



Xing
presents

Francesco Cavaliere
Abyssal Creatures
sound installation & appearance

Saturday 4 + Sunday 5 November 2023
Serralves Museu de Arte Contemporanea, Porto

in the frame of the festival **O Museu como Performance**

project supported by the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Italian Ministry of Culture
under the Italian Council program (2023)
produced by Xing

On Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 November 2023 Xing presents ***Abyssal Creatures***, sound installation & appearance by the Italian artist **Francesco Cavaliere** at **Serralves Museu de Arte Contemporanea** in **Porto** in the frame of the festival **O Museu como Performance**.

Abyssal Creatures is a project by Francesco Cavaliere following the narrative of a group of creatures from his fantasy writing about *Peoples of Glass*, that develops in a new saga inspired by the images of the marine flora of the abyss, hybridized with archetypal figures of the human unconscious. These creatures, coagulated on glass, in the form of sound sculptures blown by Murano masters, manifest themselves for the first time in Porto the spaces of the Serralves museum, in an **installative and performative dimension**. An opportunity to look out onto this artist's ethereal and fluctuating universe, suspended between alchemy and science-fiction, which relocates knowledge about matter and nature - from botany to crystallography - in a poetic dimension, which goes beyond measured thought.

Abyssal Creatures are an **ensemble of Murano glass sculptures**, in blown glass, designed to represent other beings, assembled like communicating vessels that form a sounding body, non-bipedal and far from any human representation. These abyssal bodies expand their life through sound and vitreous resonances. The Music that flows inside them is like an abstract vascular form, drawing inspiration from the Xylem and the lymphatic systems that some plants possess. The Sound, as an invisible sap makes them alive, lights up their presence. Here is their physiology according to Cavaliere: "The Abyssal Creatures are at the same time musical instruments (both idiophones, such as bells, and areophones, susceptible to air vibrations) and sculptures that seem to live and sweat noise. The creatures are in different colours, and their cavities, holes and openings are points for a musical cascade. They are like taps to open and close, with which create musical compositions. The floral elements of the sculptures and the curvilinear shapes constitute a set of conical-cylindrical sound resonators, which host sound reproduction and diffusion systems."

In Porto, the Abyssal Creatures will be standing, **radiating sound** from the centre of the space, like a group, an animal kingdom. From within the three glass sculptures, assembled like communicating vases, a **sound composition** will be diffused and they will be animated by the artist who will hybridize with them as avatars. A sonic life, made up of moody ups and downs, of stasis and ventilations, which like a sap will animate the sculptures. Over the course of the festival the sound installation will also have two moments of activation in different light conditions, **appearances** in which Cavaliere will perform a narrative construction that surrounds the musical aspect of sound.

Abyssal Creatures will develop during 2023-24 along a productive and creative process with various occasions in Europe and the USA for performative, installation and musical activation by the artist, between story-telling and the magic of sound.

Abyssal Creatures is produced and curated by Xing, supported by the Directorate-General for Contemporary Creativity of the Italian Ministry of Culture under the Italian Council program (12th edition, 2023), which aims to promote Italian contemporary art worldwide. Partners: Issue Project Room New York, Serralves Museu de Arte Contemporanea Porto, ViaIndustriae Publishing. The artworks will become part of the collections of the Museo d'Arte della Città of Ravenna.

Francesco Cavaliere is a visual artist, writer and sound producer born in Tuscany, Italy, in 1980. He lives and works between Berlin and Turin. His works are capable of enlivening his listeners' inner states through a polymorphic activity that combines writing, sound, voice, drawing, sculpture, which together stimulate the imagination, undertaking long journeys crossed by ephemeral presences. He writes sound stories and music based on particles of sound, noise and language, often integrated with installation and scenographic elements or live performance, showing a particular taste for the most diverse forms of exoticism. Over the years he has developed a veritable dictionary to catalogue the metamorphic beings that inhabit his own abstract fantasy universe: hybrids of objects, animals, plants, planets, trails, cosmic objects and physical and perceptual phenomena generated by glass, minerals and voices, recorded and performed with analog technologies. "*I am a talking scribe ... my voice is a cloud, my pen hisses.*"

