



**ARTE CONTEMPORANEA  
NELLO SPAZIO URBANO  
26 GIUGNO/5 SETTEMBRE 2010  
3° EDIZIONE ANCONA**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**16/06/2010**

**ROVINA, an installation by Ericailcane**

**ROVINA**

**A installation by Ericailcane**

**inside the abandoned rooms of Porta Pia**

organized by MAC – Manifestazioni Artistiche Contemporanee

**Porta Pia, Ancona**

**26 June | 5 September 2010**

**from Tuesday to Sunday, 19.00-23.00, free entry**

**Opening Saturday 26 June at h. 19.00**

**h. 21.00 Carlomargot Live** Two guitars exiled from rock and in total withdrawal from riff  
**followed by Carlomargot DjSet**

Cocktail bar Raval



The Cultural Association MAC – Manifestazioni Artistiche Contemporanee, launches its 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the festival Pop Up! Contemporary art in urban spaces, with one of its most awaited-for appointments of the programme, Rovina, an installation by Ericailcane.

A unique event of its kind; a monographic exhibition dedicated to the artist Ericailcane<sup>1</sup>, invited to put up site-specific installations and paintings inside the abandoned rooms of Porta Pia. This imposing structure, a monumental entrance to the city, built between 1787 and 1789, preserved by the Superintendence of the Architectural Heritage and Landscape Conservation of the Marche, rises totem-like in front of the Mole of Vanvitelli, hub of the city's culture. A unique occasion which blends well with the artistic production by Ericailcane, whose works (refined, fantastic engravings and large painted murals) enliven art galleries and streets all over the world, and which gives the artist a one-off opportunity to work on masonry, making an ad hoc creation of great quality (a set of frescoes) especially designed for this site. Entering Porta Pia will be like walking into a book of fairy tales, but with Lewis Carroll's logic turned upside down, and thus it's the story that grows bigger and bigger!

A story, a fantasy tale which winds through stairs and adjoining rooms (700 m<sup>2</sup> of surface over three storeys) an evocative route, stimulated by a poetical quality permeated by visions, fascinations and suggestions of real and fantasy animals.

The event is also an opportunity to reopen Porta Pia to the public – owned by the Customs Police, and currently bestowed for use to the city of Ancona – an abandoned structure, once given over to offices and closed for the last ten years; a structure originally constructed to symbolize the commercial exchange between nations and defend the entrance to the city. These values are currently brought into play, revived, and contemporary art, as a privileged instrument of cultural communication, gives this extraordinary site the opportunity of playing a new role, that of an extemporary exhibition space – premonitory to a desired future cultural destination – to encourage the creation of events that herald trans-national intercultural exchange. An exchange no longer commercial, but now cultural, between the city and the rest of the world. This event is sponsored by the Ministry of Cultural Activities and Heritage.

From June 26 and for the whole length of the Festival, the POP UP! Bookshop will be open in Porta Pia, a new, extemporary place where you will find art books of all the artists invited to the festival, limited editions and serigraphs. The Bookshop designed by Roberto Giacomucci is completely fitted with cardboard Kubedesign furnishings, customized by the artist Dem.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.ericailcane.org](http://www.ericailcane.org)

**ROVINA is an event organized by** MAC – Manifestazioni Artistiche Contemporanee  
**Sponsored by:** MIBAC – Ministry of Cultural Activities and Heritage  
**with contributions from:** City of Ancona, Province of Ancona, Mole Vanvitelli Fund  
**in collaboration with:** Superintendence of the Architectural Heritage and Landscape Conservation of the Marche  
**sponsors:** Garbini Consulting, Kubedesign, Raval, ARCI Ancona  
**media partners:** Ziguline, Stick my World, Amo la Mole  
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**bookshop and organization secretariat:** Federica Sdrubolini  
**reception:** Celia Bicci  
**web editor:** William Vecchietti and Giulio Garavaglia  
**graphic design:** Real Dc  
**bookshop furnishing project:** Roberto Giacomucci  
**bookshop customization:** Dem and Ericailcane  
**light technician:** Massimiliano Primitivo  
**photographic documentation:** Luca Forlani

