Friday 25, Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 May, Bergamo hosts the eighth edition of The Blank ArtDate.

With over 30 events, 45 artists and 5 institutions involved, the event confirms itself as a reference point and an unmissable appointment not only for contemporary art lovers but for all those who take part in the participative and collaborative dimension, taking part in the numerous proposed events.

The Blank ArtDate is a contemporary art festival recognized by the European platform EFFE - Europe for Festivals, Festivals for Europe for its artistic quality, the involvement of the local community and the European and global breath.

The Blank ArtDate offers a renovated appointment focusing mainly on artists who use in their practice artistic forms and means of expression such as audio, video, performance and talk.

The predilection for immaterial and ephemeral interventions, which are consumed at the very moment in which they are carried out, as a vision, listening, conversation or performative event can mark the event under the heading "FREQUENCIES" that alludes to the number of times an event is repeated in its temporal dimension, to the rhythm of an event, to the perception of its movement, to participation in an activity. All the meanings according to which this word can be declined combine to represent the new edition of The Blank ArtDate.

In the era of streaming, on-demand and image sharing, the figure that characterizes The Blank ArtDate 2018 is the unavoidability of the user's participation in a specific place and in a precise moment. The non-repetitiveness of the performances and the non-materiality of the sound and video works impose the physical presence of the body of the assistants so that they can be intercepted, coded, decoded and then transmitted again and recounted.

An important news is the participation of the Hospital Papa Giovanni XXIII, a great operative and symbolic place for the entire community. Inside it, continuing a path that weaves art and health, two cycles of projections are scheduled, made by important national and international artists such as Yuri Ancarani, Oscar Giaconia, Hanne Lippard and Driant Zeneli. The proposed program addresses issues related to the life that is conducted in a health facility and to the emotional states that affect those who pass through it. Still inside the Hospital, Bergamo Film Meeting proposes the vision of "Cartoni Animati in Corsia" and a focus of the Dutch artist and animator Maik Hagens.

Friday 25 May

The first day of The Blank ArtDate opens with the inauguration of INV., The corridor of the Papa Giovanni XXIII Hospital dedicated to the legacy of the historic Galleria Fumagalli and Art Up, a project by UBI Banca, the association's historical partner: at the of Piazza Vittorio Veneto will be visible the series Cicade in het uur blauw (2014) by Jan Fabre, while at 15.00 the Bank proposes, led by Enrico De Pascale, the guided tour of the works exhibited in the Salone del Sede, including works by Peter Halley , Richard Sympson, Yan Zhi, John Armleder.

The performance of Emilio Fantin, COMUNE A TUTTI E' SOGNARE, based on the experience of listening to the dream and inner image, is hosted at 16.00 at the Academy of Fine Arts G. Carrara and provides the collaboration of Paolo Ferrario for the part sound.

At 5.00 pm Studio Vanna Casati proposes the performance of Rosita Mariani, a choreographer whose research focuses on the universality of the body and on the uniqueness of the person. Luogo_e, the new exhibition space in Via Pignolo, opens at 7.00 pm with a group exhibition inspired by the text Sotto il Beauborg, while Studio Balini offers the exhibition of still images and the screening of the short film Festadi Franco Piavoli, in the presence of the director. At

the Lucio Parenzan Auditorium of the Papa Giovanni XXIII Hospital at 7.30 pm THE BLANK DECODER with the screening of the video "Da Vinci" di Yuri Ancarani, the final work of the trilogy dedicated to the theme of work and focused on the operations of robotic microsurgery.

The evening concludes with the opening of ROOM 237: the parallel environment of Oscar Giaconia's studio opens with a personal exhibition and a sound installation by Steve Piccolo The end of the audience / The Audience of the End.

Saturday 26 May

The second day of The Blank ArtDate opens at 11.00 am with the performance of Matteo Nasini "Sparkling Matter", organized in the exceptional eighteenth-century frame of Palazzo Terzi and made possible thanks to the collaboration of Clima Gallery (Milan).