From 2011 to today Francesco Cavaliere has produced series of performances, light and sound actions, concerts, radio and audio-visual works, audio stories, readings in the visual and musical field, Augmented Reality stories. His work has been shown in museums, art centers and international festivals including: Museo Archeologico Nazionale di Napoli, KORA Contemporary Art Centre, Castrignano de' Greci; Museo Civico di Storia Naturale, Milano; *Ti con zero*, Xing/Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Roma; *Una Cosa Mostruosa*, Sacro Bosco di Bomarzo; Triennale Teatro, FOG, Milano; LUFF Festival, Lausanne; Ambient Festival, Cologne; Live Arts Week/Xing, Bologna; GLUCK 50, Milano; Terraforma, Villa Arconati, Milano; RIBOCA1 Riga International Biennial, Riga; Issue Project Room, New York; Cafè Oto, London; Helicotrema



Recorded Audio Festival, RAI radio 3, Milan; INFRA FESTIVAL, Tokyo; BOZAR, Bruxelles; 3HD Fest, HAU Habel am Ufer, Berlin; Empty Gallery, Honk Kong; 7TH Berlin Biennale; Les Urbaines Festival, Lausanne; Museum of Contemporary Art di Tokyo; Museum of Contemporary Art, Roskilde; Grimmuseum Berlin; CTM festival Berlin; Museum of Contemporary Art, Warsaw; QO2 Bruxelles; Kraak Ghent; ART Brussels.

Personal exhibitions in the visual field: *Prodigy Kid* (2022), MAR Museo d'Arte della Città di Ravenna; *La Lince d'Ombra e Pietra Sponga* (2021), Una Boccata d'Arte, Fondazione Elpis e Galleria Continua, Vallo di Nera ; *Anubis vs Baboon* (2019) Gluck 50, Milan; *Soffio Che Scotta* (2015); Xing/Marsèlleria, Milan; *Lancio Meta Meteo* (2014) Grimmuseum, Berlin; *Volta di Lame di Lune* (2012), Kinderhook and Caracas, Berlin. Group exhibitions: *Raymond et des Palmes* (2018), part of Manifesta 12, Palermo; *Green Music* (2017) Yamamoto Gendai Gallery, Tokyo; *The Glowing Glove* (2014) Museum of Contemporary Art, Roskilde; *Volta di Lame di Lune* (2012), Liverpool Biennale. Francesco Cavaliere, also known as Francis Knight, has released the double LP *Gancio Cielo* (Hundebyss records - for which he also curated the on-line project *Musica Virtuale*), the LPs *Etrusca 3D* (Discrepant), *Zoomachia Disc 1* (Fantom Dischi), *Aquilone Grattacielo dj mix* (Pacific City Disc), *Sijuaq il Chiurlo veggente* (Poole music). He also released on cassette and digital the sound works *Volta di Lame di Lune*, *Alata Onda*, *I films fan venire gli occhi rossi*, *IATO* (self productions) and *ENERGIA NUVOLA* (Troglosound), *Xylomania* (CN), *Doro Bengala* (Presto!?). In duo with Sea Urchin they released the albums *Yaqaza* (Kraak rec), *Tahtib* (Bokeh versions), *Natal Uranus* (Commend see, RVNG), and in duo with Tomoko Sauvage the LP *Viridescence* (Marionette). Forecoming releases: *Popoli di Vetro* (Xing >< Xong Collection), the tape + booklet *L'arco Infra le Nubi* (Canti Magnetici). He published the books *Gancio Cielo DNA CLEPSYDRA* (NERO editions), *Anubis vs Baboon* (Lombardelli Ed, Gluck 50) and *Il Grillo Minerva* (ViaIndustriae). He has collaborated with visual artists, musicians and choreographers: Leila Hassan with the duo Sea Urchin, Marcel Türkowsky, Elisabeth Kirche, Ignaz Schick, Ghédalia Tazartès, Invernemuto, Lievens Martens Moana/Dolphins Into The Future, Ruben Spini, Annamaria Ajmone, Spencer Clark, Tomoko Sauvage, Leonardo Pivi, Christopher Kline, Amy Franceschini.

www.instagram.com/cavaliere.circles7 francescocavaliere.bandcamp.com soundcloud.com/f-cavaliere

Calendar:

Saturday 4 November 2023

Francesco Cavaliere

Abyssal Creatures

sound installation 10 am > 7 pm

appearance 3.30 pm

+

Sunday 5 November 2023

Francesco Cavaliere

Abyssal Creatures

sound installation 10 am > 7 pm

appearance 6 pm

Press Kit:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/nvevv1ay9amt3a8exuw70/h?rlkey=hwele078h1n0lcj52w4vfxqn&dl=0>

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The project is supported by



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