

Valle Camonica (BS) - Italy

## WALL IN ART | Walls of art in the Valley of Landmarks

**The fourth edition of the project, starring Borondo, OZMO and Collettivo FX, has reached its conclusion.**

A party in the small town of Angone, where the murals of Ozmo and Collettivo FX have just been completed, has marked the conclusion of the fourth edition of **WALL IN ART. Walls of Art in the Valley of Landmarks**, a project able to create a powerful and evocative *fil rouge* between the different languages of contemporary art and the legacy of signs and engravings of the prehistoric Camunnian population, such a precious and vast heritage, which made Valle Camonica the first Italian UNESCO site.

After **'Soul of the Wall\_Cevo, Eron'**s last July art intervention in Valsaviore, WALL IN ART continued through the month of September with other three appreciated artists from the international scene: **Borondo**, who worked in the town of **Malegno**, followed by **OZMO** and **Collettivo FX**, who left their marks in **Angone**, in the district of Darfo Boario Terme.

In **Malegno**, on the large wall facing Piazza Casari, **Borondo** has just finished creating **Mites terram possident'** a poetic intervention that stems from a profound dialogue between the location and the artist's perception of the entire environment.

In the heart of the composition, a cave (inspired by one near the village) is painted with an entrance opened towards the daylight, depicted inside a sequence of arches and columns of a nave.

The lower part of the wall was specially treated by the artist so that about a hundred different-aged local children could experience on their first day of school the act of engraving, while linking their emotional memory to the history of their territory.

The mural is rich of local figurative elements, which both hide and reveal themselves in the pictorial space: among connections to the ancient rock engravings of the valley and the ones performed by the young students, and together with references to restoration techniques, frescoes and their missing pieces, we can also read the motto *Mites Terram Possident* (which gives name to Borondo's mural itself and which was written by the founders of Malegno on the old doorways and on the town emblem).

Images, signs, symbols and colours, each with their own deep layers of meaning, interact in the composition, making **'Mites terram possident'** a work of art able to touch our subconscious and open our minds to different levels of interpretation.

The starting point of each of **OZMO's** works is the inspiration offered by the territory. For the wall painting on the first apartment block in Via Silone (the one which welcomes those who enter the neighbourhood), the artist chose to make *Mona Lisa* his. The background of the international masterpiece presents intriguing similarities with the landscapes of Valle Camonica and, in particular, with the view from the road located on the hill behind the wall where the artist performed.

OZMO reinterprets the most famous painting in the world, giving form to *Dadais détournements*: random elements are added; the mysterious woman's face gets pixelated; and a duck, which is the most emblematic local animal and the ultimate migrant bird, is represented in the mural as Disney's Donald Duck, while breaking down in the pictorial space.

**'Pixelated Mona Lisa with deconstructed Donald Duck in Valle Camonica'**, is a tribute to Angone and to the genius of Leonardo Da Vinci. Painted with spray cans and acrylics, with which the artist achieves the aesthetics of oil painting, the mural is a contemporary art work which

wonders about the expressive habits of the mural tradition and makes us think about the use and the power of artistic images.

**'Roots'**, the mural painted by **Collettivo FX** in the heart of the Via Silone neighbourhood, seems to have always been there, installed in the mountain located behind this area.

Inspired by the map of the neighbourhood and by the community that lives there, the mural was achieved by using a paint roller, held up with a stand as tall as the building.

Its bi-chromatism, suggested by the colours of the surrounding environment, both hides and reveals many human faces. From being almost abstract and simply sketched out under what should be the ground line (which coincides with the top of the building), the faces get more and more defined as we move in depth towards the ground's bowels. The faces portray somatic traits of common people, that can be easily recognised in the people living in the area, (in a similar process to what great local artists from the past, Romanino and Beniamino Simoni used to do, portraying the locals in their masterpieces). In the composition, these faces are mixed with renowned personalities like Ignazio Silone, Moroccan revolutionary Ben Barka, Carletto Mazzone and Pirandello, the first queen of Carthage Dido, along with the patron of Angone San Matteo, the footballer Dybala and Mother Teresa. Most of the famous ones were chosen by the artist after confronting children and adults from the community. Painted among roots which recall a sense of connections and belonging, they represent and narrate the multiculturalism and the intergenerationality that characterise this particular neighbourhood.

“The project ‘Wall in Art. Walls of Art in the Valley of Landmarks’ is more and more recognised and appreciated locally, nationally and internationally. So far in 2018, first Eron and now Borondo, OZMO and Collettivo FX, have created four works of art inspired by the suggestions of the landscape, its stories and peculiarities. They were able to include in the process territory, community and particularly students, in a stream of conscious involvement. The children of the primary school of Malegno have actively participated in Borondo's work; the children from Angone have visited the art sites, seen the artists at work and had the chance to ask questions; the students from Tovini middle school, finally, had the opportunity to meet Ozmo and Collettivo FX and engage in an open dialogue with the artists” says **Simona Ferrarini**, President of the Cultural District of Valle Camonica.

President of GIC – Institutional Group of the Unesco Site n.94, **Sergio Bonomelli** has pointed out: “For thousands of years, Valle Camonica has used signs to express their cultural history. Through these new artistic works that add to the ones of the previous editions, Valle Camonica confirms itself as a cradle of languages (even the most contemporary ones) and proves once again to be able to communicate the signs and the world of today”.

