

# HYPERMAREMMA

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COMMUNICATIVE

**Maria Loboda**

***To Separate the Sacred from the Profane***

Opening Saturday, April 19th, 2025

From 11:30 am

04.19-09.30.2025

Parco Archeologico dell'Antica Città di Cosa

Coordinates: 42.412208, 11.287602

Hypermaremma is excited to announce the opening of its new season with an evocative installation by international artist Maria Loboda titled *To Separate the Sacred from the Profane*.

This installation features a striking four-meter-high circular gate, inspired by the 'chinowa', which is installed within the picturesque setting of the Archaeological Park of the Ancient City of Cosa in Ansedonia. The 'chinowa', a traditional Japanese Shinto object, serves as a symbolic gateway for purification. In Shinto belief, crossing through a 'chinowa' represents a transition from a state of impurity to one of purity, allowing individuals to move from sin into a sacred space. Loboda's installation cleverly connects the ancient Eastern Shinto traditions to the rich historical tapestry of the Archaeological Park, which dates back millennia. Positioned at a crucial intersection between the forum — where political and commercial activities took place — and the sacred area of the Capitolium, the temple dedicated to the Capitoline Triad of Jupiter, Juno, and Minerva, this artwork provides a unique dialogue between cultures and epochs. Loboda's work emphasizes the power of form and symbolism, drawing from diverse cultural backgrounds to create new meanings that resonate in contemporary contexts. Through her installation, she invites viewers to reconsider the relationship between modernity and ancient practices, challenging them to explore new aesthetic and mystical values within the framework of contemporary archaeology.

The presentation of "To Separate the Sacred from the Profane" in Maremma is the most recent since its debut at Modern Art Oxford's Kaleidoscope exhibition in 2016. It has since been exhibited at several notable venues, including at solo exhibitions at the Contemporary Art Center in Vilnius, the Institut d'art contemporain in Villeurbanne/Rhône-Alpes, and the group show "Si Sedes Non Is" curated by Milovan Farronato at The Breeders Gallery in Athens, all in 2017. Additionally, this work is part of the collection at the Institut d'art contemporain in Villeurbanne/Rhône-Alpes.

With the support of Parchi Archeologici della Maremma  
Thanks to Vistamare Gallery

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## Biography and general information

**Maria Loboda**, born in 1979 in Krakow, Poland, composes installations and sculptures to investigate cultural codes, represented by pictorial signs and the grammar of various materials and objects. Throughout her work, Loboda engages with the historical narratives attributed to certain objects and juxtaposes them with contemporary interpretations and modern references in order to address the transformation of meaning of objects and images, tracing their paths from conveyance to encounter. Her research stems from the fields of poetry and history and leads to a formal equation of language and materiality, whose interactions she examines and uses in order to question what they express beyond their common readings. Thus, through the deconstruction and reorganization of common forms and symbols, Loboda has become a unique voice in what is described as contemporary archaeology. As a kind of re-enacting of semiotics, Loboda's works are subversive as well as critical towards power structures. *In 2025 received the professorship for Sculpture the Academy of Fine Arts in Nuernberg.* Loboda's wide-ranging exhibition activities encompass Art Basel Parcours (2022), the 58th Venice Biennale (2019), Taipei Biennial (2014), and documenta 13 (2012). Important solo exhibitions include Fridericianum, Kassel (2025), Senckenberg Museum, Frankfurt a. M. (2023), Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt a.M. (2018/19), Ujazdowski Castle Centre for Contemporary Art, Warsaw (2019), Kunsthalle Basel (2017), Institut d'art contemporain, Villeurbanne (2017), The Power Plant, Toronto (2016), and Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2012). Furthermore, she has participated in numerous group exhibitions, including Contemporary Art Center, Singapore (2018), MADRE, Naples (2018), Modern Art Oxford (2016), Sprengel Museum Hannover (2015), Bundeskunsthalle, Bonn (2015), Ludlow 38, New York (2012), MMK – Museum für Moderne Kunst (2010). Loboda lives and works in Berlin and Krakow.

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**Hypermaremma** was established in 2019 as a widespread art festival in the Maremma region with a program that extends throughout the year. Founded as a Social Promotion Association by Carlo Pratis, Giorgio Galotti, and Matteo d'Aloja, it aims to involve the lower Maremma through the intervention of contemporary artists who, invited to engage with the territory and its history, are capable of triggering a reinterpretation of the landscape and the atmosphere of the place, leaving a mark that contributes to cultural tourism and the activation of synergies and collaborations with the local community and local artisans. Hypermaremma enhances the territory through works that highlight portions of the landscape as an open-air, widespread museum. The works produced by Hypermaremma are exclusively located in places without territorial or time constraints, accessible at any time of day or night. In Hypermaremma's curatorial approach, the dialogue between place and artistic intervention is essential: the landscape becomes an integral part of the work and, very often, of its meaning.