

HYPERMAREMMA

IV EDITION

MAURIZIO NANNUCCI
SHIPS THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT

Rocca Aldobrandesca, Talamone
04.06 – 30.08.2022
opening reception Saturday June 4th, h.7.30pm

Coordinates: 42.55286294810742, 11.133648455645828

Critical text by Lorenzo Bruni
Patronage: Municipality of Orbetello, Touring Club Italiano and RAI Toscana

SHIPS THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT is the new site-specific installation that Maurizio Nannucci conceived on the occasion of the fourth edition of Hypermaremma for the façade of the Rocca Aldobrandesca in Talamone. The work will establish an intense dialogue with the history of the place. Located high above the Maremma coastline, the ancient medieval fortress – dating back to the 12th century – hosts the work conceived as a meeting point between antithetical dualities: reality and vision, time and space, water and land. These are the very dichotomies upon which the activity of nature and human beings has been based on in the area defined by the bay of Talamone – halfway between sea and sky, between coastal landscape and hills.

The great neon work thus belongs to the artist's famous 'writings', which can spread words and phrases of imaginative power in a unique circuit that floats between sign, colour and meaning. Using coloured glass and fluorescent blue light, Nannucci leads the observer to refine his visual perception, starting a unique dialogue between language and the spatial context in which it is located. SHIPS THAT PASS IN THE NIGHT is a work about the proximity of terrestrial space and the vastness of sea and sky. At night the sea sinks into darkness, allowing nocturnal observers to catch a glimpse of the ships' lights sealing offshore: real ships heading to distant harbours, or imaginary ones sailing through the night without a destination? Nannucci suggests the viewer to turn his gaze to the sea through the message conveyed in the work – which is located on land – thus following its double horizon and telling the story of sailors returning home. In the darkness of the night, the light of the artwork appears as a true vision in the stillness of the Maremma landscape. By paying such a poetic homage to nocturnal navigators, the artist not only offers them an unusual landmark from the sea, but also evokes the rich historical and cultural heritage of the place.

Biography and general information

Maurizio Nannucci is born in Florence in 1939, he lives and works in Florence and Südbaden (Germany).

One of the most important figures on the international art scene in the last decades, he has focused his work on a wide range of creative practices from artist's book, multiples, sound pieces, photography and video – as well as numerous editions created in collaboration with other artists. From the mid-1960s to the present day – through his constant practice of multiple expressive languages – he has extended his research beyond all disciplinary boundaries. Inspired by linguistic concepts and ideas, in the mid-1960s Nannucci began to explore the multiple interrelationships between language, writing, and images using a wide range of media. In his research Nannucci has developed an interdisciplinary approach by establishing a network of collaborations in the arts, architecture, and poetry. In addition to language, his interest is strongly focused on colour and its manifestations. The documentation of his linguistic research and his experiences with colour are the basis of a consistent writing activity that Nannucci collected in an Anthology of texts in blue neon that is still in progress (1967-2022...).

From 1974 to 1985 he has co-promoted the activities of Zona non-profit art space in Florence and in 1998 he was among the founders of Base / Progetti per l'arte. Nannucci carries out an active publishing activity with the Exempla, Recorthings and Zona Archives editions, and with the archive documents he has curated numerous exhibitions in museums, libraries, and public institutions. In the early 1990s he began collaborating with architects such as Fritz Auer, Mario Botta, Stephan Braunfels, Massimiliano Fuksas, Nicholas Grimshaw, Renzo Piano and has realised several projects for museums and public buildings. Maurizio Nannucci has been repeatedly invited to the Venice Biennale, Documenta in Kassel and the biennales of São Paulo Sydney, Istanbul, and Valencia. His works have been exhibited in over three hundred museums and galleries and the works are part by numerous collections all over the world, including Fondazione Guggenheim in Venice, Staedtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus, Munich; Berliner Museen and Kunstsammlung des Deutschen Bundestages, Berlin; Maxxi, Rome; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Centre Georges Pompidou and CNAP, Paris; MCA, Sydney; Museo del Novecento, Florence; Palazzo della Pilotta, Parma; City Life, Milan.

Hypermaremma

Non-profit cultural association that has been operating since 2019 for the production and promotion of contemporary art in Maremma through the intervention of contemporary artists, encouraged to relate to the territory and its history. With a curious approach towards the future, it aims to pursue *beauty in dialogue with the land*, while leaving a sustainable imprint through the promotion of art.

Hypermaremma is founded by: Carlo Pratis, Giorgio Galotti, Matteo d'Aloja.