The **WALL IN ART. Walls of Art in the Valley of Signs** project, is promoted by the Cultural District of Valle Camonica and by the Institutional Group of Coordination of the Unesco Site n.94 - “Rock Art of Valle Camonica”, in collaboration with the councils of Malegno and Darfo Boario Terme; with the support of Comunità Montana Of Valle Camonica and of Consorzio Comuni BIM of Valle Camonica, with the sponsorship of Fondazione della Comunità Bresciana ONLUS and the collaboration of the schools of the area .

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF THE ARTISTS INVOLVED IN WALL IN ART 2018**

**Gonzalo Borondo** was born in Spain in 1989. Driven by the will of confronting himself with a collective dimension, exploring the complex relationship between Art and “Public”, he started painting in the public space in 2007. His works stem from the dialogue with the context that he is facing, from the encounter with memories of places and people.

Experimentation is the basis of Borondo’s artistic research, focused on extending the chances of painting to disciplines, different supports (glass, straw, ceramic, wall surfaces, wood...) and multiple aesthetic practices. The heart of his poetry is wondering about the sacred and the subtle nature of the human psyche. Borondo realized paintings and installations of public art all over the world, winning the Arte Laguna Award within the section “Land Art and Urban Art” in 2018, thanks to the work “Cenere” (Selci IT, 2017).

In 2012, he started displaying personal exhibitions in Rome, Madrid, Paris, London and Marseilles, expositive projects of experience-based installations. His studies are now focused on the intention of livening up paintings through innovative analogical processes, where the interaction of sound, light and video, synthesized on glass, is stage for dynamic paintings, between visible and invisible.

**OZMO** was born in Pontedera, Tuscany, in 1975. After completing his education in Florence, Ozmo moved to Milan where he started to work with some art galleries, signing his work with his full name and publishing works of strong pictorial connotation. In the meantime, he started to work in the public space, signing with the tag Ozmo. From this point on, Ozmo created the very bases of Italian contemporary street art, of which he is one of the pioneers and among the most famous exponents, also on an international level. Since 2003, Ozmo’s work has been a constant presence in the art system and in some important public museum collections.

Among his Italian exhibitions, we would like to remember Palazzo della Ragione (2005), Pac (2007), Palazzo Reale (2007), and his personal exhibition “Primo Piano D’Artista” at Museo del 900 in Milan and the creation of a permanent 14-metre-high mural on the terrace of MACRO Museum in Rome, in 2012. Alongside his institutional artistic activity, Ozmo works in the street art world in the most important contemporary and urban artistic capitals: Shanghai, San Francisco, New York, Miami, Chicago, Baltimore, London, Berlin, Paris, Moscow, San Paolo, La Habana, Beirut and in the most important Italian cities: Milan, Rome, Turin, Palermo, Bari and Pisa.

**Collettivo FX** was born in 2010 in the province of Reggio Emilia. Since then, they have operated on all available surfaces, preservation allowing, all the stories that are too important to be left untold. Their murals are street tales on the street, about community for communities, told in ways that are never trivial; portrayals of beauty which perfectly fit in that section of Art History that goes by the name of Street Art. Numerous are the single works and the itinerant projects and Social Involvement which, throughout the years, they carried out around Italy and the entire world. Among the ones performed in Italy, we would like to remember those that took place in Reggio Emilia, Campegine (Cervi Museum), Casale Monferrato (Language Istitute), Modena, Finale Emilia (Icone Festival) L’aquila (Muspac), Matera, Parma, Palermo (Quartiere Zen and MTO), Vedriano (Street Art Festival), Milan, Turin, Bologna (Baum Festival), Imola (Restart Festival), Ariano Irpino (Carcere), Sant’Angelo dei Lombardi (Carcere), Naples (Rione Sanità), Ravenna (Casa Circondariale) Genova (Ex Asylum of Quarto), Tricarico (Matera 2019). Abroad they operated in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Almaty (Arbat Festival), Mostar, Barcellona, Valencia, Fanzara (Miau Festival), London, Madrid, Las Mesas (LA Muncha Festival), Lugano, Tunisi, Madeburg (Opus Acquanet Festival) and Dresda.

## **TECHNICAL FILE**

### **Eron for Wall in Art | Walls of art in the Valley of the Signs | 2018 Edition**

#### **A project by:**

Valle Camonica's Cultural District / Gruppo Istituzionale di Coordinamento del Sito Unesco n.94  
"Rock art of Valle Camonica"

#### **In collaboration with:**

Councils of Malegno and Darfo Boario Terme

#### **With the support of:**

Comunità Montana di Valle Camonica / Consorzio Comuni Bim di Valle Camonica

#### **Sponsored by:**

Fondazione della Comunità Montana Bresciana Onlus

#### **Art Direction:**

OZMO (Gionata Gesi)

#### **Coordination of the Project:**

Simona Nava / Sergio Cotti Piccinelli

#### **Artists:**

BORONDO - OZMO - COLLETTIVO FX

#### **Video Shooting, documentation and videos:**

Davide Bassanesi - Immagini

#### **Technical Sponsor:**

Colori e Vernici - Ceto (BS)

#### **Support to the artists and to the coordination:**

Tiziana Salvini

#### **Communication and press relations:**

Maura Seriola - Schiribis snc