**ROVINA, an installation byi Ericailcane**  
**Review by Gabriele Tinti**  
**Biography of Ericailcane**

## **Inside the History**

Ericailcane accepts a challenge which for him is a real avant-garde and pioneering opportunity in Italy: that of being able to work inside a historical site like Porta Pia in Ancona ( and we know well to what extent the public – the institutions – in this city are mummified and insensitive to proposals which hint even vaguely of an encounter with contemporary art) . To accept means to expose oneself to being controlled and judged which can be suffocating and thus end up inhibiting creativity. Or freeing it. Because the challenge is important, the splendid – rare – orchestration of intents between MAC and local Institutions, the chosen site (once the gate to the city of Ancona in the 1700s) also. A monumental space left to die slowly, in a progress of deterioration which is the destiny of all historical buildings in our country. Which began by assigning the place to a function which ill-suited it and should have been carried out elsewhere – that of housing Customs Police offices – then closing it and leaving it totally abandoned.

Ericailcane, accepting the challenge, shows to have found a site which was never used before for his images and his world, able to give him the necessary stimulus – the activator – to do and to narrate. The gate in fact represents – traditionally – a dividing line between countries, cultures, classes – between lives. Even more – as in this case – when it closes/opens towards the sea. Which has always meant people (here from the East), invasions, a blending of human beings. A site which is both fascinating and stimulating. Because Ericailcane by means of his surreal bestiary recounts, by means of analogies

and metaphors, of man, of his relations, of how his respective multiplicity – his own inextinguishable depth – takes on superficial forms and characterizations which are distinguishable, evident. But also of how these hide another side, of how both above and below there exists, in alternating states and depending on who one wants to analyse, putrefaction and splendour, shadows and light. Represented, why not, by a bestiary adapted to fantasy plots. Because animalism must clearly be interpreted, it is the ideal means to activate abstract typified processes, symbols impregnated with physicality, ictus (exemplary sign) to be incarnated with the maximum of evidence, with detailed and realistic knowledge, so as not to condense and shrivel into a distant and pathetic memory. The artist enters (Hi)story to build another – his own (hi)story. Which talks about the present, peopled by neurosis and extreme experiences, by tormented tensions and new restlessness.

We strongly wish that the community – even though it is by now naturally forgetful of being a distant progeny of those who lived when Porta Pia was part of the city – thanks to the Ericailcane's work can regain possession – by gauging their respective habits – of a living space within their own history.

*by Gabriele Tinti*

*“Pop Up! Arte contemporanea nello spazio urbano” Franco Cosimo Panini Editore, Modena 2010*

## **ERICAILCANE**

(IT, 1981)

### **WALLS, INSTALLATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS**

#### **2010**

Breaking The Wall, Wroclaw, Poland

With Kabu, Firenze

*Ericailcane with Hitnes*, Strike The Street, csoa Strike, Roma

*Questa Macchina Può Andare Fuori Strada*, Squadro Stamperia, Bologna

*Bara Volante* With Dem And Run, Brighton

*Ericailcane with Kabu*, Galleria Biagiotti, Firenze

#### **2009**

Los Angeles, LA California

Lambrate, Milano

*Bartleby* with Will Barras and Dem, Bologna

*Fame Festival 2009*, Grottaglie

*N-Joy-Street*, Cantiere San Bernardo, Pisa

*Il Vecchione*, Bologna

*Guerra Civile*, Armocida Gallery, Milano

*Man Is The Bastard*, Carmichael Gallery, Los Angeles

*Gabols*, Belluno

#### **2008**

with Rekal, Prato

*Pop up! arte contemporanea nello spazio urbano*, Ancona

*Fame Festival*, Grottaglie

*Santa's Ghetto*, Palestine

*Fur*, Iguapop Gallery, Barcelona

*Muffins*, Italian Cultural Institute, Chicago

Arte Fiera 08

*Ora*, Festival de Grabado Contemporáneo, Cuenca, Spagna

#### **2007**

*Torre Di Babele*, Monfalcone

Galleria Biagiotti, Firenze

Artefiera 07

#### **2006**

Santa's Ghetto 06, London

#### **2005**

*De Motu Muscolari*, Spina Festival, Comacchio

**Press Office**



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