

## THE INDEPENDENT

The MAXXI efforts to put forward independent spaces and thinking continues with the **Boa Mistura** group from Madrid's *Agopuntura nello spazio pubblico*

**21 June – 18 September 2016**

[www.fondazionemaxxi.it](http://www.fondazionemaxxi.it) | [www.theindependentproject.it](http://www.theindependentproject.it)

*We see our work as an instrument  
for transforming the streets and creating links between people.  
We feel we have a responsibility to the city and the time in which we live.*  
(Boa Mistura)

Rome June 2016. They met when they were 15 years old and creating graffiti on the walls of their quarter of Madrid. Today they work throughout the world, involving entire communities in the transformation of the streets in which they live through painting. From **22 June** the multidisciplinary group **Boa Mistura's** work *Agopuntura nello spazio pubblico* will be opening a new session of **THE INDEPENDENT**, the museum's research project on independent thinking curated by **Giulia Ferracci** and **Elena Motisi**.

**THE INDEPENDENT** is a research project on the identification and promotion of independent spaces and thinking designed to extend and challenge the limits of established institutions, especially museums, and to stimulate and develop diverse approaches to contemporaneity in the fields of visual arts, architecture, design and social practice.

Directly connected to the project, the site <http://www.theindependentproject.it> provides an ever-expanding map monitoring the growth of independent spaces, offering them a forum for exchange and an opportunity to draw attention to their initiatives.

With *Agopuntura nello spazio pubblico* by **Boa Mistura** furthermore, **THE INDEPENDENT** is taking on a new guise: in the free spaces of the museum's stairwell, a **digital wall** composed of **14 monitors** will come to life periodically, presenting the experiences of a selection of Italian and International groups.

The museum's research and mobilisation project is further enhanced by the **online newspaper Garibaldi**, each issue of which takes a multi-faceted look at various themes and geographical contexts. The first issue **IndieISTANBUL** - devoted to Istanbul – features contributions in the form of texts, works and interviews from **Sait Faik Abasiyanik, Fusun Akbaygil, Simone Ciglia, Federico De Renzi, Cem Dinlenmiş, Cerem Erdem, Herkes İçin Mimarlık (Architecture for All), Elena Motisi, Didem Ozbek, Donatella Saroli** and **Ali Taptik**

Invited to take part in **THE INDEPENDENT**, the Boa Mistura collective has chosen to present *Agopuntura nello spazio pubblico*, a selection of materials from the project for social change *Crossroads*, aimed at vulnerable communities with a high risk of marginalization.

Within the ambit of architectural and planning experiences, in fact, **THE INDEPENDENT** is paying particular attention to independent work in areas "of crisis" or those characterised by complex socio-political dynamics. Urgent needs are frequently sources of inspiration: conflicts, emergencies and critical situations stimulate the activities of these groups, which respond by proposing non-institutional solutions or creating self-commissioned projects.

"Our working process is open and active, based on intuition and contacts with the community. It is modified each time, adapting to the peculiarities of the place", say the members of the **Boa Mistura** group, "The tool of our trade is painting. It interests us due to its evocative power, its power to inspire and the immediacy of the results. It's accessible, it doesn't need specific training and it's universal, arousing the spontaneous intervention of all the inhabitants who then appropriate the work."



MUSEO NAZIONALE  
DELLE ARTI DEL XXI SECOLO

With ***Agopuntura nello spazio pubblico*** the 14 monitors show images, videos and interviews documenting the works *Luz Nas Velas*, Sao Paulo, Brazil; *Al Karama*, Algeri, Algeria; *Somos Luz*, Panama City, Panama; *San Cris De Colores*, Madrid, Spain; *Caminos De Agua*, Somoto, Nicaragua; *Mi Raíz Es*, Havana, Cuba, realised within the context of various emergencies.

South Africa, Mexico, Panama, Algeria, Georgia, Cuba, Brazil, Kenya, Colombia, Nicaragua and Chile, in every community Boa Mistura has succeeded in establishing contacts with the local community through participatory dynamics, the inhabitants of the areas in which the group has worked have been involved in actions of aesthetic improvement that modifies perception of the places, reinforcing people's relations with and in the space in which they live.

**Boa Mistura** (Madrid) is a multidisciplinary group composed of architects, artists, illustrators and engineers with roots in graffiti, born in late 2001 in Madrid. The group has exhibited its work at the Biennials in Havana, Venice and Panama and at the Museo Reina Sofia, La Casa Encendida (Madrid) Museo DA2 (Salamanca) and CAC Málaga. Group members teach at the ETSAM school of architecture in Madrid.

<http://www.boamistura.com>

### **MAXXI – National Museum of XXI Century Arts**

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opening hours: 11.00 AM – 7.00 PM (Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri, Sun) | 11.00 AM – 10.00 PM (Saturday) | closed Mondays,

Admittance free for students of art and architecture from Tuesday to Friday

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