



VALORIZZAZIONI  ART 
 CULTURALI  EVENTS

Sicilian Contemporary Baroque

Workshop/Residency 28 Dec. – 8 Jan. 2018



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Sicilian Contemporary Baroque - Site Specific Installation between Art & Architecture
Ortigia Island of Siracusa, Sicily, Italy

“San Francisco Art & Arch Collective”

Interdisciplinary SA Professor/Artist: Mariella Poli

Check-in: Syracuse, Sicily, Italy, **Thursday, 28 Dec. 2017**

Check-out: Syracuse Sicily, Italy, **Monday, 8 Jan. 2018**

Description

Open to all disciplines, but especially relevant to participants in Architecture, Interior Design, Sculpture, Performance, Sound, Media Art, Graphic Design

Since 1500 B.C., Sicily has seen a multitude of different cultures and populations, evidence of which can be seen in its architecture. Once a powerful colony of Magna Graecia, the island subsequently witnessed the various styles of its dominations from the Roman Empire to the Arabs and Normans, all leaving a range of styles from Greek and Roman to the baroque and 19th and 20th century architecture. The magnificent remains of ancient architecture in Sicily testify to the important role the island held in antiquity thanks to its strategic position in the Mediterranean and to its thriving agriculture. Home to Normans, Greeks, Arabs, Germans and Jews, it was for centuries a crossroads of cultures and religions. The epitome of diversity.

More than any other city, Syracuse encapsulates Sicily's timeless beauty. Ancient Greek ruins rise out of lush citrus orchards, cafe tables spill onto dazzling baroque piazzas, and honey-hued medieval lanes lead down to the sparkling blue sea. In its heyday this was the largest city in the ancient world, bigger even than Athens and Corinth. Its 'Once upon a Time' begins in 734 BC, when Corinthian colonists landed on the island of Ortygia and founded the settlement, setting up the mainland city four years later. Almost three millennia later, the ruins of that then-new city constitute the Parco Archeologico della Neapolis, one of Sicily's greatest archaeological sites. Across the water from the mainland, Ortygia remains the city's most beautiful corner, a casually chic, eclectic marvel.

The magnificent Island of Ortygia constitutes the oldest part of Syracuse. Visitors can discover its ancient history and its legendary Greek past just by walking it.

The Sicilian Baroque was born after the major crisis of the 1693 earthquake that destroyed many Sicilian towns and killed more than 60,000 people marking the beginning of a new era.

Sicily holds important role in history thanks to its strategic position in the Mediterranean Sea and currently holds a for many refugees & immigrants from the Near East and Africa trying to reach its shores with a hope of survival and dreams of a new life.

‘Sicilian Contemporary Baroque’ Site Specific Installation between Art & Architecture is a project based on the historical late Sicilian Baroque architecture & details as inspiration to create ephemeral forms that combine contemporary narratives to a historical site based in the center of Ortygia; our intent is to transform a Historical site into a Transitory Dreamful Space that address the global crisis of the forces of mass migration.

We will collaborate with local architecture professor Vittorio Fiore and his group of participants from Catania University, Faculty of Architecture of Syracuse, prof Lucia Trigilia, Architecture Historian specializing in Sicilian Baroque will give us a lecture. Our studio is at the architecture university and for our final installation we have a city site in the complex of '**Convento del Ritiro**' (former cloister convent). We will also take a field trip to **Noto**, which is one of the eight cities of the Noto Valley and declared a World Heritage Site for the richness and prestige of its architecture, and considered among the highest expressions of 18th-Century, late Baroque in Europe.

