

## Panorama L'Aquila

a city-wide exhibition curated by **Cristiana Perrella**

7 - 10 September 2023

After Procida and Monopoli, *ITALICS* brings the third edition of Panorama to L'Aquila. Since 2021, this multi-site traveling exhibition has been forging connections between art, architecture, antiquity and the contemporary, and the territory and its communities. For the second year, it has the patronage of UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture.

[www.italics.art](http://www.italics.art)

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#PanoramaLAquila

Back again from 7 to 10 September 2023 **Panorama** is the cultural project that *ITALICS* – the first institutional network to bring together seventy of the most authoritative art galleries in Italy – annually dedicates to some of the most extraordinary locations in our country.

After the editions of Procida (2021) and Monopoli (2022), both curated by Vincenzo De Bellis, *ITALICS* chose **L'Aquila** for the third edition of **Panorama** and invited **Cristiana Perrella** – curator and art critic – to conceive a multi-site exhibition for the Abruzzo capital.

L'Aquila was founded on the slopes of Gran Sasso in 1254 and rebuilt in 1266 by Charles I of Anjou. It was initially part of the Kingdom of Naples, then of the Hapsburg kingdom and then the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. In its long history, it has known moments of power and splendor alternated with phases of decline, destruction, reconstruction and rebirth, related to the violent earthquakes that have struck it throughout its history, including the particularly dramatic one of 2009. Over the centuries, the city's location in the heart of Italy, surrounded by imposing mountains, forests, lakes and waterways, has given it wealth and a strategic importance both politically and religiously, as well as economically and culturally. Today, there is still strong evidence of this history in the architecture and artistic heritage, and the legacy is kept alive through religious rites such as the Perdonanza Celestiniana and the prestige of institutions such as the Conservatory, the University and the Academy of Fine Arts.

The focus in the new edition of Panorama, curated by Cristiana Perrella, will be on L'Aquila's vast historical heritage - with its medieval stratum reflected in the city walls, its Renaissance stratum recognizable in numerous palaces and churches, its Baroque and then Neoclassical stratum related to 18th-century reconstructions - in part still damaged by the last earthquake and in part rebuilt and restored to their original splendor. The Spanish Fortress with the room where an extremely rare mammoth skeleton found in 1954 just outside the city is preserved in its entirety, the Baroque Oratory of Palazzo de' Nardis, the Giorgio de Marchis Foundation, the Casino delle Delizie Branconio, the National Museum of Abruzzo, the MAXXI L'Aquila, as well as palaces, courtyards, public spaces and places of everyday life, will be inhabited by works of ancient, modern and contemporary art and will interact with works created for the occasion.

The venues of **Panorama L'Aquila** will not be simple "containers" of works but **generators of content** per se, making the multi-site exhibition unique, and benefiting from the fertile relationship with the cultural fabric of the city and its long tradition.

The exhibition project by **Cristiana Perrella** for **Panorama L'Aquila** grew from the suggestion of the evocative term **wit(h)nessing**, coined by feminist theorist, artist and psychoanalyst **Bracha Ettinger** with the aim of extending the concept of **witnessing**, understood **both as an affirmation of one's knowledge and as passing on a story**.

*"The experience of bearing witness is a relational action that involves coexistence", Cristiana Perrella emphasizes. "Memory and community are pivotal words for L'Aquila, words for relating to history, culture, places and people. I would like the effort to involve the territory to take the form of collaborations with local, productive, cultural and social organizations, invited to engage in dialogue with the artists chosen for the exhibition".*

**Panorama L'Aquila** is certain to be a **unique exhibition experience**, an expression of the values of **ITALICS**. With its capacity to unite the ancient, modern and contemporary, multiple styles, techniques and thoughts in art itineraries, the visitor can explore the most authentic and least known aspects of our Country, continuing in person the extraordinary journey that began in 2020 on the web pages of the Italics.art platform. The member galleries wanted and shared the **format** of **Panorama** with a view to collaborating with the territories involved. The intention is to progressively expand this **commitment** into a program and into alliances aimed at reaffirming the central nature and **role of art galleries** in a cultural system, both local and global, that is constantly evolving.