At 3.00 pm, RESET will open the exhibition of the Club GAMeC Prize 2018 set up inside the former prison of S. Agata in Città Alta and curated by Manuela Valentini, with the participation of Pamela Diamante, Ornaghi & Prestinari, Alice Ronchi and Davide Mancini Zanchi.

At 4.00 pm the guided tour by curators Corrado Benigni and Mauro Zanchi at the exhibition "Dietro l'invisibile" of Franco Fontana organized inside the ex monastery of Astino.

The afternoon band is interested by the GALLERIES TIME, inaugurations and events of the galleries members of The Blank network: Thomas Brambilla (David Novros); Elleni Gallery (Mario Cresci, Aldo Tagliaferro); Galleria Marelia (Claudio Centimeri); Quarenghicinquanta (Nicoletta Prandi); Squareworld + MiDi digital engines; Marco Fioretti Art Studio (Dorothy Bhawl, Niki Cooper); Studio Vanna Casati (Rosita Mariani); Traffic Gallery (Cosimo Terlizzi) with a special guided tour at 4.30 pm; Triangoloarte (Guido Airoldi, Paolo D'Angelo, Jacopo Ghislanzoni, Lorenzo Manenti, Gaetano Orazio); Vaku Project Space (Nicola Fornoni); viamoronisedici / spacearte (Pina Inferrera).

At 5.30 pm the opening of the "Coppers" exhibition by David Novros at the Ex oratory of San Lupo.

The pre-evening event is attended by ANIMATED FREQUENCIES, the cycle of screenings hosted at the Auditorium Lucio Parenzan of the Hospital Papa Giovanni XXIII and organized by Bergamo Film Meeting which proposes the vision of a series of animated films.

The first focus is dedicated to the Dutch artist and animator Maik Hagens, with the screening of all his works, in particular the extraordinary "To Lose One's Way", which deals with the difficult theme of Alzheimer's.

The film proposal is completed with the vision of a selection of films born within the project "Cartoni animati in corsia", which the association AVISCO realizes since 2012 within the Children's Hospital - Spedali Civili di Brescia.

From 9.00 pm, always at the Auditorium Lucio Parenzan, the second round of projections of THE BLANK DECODER with videos by Hanne Lippard ("Beige", 2012), Norwegian artist whose work is presented for the first time in Italy, Oscar Giaconia ("Sexual Clumsiness of an Amphibious Machine", 2017); Driant Zeneli ("It would not be possible to leave planet earth unless gravity existed", 2017).

Sunday 27 May

The third and last day of The Blank ArtDate begins at 11.00 am with the performance of Tea Andreoletti "Abbiate fede, crederete", a guided tour of an artist who unravels from the Cloister of Palazzo della Misericordia in Città Alta to end with the extraordinary opening of the Church of Santa Grata.

At 1:00 pm study visit and brunch at the Diego Gualandris studio.

The afternoon continues in Treviglio with the performance of Filippo Berta "Happens Everyday" (5.00 pm Collegio degli Angeli), the open project of Street Art Pianura Urbanaa curated by Paolo Baraldi and Good Bacteria, video projection curated by Marisol Malatesta at Spazio Tilde, while Bergamo viamoronisedici / spazioarte offers at 5.30 pm the Phoresta conference and the guided tour of the Pina Inferrera exhibition curated by Roberto Borghi.

At 6.00 pm the exhibition space of the G. Carrara Academy of Fine Arts, GIACOMO, inaugurates the exhibition "Stracci" at Hermann Bergamelli and hosts Maelle Cornut and Marta Margnetti, protagonists of the Open Studio of The Blank Residency.

The Festival ends with Sissi's The Blank Kitchen, "Onnivora Palette", organized in the courtyard of the historic residence of The Blank in via Quarenghi: for the occasion the artist will devise a menu that will be prepared by a chef and served according to a set-up designed by the artist.

Under the patronage of:

- -Regione Lombardia
- -Comune di Bergamo

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