

# FROM THE CITY

May 25 – 31, 2016

Site specific installations throughout the city of Venice

From the City is the title of the exhibition project curated by the 23rd course in Curatorial Practice and Contemporary Arts; the young curators are operating inside the context of the School for Curatorial Studies Venice, a training program organized by A plus A Gallery and directed by Aurora Fonda and Sandro Pignotti, in collaboration with the Municipality of Venice, Murano and Burano.

The exhibition will take place from 25th to the 31st of May in the districts of San Marco and Castello, next to the locations of Biennale – Arsenale and Giardini. International artists will interact through public art in open spaces with the city enhancing cultures, traditions and hidden areas/treasures.

The headquarter of the exhibition will be near Arsenale – In the office of the Italian Communist party – Corte Nova, Castello 2061/A – and it will be a place of talks, debates around all the selected projects, along with opportunities of dialogue with the artists invited to participate actively in the platform with proposed topics of discussion.

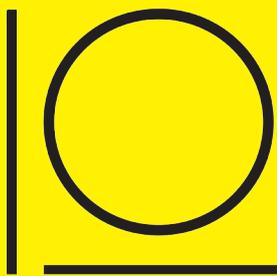
Following the success of the Rob Pruitt's Flea Market, a project realized by the previous course, the students will reflect on the concept of the city, starting from the double identity of Venice, always in tension between its historical and traditional background and its contemporary profile. During the press conference of the 15th International Biennale of Architecture Reporting From The Front, the curatorial group looks at the city of Venice as a case study focusing on artistic, curatorial and theoretical research. The young curators of the school will collaborate with Italian and international artists that will work in the urban context through public, performing and relational art. All artists will make an analysis of the main problems that affect and change the city itself, offering a new perspective of its traditions, culture and hidden corners through their art works spread around the urban venues.

The exhibiting artists are: **Elena Bellantoni (ITA)**, **Bros (ITA)**, **Federica di Carlo (ITA)**, **Serena Fineschi (ITA)**, **Guido Nosari (ITA)**, **Kensuke Koike**

**(JPN)**, **Robert Montgomery (SCO)**, **Matteo Nasini (ITA)**, **Guido Nosari (ITA)**, **Libia Castro & Ólafur Ólafsson (ISL)**, **Marco Samorè (ITA)**, **Sbagliato (ITA)**, **Julian Soardi (ITA)**, **Sebastiano Sofia (ITA)**, **Jan Vormann (GER)**.

The artworks and performances will be set up around the city, creating a dialogue with the urban context, which will be re-discovered by art and architecture lovers, students, tourists and citizens. In this scenario the School of Curatorial Studies Venice becomes a research and experimental laboratory, a cultural hub able to interact with national and international artists and debating in public with visitors and citizens about the relationship between art and the city in general; as well as the complexities and contradictions of Venice in particular. Examples of global change are researched by different approaches, curatorial and artistic ones. Exploring the aspects of the urban development, we will discuss on cultural identity and the new ways of living and perceiving the urban space.

Alongside the site specific interventions and the performances, there will be created a platform at the headquarter of the Italian Communist Party – Corte Nova, Castello 2061/A, an information point that will support the visitors of the event. Cultural debates will also be organized at the Municipality of Venice (San Lorenzo 5065/i) which is a partner of the project. At the municipality of Venice specialists from different fields – urbanists, sociologist, economists, philosophers, artists – will face local artisans and citizens during in three talks, aiming to create a dynamic dialogue, an interchange between different kinds of knowledge.



## A PLUS A GALLERY

A plus A Gallery has been the official venue for the Slovenian pavilion at the Venice Biennale from 1998 till 2014. During this period and under the direction of Aurora Fonda it has been a hub for Slovene, local and international artists functioning during the whole year as a public gallery and not only as a national pavilion. Since 2015, still under the direction of Aurora Fonda and Sandro Pignotti, A plus A has been transformed into a private enterprise, a gallery space dedicated to experimenting with new exhibition formats, with the aim of becoming a centre for contemporary art in Venice capable of promoting and supporting local and international artists in the production of exhibitions and projects. Among our principal activities is the The School for Curatorial Studies Venice, which since 2004 has welcomed students in Venice to participate in the Course in Curatorial Practices and Contemporary Arts.

[www.aplusa.it](http://www.aplusa.it)

## THE SCHOOL FOR CURATORIAL STUDIES

The School for Curatorial Studies Venice is working with the gallery hand in hand. It was founded by Aurora Fonda in 2004 in Venice with the purpose of creating an open laboratory for the expression of creativity in the field of visual arts and the professions related to contemporary art. The Course in Curatorial Practices and Contemporary Arts, now in its 24th edition, is articulated on both a practical and theoretical level towards an experimental approach, culminating in a final event organized by the participating students. The course is an ambitious and challenging project that aims to offer a vision of the complex world of contemporary art and offers a constructive contribution through the works produced by the School and its students.

[www.corsocuratori.com](http://www.corsocuratori.com)

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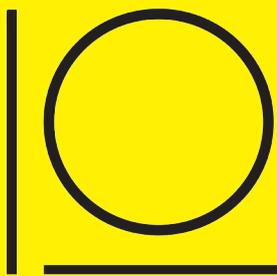
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The exhibition FROM THE CITY curated by the 23rd Course in Curatorial Practices and Contemporary Arts of the AplusA gallery is supported by the Municipality of Venice Murano Burano.