**Panorama L'Aquila** is realized under the patronage of **UNESCO**, the **Ministry of Culture** and the **Municipality of L'Aquila**.

**Belmond Ltd. participates as a main partner in support of the activities of ITALICS**. Pursuing its long and successful tradition of excellence in the field of hospitality and leisure, Belmond has always been dedicated to the cultural heritage and history of the countries in which it operates. The partnership with ITALICS, reconfirmed for the second year, will continue to further the common goal of promoting Italy and its territories through art, inviting the public to see the profusion of culture and beauty throughout the country from a new and original point of view.

**The Giornale dell'Arte is a media partner of Panorama L'Aquila.**

**Participants in Panorama L'Aquila include** (list is being updated): ADA; Alessandra Di Castro; Alessandro Cesati; Alfonso Artiaco; Bacarelli; Bottegantica; Botticelli Antichità; Cardi Gallery; Carlo Orsi; Caterina Tognon Arte Contemporanea; Clima; Ermes Ermes; Federico Vavassori; Francesca Minini; Franco Noero; Gagolian; Galerie Canesso; Galleria Carlo Virgilio & C.; Galleria Continua; Galleria dello Scudo; Galleria Fonti; Galleria Fumagalli; Galleria Lia Rumma; Galleria Raffaella Cortese; Galleria Russo; Galleria Tiziana Di Caro; Galleria Umberto Di Marino; Giacometti Old Master Paintings; Giorgio Persano; kauffman repetto; Laveronica Arte Contemporanea; Martina Simeti; Massimo De Carlo; Massimo Minini; Maurizio Nobile; Mazzoleni, London-Torino; ML Fine Art; Monitor; P420; Peola Simondi; Peres Project; Pinksummer; Porcini; Prometeo Gallery Ida Pisani; Richard Saltoun; Rolando Anselmi; Federica Schiavo Gallery; SpazioA; Studio Trisorio; Thomas Dane Gallery; Tornabuoni Arte; Tucci Russo Studio per l'Arte Contemporanea; Victoria Miro Venice; Vistamare|Vistamarestudio; ZERO...

## INFORMATION

More information on the [Panorama L'Aquila](#) page on the [ITALICS](#) website  
Stay updated on Panorama L'Aquila with the [ITALICS newsletter](#)  
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**ITALICS** promotes the culture and beauty that flourishes throughout Italy, through a national network based on collaboration between gallerists and by sharing experiences, on and offline, with an international audience of collectors and enthusiasts. *ITALICS* is a consortium that brings together seventy of the most authoritative Italian galleries of contemporary, modern and ancient art.

The entire project was launched in the spring of 2020 after an idea by Lorenzo Fiaschi (Galleria Continua), President, and Pepi Marchetti Franchi (Gagosian), Vice-President, together with promoting partners Alfonso Artiaco, Ludovica Barbieri (Massimo De Carlo), Massimo Di Carlo (Galleria dello Scudo), Francesca Kaufmann (kaufmann repetto), Massimo Minini, Franco Noero and Carlo Orsi.

The original aim behind *ITALICS* was to develop new pathways for cultural and human encounters between art enthusiasts and others, realizing projects that embrace Italy's cultural heritage and landscape in itineraries of art and rediscovery, distinguished by a multidisciplinary approach and by forging strong relationships with the various regions.

A working group was formed around the intention of recounting Italy and its extraordinary uniqueness through the eyes of gallerists. Other galleries throughout mainland Italy and its islands were invited to take part in the project, including some of the most established national and international galleries of ancient, modern and contemporary art, as well as emerging and experimental galleries.

Today, *ITALICS* is an extremely dynamic organization that is constantly evolving. In September 2021, the galleries' ideas, inspirations and commitment brought to the island of Procida (NA), Italian Capital of Culture 2022, the first edition of the multi-site exhibition Panorama, followed in 2022 by the second edition in Monopoli, both curated by Vincenzo de Bellis.

## **PANORAMA L'AQUILA**

A project by Italics

Curated by Cristiana Perrella

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Under the patronage and with the support of the Municipality of L'Aquila

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