

## SOUVENIR

Series of talks: March – December 2018

Art Summer Camp: June 2019 (in progress)

**Spazio Murat** and **63rd 77th STEPS – Art Project Staircase** are proud to present **Souvenir**, a project in 2 phases: a cycle of talks, followed by an Art Summer Camp (Summer 2019). Hosted at Spazio Murat in Bari, the event will gather together international artists and representatives from independent contemporary art spaces as well as local art professionals.

**Talks:** Each weekend will anticipate and examine the themes which are going to be addressed during the upcoming Art Summer Camp. These discussions will bring various artists together to present their work to the public and introduce cutting edge curatorial researches and exhibition programmes, diffused on the national and international scene, while building a strong relationship with the local audience.

The invited artists and independent art spaces will use this opportunity to present their work, highlighting each city's social and cultural peculiarities. They will also share their research and connect with the local contemporary art system.

63rd-77th STEPS and Spazio Murat will invite the participants to set-up a workshop open to the public. The project it's been conceived as an open research on independent spaces that focus on contemporary art production and are driven by similar missions to both the organisers. These events will offer an opportunity for debate and exchange ideas about alternative and experimental ways of producing art. Each talk will bring together local and international project spaces representatives, artists, curators and journalists, who can discuss about their curatorial research, processes of managing the production of artworks and exhibitions, educational and public development programmes, followed by the artists' presentations and performances.

**The Art Summer Camp:** the participants will be invited to design the art residency, creating a relationship with the local community and will target the following points:

- To deepen the development of ideas exchange and debate between the guests, through educational workshops, research, study and public engagement practices;
- To meet local art professionals and introduce each others to their work;
- To realise original projects, such as works of art, documentations, performances and workshops for children and adults, to engage with public;
- To organise portfolio reviews and skills exchange with local schools and academy students.

**Souvenir** will transform the space into an arena to work and debate, as well as a production studio, a cultural hub dedicated to promote ideas and an auditorium for lectures and educational workshops for children.

**63rd-77th STEPS** is a project space founded and run by the artist Fabio Santacroce. The name refers to the final part of a multi-floor staircase (the area between 63 ° and 77 ° step), inside a building from the beginning of the XX century in Bari. The program exists in different formats: site-specific exhibitions are alternated with on-line and off-site projects, meant as an extension of the physical and symbolic space. 63rd-77th STEPS strains and investigates the limits and potentialities of the periphery, redefining its spatial and temporal framework within a hyper-connected, hegemonic geography.

<http://www.63rd77thsteps.com/>

**Spazio Murat** is one of the most important cultural centres in Bari, dedicated to the promotion and the dissemination of contemporary culture. Along with the former Teatro Margherita and the Fish Market it is part of the future Contemporary Arts Centre of the City of Bari. Alongside the Puglia Design Store, it's the first space that hosts a rich programme of exhibitions, workshops, talks and educational activities, focusing on Visual Arts and Design. It's primary focus is to operate as a research, production and debate centre, focusing on contemporary issues and with the aim of engaging an increasing number of audience, inviting people with different background to explore new contemporary art processes through experimental formats.

[www.spaziomurat.it](http://www.spaziomurat.it)