About Mariella Poli

Mariella Poli is an interdisciplinary artist working with installation, which includes photography, video and film, her work, investigates culture, identity, place and the power of space. Her work has been exhibited in such international institutions as the National Museum of Fine Art, Hanoi, Vietnam, Museo di Arte Moderna e Contemporanea di Trento e Rovereto (MART), Italy, Museo Universitario del Chopo, Mexico City, Ava Gallery, Capetown, South Africa and more. Her publications include; Mart: Nascita di un Museo (Mondadori Electa); Montecatini, (Skira'); Savoy Hotel (Antiga Edizioni); No People No Joey (Edizione Osiride) She also has been published in several publications in Italy, Austria, Spain, Denmark and Mexico. Mariella has participated in various international symposiums such as, "Environmental Dialog" Presenting Science in the Studio, 2015 AICAD Symposium (Art Design Science), California College of the Arts, San Francisco; "Environmental Dialog" Presentation, Italian Cultural Institute, San Francisco (2015); "Photography & Visual Culture" Università Roma Tre, Teatro Palladium, Rome, Italy (2014); "Attentive Eyes" Italy's Unesco Sites, ItaloAmerican Museum, San Francisco, California (2014); "Women, Spirituality and the Arts" Symposium, Saint Mary's College of California, Moraga, CA (2005); Centro Contemporaneo Luigi Pecci Museo, Prato, Italy (2004); Society for Photography Education West Region Conference, CCAC, Oakland, California(2002); Pacific Northwest Art College, Portland, Oregon (2000); Infancia y Sida, Museo Universitario del Chopo, Mexico City, Mexico (1992).

She was awarded an international residency at Citazensofculture.net, contemporary art and design, "A Soul for Europe", Culture, Economy and Social Responsibility. Venice, Italy (2011), RES, International Program Multidisciplinary Artist in Residence, Torcito, Lecce, Italy (2005), International Association of Residential Arts Centers Conference, Civitella Ranieri Center, Umbertide, Italy (2001), Na-Bolom, Research Center Artist in Residence, San Cristobal de las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico (1992).

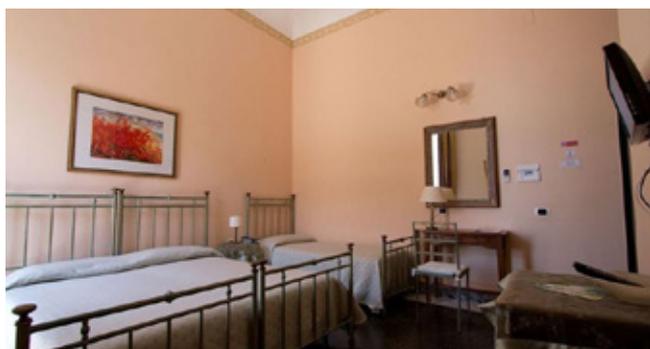
She has been the Professor and Co-curator (2005 - present) of several students and emerging artists exhibitions and catalogs in the United States and internationally.

She has been teaching Interdisciplinary courses at the California College of Art (Design & Fine Art) that work collaboratively with Marmara University and BILGI University in Istanbul, Turkey; University IUAV, Venice, Italy, University of Cape Town, South Africa Goldsmith College, London, England.

Mariella was born in Italy and lives in San Francisco where she taught at the San Francisco Art Institute, San Mary's College, Moraga, SACI, Florence an affiliation with Boling Green State University, Ohio, US and is currently senior adjunct professor at the California College of the Arts.

With her intimate knowledge of Italy, Poli designed a study-abroad course to Italy in 1996 and has been leading classes there every summer since.

She has a BFA and MFA San Francisco Art Institute, California, USA



Program Fee

Euro 1950 + Paypal fee Euro 79

Included in program fee

- 11-day workshop
- Accommodation (with use of Wi-Fi) in hotel (triple/quadruple room), breakfast & dinners
- Studio (with use of Wi-Fi), Gallery Space and material (for site specific installation)
- Architecture Historian Lecture
- Field trip to Noto

Not Included in program fee

Airfare to and from Italy, ground transportation to and from airport in Italy and lunches.
Interested Participants should contact Mariella Poli (mpoli.venicestudio@gmail.com) to start the approval process for registration.