

GALERIE GISELA CAPITAIN

Metamorfofi Dubplate

Albertusstrasse 9-11

Friday, November 18

6 - 8 pm

The exhibition *Metamorfofi*, on view at Zweigstelle Capitain II in San Lorenzo in Rome between September and October 2022, presented a group of works that deal with topics strongly connected with the idea of Zweigstelle: dislocating the gallery space causes a change of perspective, a kind of confusion that helps to reestablish meaning.

This reassessment generates a fertile moment for creative processes and for our perception and understanding. Shifting levels of meaning and changes of perspective due to dislocation, re-contextualisation and alienation are explored as both personal experiences, social conditions, or as formal structures inherent in the work.

Villa Lontana Records is an independent record label based in Rome, run by Vittoria Bonifati and Michele Ferrari, which focuses on the production of new sounds, spacing out from electroacoustic to sonorous poetry and from electromagnetism to field-recordings.

The label responds to the curatorial programme of Villa Lontana, directed by Vittoria Bonifati, a non-for-profit space initiated in 2018 to create fluid platforms of encounter between ancient and contemporary practices.

Sounds recorded on a dubplate undergo a particular deterioration, faster than on a classic vinyl, producing unpredictable changes of sound over time that run parallel to the theme of metamorphosis. Villa Lontana Records has conceived a limited edition dubplate as an ephemeral trace of the exhibition *Metamorfofi*. A "sonorous postcard" collecting thoughts and messages from the artists: Jadé Fadojutimi, Wade Guyton, Jacqueline Humphries, Liza Lacroix, Zoe Leonard, Meuser, Marcel Odenbach, Seth Price, Stephen Prina, Monika Sosnowska, Kelley Walker and Christopher Williams.

Each artist has been triggered and invited to send an audio file in response to a hermetic sentence questioning memory.

Può una memoria diventare testimone di un'essenza?

Can a memory witness the essence?

The memory of an object, the memory of a ruin, the memory of a sound, the memory of a place.

A memory transmitted orally to create a new memory in a different space.

A fragment of a column, a stone, a smell...

Ruins preserve the image of a history that is no more. Language as a continuum that unfolds.

Essence as the intrinsic nature of something which determines its character.

This is an invitation to send a message to Rome, to create a new memory to be witnessed in time.

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Metamorfofi Soundscape

3:11 min

Alongside the presentation of the record *Metamorfofi* is showcased a soundscape made by Michele Ferrari (VLR) composed using extracts taken from the audio files sent by the artists for the making of the *Metamorfofi* dubplate, alongside field and electromagnetic recordings collected in Gisela Capitain's gallery spaces in Cologne and in Rome. Electromagnetism is the interaction among all electrically charged objects, objects with magnetic moments, and the electromagnetic field. The field itself does not carry electric charge but it does carry energy and momentum. The electromagnetic interaction is one of the four fundamental interactions of the universe. This interaction encompasses all physical phenomena related to electricity, magnetism, electromagnetic fields, light, and atoms. The two 'levels' of sonority present in the *Metamorfofi* soundscape are symbolically or physically interconnected.

0:00 – 0:11 / Electromagnetic sounds related to the gallery entrance of Galerie Gisela Capitain in Cologne

0:11 – 0:25 / S. Price [Overlapped]

0:25 – 0:36 / Field recordings from the opening night of the exhibition *Metamorfofi* in Rome, on the background electromagnetic sounds taken in the main room during the same day

0:36 – 2:01 /:

Excerpt from C. Williams [Radio Danièle I]

Excerpt from W. Guyton [Background studio sounds with catalogue handling]

Excerpt from Z. Leonard [Street sounds]

Excerpt from M. Odenbach [Radio transmission - US Capitol]

Excerpt from K. Walker ['Good for me']

Excerpt from C. Williams [Radio Danièle II]

Excerpt from M. Sosnowska [Sounds of steps and a closing door]

Excerpt from J. Humpries [Ring bell/Machine starting sound]

Excerpt from S. Prina ['Exchanging passwords']

All of the above excerpts have on the background electromagnetic sounds recorded around the works of each artist or around the walls where the works have been installed.

2:02 – 2:39 / Electromagnetic sounds recorded during a displacing tour around Gisela Capitain's main gallery space and the Albertusstrasse space in Cologne

2:40 – 3:11 / Electromagnetic sounds related to the 'switching on' of a portable laptop merged with the uploading of Wade Guyton's graphic design file opening on InDesign

2:44 – 2:45 / 'That's it' [Excerpt from Radio Danièle III – C. Williams]

2:45 – 2:47 / 'You' processed and transformed into pure sound [Excerpt from L. Lacroix]

The recordings used for the *Metamorfofi* project realised in collaboration with Galerie Gisela Capitain were taken, edited and processed by Villa Lontana Records in between September and October 2022.