit, instead aspiring to be a relational platform. A mutating body,” the curator continues, “in continuous evolution, together with the visitors themselves. The works of art become tools for shared actions with the public, to interpret contemporary society, the idea of reciprocal understanding, shared responsibility, while extending geographical and conceptual borders in different directions.”

A **symposium** on 6 November, open to the public, will be focused on the topic *Working in the public space* and will explore different artistic practices and different ways of including the viewer, through activities involving the public sphere, live events, performances and workshops. *MagiC Carpets* partners and guests of international renown will speak, including **Hou Hanru**, curator and director of the MAXXI museum in Rome, **Lewis Biggs**, curator of the Folkestone Triennial and former director of Tate Liverpool, and **Virginija Vitkienė**, Director of Kaunas 2022.

Along with the exhibit, *MagiC Carpets Landed* includes a **structured programme of performances and workshops** alternating throughout the duration of the exhibition. Kaunas 2022's inaugural event will feature the performance *Towards a new Erab/Europe*, a journey through time based on the original text by

the Lithuanian writer **Justas Tartelis**. Set in the 17th century, the story passes through all the fifteen countries in the *MagiC Carpets* network, imagining the history of a new Europe with no geographical or ideological borders.

The exhibition catalogue, published by **Quodlibet**, includes contributions from Hou Hanru, Lewis Biggs, Virginija Vitkienė, Cecilia Guida, and Agata Etmanowicz in dialogue with Micol D'Andrea, with a preface by the curator Benedetta Carpi De Resmini.

THE FIFTY-SEVEN ARTIST FEATURED IN SIX SECTIONS

FROM EARTH TO SPACE Bora Baboci, 1988 Albania | Aiste Jančiūtė, 1987 Lithuania | Ana Kovačić, 1986 Croatia | Michal Kindernay, 1987 Czech Republic | Siobhán Ní Dhuinnín, 1986 Ireland | Francisca Rocha Gonçalves, Portugal | Melissa Rodrigues, 1985 Portugal | Richard Schwarz, 1984 Austria | María Ángeles Vila Tortosa, 1978 Spain - Italy

FLAGS & LINKS TTNP, Hrvoje Spudić (1987) and Sven Sorić (1989), Croatia | David Prieth, 1986 Austria

NO BORDERS Ana Dana Beros, 1979 Croatia | Hrvoslava Brkusic, 1982 Croatia | Konstantin Djurickovic, 1992 Serbia | Melanie Garland, 1988 Chile – Germany | Grossi Maglioni, Francesca Grossi (1982) and Vera Maglioni (1982), Italy | Julia Gryboś & Barbora Zentková, 1988 Poland – 1986 Slovakia | Patrick Hubmann, 1974 Austria – Portugal | Sonja Jo, 1992 Serbia | Matthias Krinzinger, 1982 Austria | John Law, 1986 England | Ninutsa Shatberashvili, 1993 Georgia | Benjamin Tomasi, 1987 Austria | Veronica Troncoso, 1973 Chile – Germany |

READING THE FUTURE 0101 Agency, Maxime Retailleau, Fabian Scholz, Gabriel Lefèvre-Pardessus, France | Gildas Aleksa, 1991 Lithuania | Elena Mazzi, 1982 Italy | Yves Mettler, 1976 Switzerland – Germany | Jacopo Natoli & Guendalina Salini, Italy

WORDS & TALES Hermione Allsopp, 1971 England | Paulina Almeida, 1975 Portugal | Sara Basta, 1979 Italy | Jacob Bray, 1992 England | John Cascone, 1976 Italy | Odeta Catana, 1982 Romania | Cosa.cz, Markéta Mráčková 1985 and Barbora Šimonová 1982, Czech Republic | Nicola Di Croce, Italy | Patricia Geraldès, 1980 Portugal | Vojin Ivkov, 1983 Serbia | Mykolas Juodele, 1989 Lithuania | Peter Lorenz, 1994 Austria | Marta Elīna Martinšone, 1986 Latvia | Toni Mijac, 1988 Croatia | Mika Motškobili 1987 Georgia | Daniela Palimariu, 1986 Romania | Gemma Riggs, 1979 England | Luisa Sequeira, 1975 Portugal | Jelena Skuliene, 1982 Lithuania | Jiří Suchánek, 1979 Czech Republic | Ana Taran, 1992 Romania | Daniel Tollady, 1987 England | Virginia Zanetti, 1981 Italy | Yaryna Shumska, 1989 Ukraine

RHIZONE Gian Maria Tosatti, 1981 Italy | NARA team of photographers, Lithuania | photographers from 15 countries

MAGIC CARPETS PARTNERS



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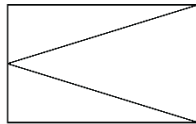
Biennale di Kaunas (Lithuania), head of the project and leading partner, **ZKU/KUNSTrePUBLIC** (Germany), **Folkestone Fringe** (UK), **New Theatre Institute of Latvia** (Latvia), **LAB 852** (Croatia), the **Prague Biennale** (Czech Republic), **EVA International** – Ireland's Biennial (Ireland), **META Cultural Foundation** (Romania), **Ideias Emergentes** (Portugal), **Novo Kulturno Naselje** (Serbia), **Openspace.Innsbruck** (Austria), **Jam Factory** (Ukraine), **Tbilisi Photo Festival** (Georgia), **Trempolino** (France), and **Latitudo Art Projects** (Italy).

Please see attached: press kit, detailed event programme, biographical notes on the artists and brief descriptions of the works in the exhibit.



Kaunas
biennial

Kaunas 2022
European Capital of Culture



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