We would thank the president of the Municipality, Giovanni Andrea Martini, who made possible the realization of the project and gave us the possibility to use some of the spaces own by the Municipality – Campo San Tomà, San Lorenzo courtyard, public library in San Tomà – for the exhibition.

The opening and the panel planned for the day 30th May, will be staged at the courtyard of the Municipality at San Lorenzo. The press conference, organized on the day 25th May, will be presented by Giovanni Andrea Martini, President of the Municipality, and Rossana Papini, responsible of the Cultural Policies of the city.

We want to thank you for the support and the help you provided to realize this project.



## EXHIBITING ARTISTS

**ARTIST:** LIBIA CASTRO & OLAFUR OLAFSSON

**TITLE:** The Partial Declaration of Human Wrongs

**WHERE:** courtyard of Municipality of Venice, San Lorenzo, Castello 5265/i

**BIO:** Libia Castro (born 1970, Madrid) and Ólafur Ólafsson (born 1973, Reykjavik) are collaborative artists based in Rotterdam and Berlin. Formed in 1997, their artistic practice has grown to encompass a variety of media, genres, and disciplines, from political history to gender studies and sociology. Castro and Ólafsson have exhibited their works at various international venues, including TENT Rotterdam, Liverpool Biennial, the 19th Sydney Biennale, the Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow, and the 54th Venice Biennale. Amongst their better known works: Dein Land Existiert Nicht (2013), Demoliciones y Excavaciones (2002/2011), Everybody Is Doing What They Can (2008).

**WORK:** The Partial Declaration of Human Wrongs, by the British writer and philosopher Nina Power, printed on a walkable surface

**ARTIST:** ELENA BELLANTONI

**TITLE:** Fil Rouge, Life\_Jacket, Tent Action, Hala Yella

**WHERE:** courtyard of Municipality of Venice, San Lorenzo, Castello 5265/i

**BIO:** Elena Bellantoni (born 1975, Vibo Valentia) lives and works between Berlin and Rome. She graduated at "La Sapienza" in Contemporary Art and studied in Paris and London, where in 2007 she received an MA in Visual Art WCA University of the Arts London. In 2007 she creates Platform Translation Group; in 2008 she is co-founder of 91mQ art project space in Berlin. Her research is focused on the concept of identity and alterity through the use of linguistic dynamic.

**WORK:** VIDEOS: Life Jacket (2007), Filrouge (2008), Tent\_action (2009), Hala Yella addio/adios (2013)

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**ARTIST:** GUIDO NOSARI

**TITLE:** Pietà, please!

**WHERE** in front of the Garibaldi monument, via Garibaldi

**BIO:** born 1984 (Bergamo), known as MADRE; after law school he got a degree in Fine Arts from Brera Art Academy. He works both with materic paintings and textile sculptures, sometimes matching this devices

Samples of his works: A Tallit For The Neue Synagoge (2015), Preghiera Per Sophia (2013).

**WORK:** Canvas on the floor; the audience interact with the work posing like the characters of the Tiziano's Pietà

**ARTIST:** IVAN TRESOLDI

**TITLE:** PCI headquarters' bulletin boards, via Garibaldi

**WHERE:** Bacheche sede PCI, Via Garibaldi.

**BIO:** Ivan Tresoldi is a poet and artist. He was born in 1981 in the arms of the Barona district, on the southern outskirts of Milan. Student of the Faculty of Sociology, attentive to art and society, founded in 2002, a student workshop aimed at an experimental educational research, promotes a network of collective university, works, among many uses, as an editor for online newspapers (PeaceReporter and Spazio Petardo). He's considered one of the most influential representative of the Poesia di Strada movement (Street Poetry), a form of urban poetry that want to destroy the barriers between élite audience and the majority of the people.

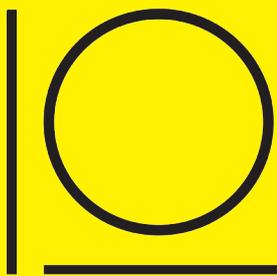
**WORK:** Six posters attached on bulletin boards

**ARTIST:** JULIAN SOARDI

**TITLE:** Dissolvenza

**WHERE:** Corte Formenti, via Garibaldi cross-street

**BIO:** Italo-argentinian artist, (born 1989, Bari). He has earned a master degree in Visual Art from the Brera Art Academy, Milan. Past exhibitions: Submeet Studi Festival #2 Stamperia Sotterranea (collective exhibition, 2016, Milan) Sustance of Art (2013) at Contorna Gallery of Art, Washigton (US).



**WORK:** Placement of ice cubes above the venetian pozzo in Corte Formenti, Sestriere Castello.

**ARTIST:** MATTEO NASINII

**TITLE:** Architettura sonora

**WHERE:** Corte Bollani, water door on the canal

**BIO:** born 1976, Rome. He studied at the Conservatorio di Santa Cecilia in Rome; from 2005 to 2008 he collaborated with Orchestra Cherubini, directed by Riccardo Muti. His work is characterized by an eclectic approach, using different kind of media (performance, installation, sound art). Some samples of his projects: Secondo congresso dei disegnatori - Studio d'artista (Roma 2013); Helicotrema (MACRO, Roma, 2013); FW2013RTW (Kudos) (Federica Schiavo Gallery, Roma, 2013); Re-generation (MACRO, Roma, 2012); Smearred with the Gold of the Opulent Sun (Nomas Foundation, Roma, 2012); When in Rome (IIC - Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, 2011); Risonatori Eolici (Museo della Bora, Trieste, 2009).

**WORK:** Sound installation; audio track reproduced by a record player displaced on a balcony

**ARTIST:** BROS

**TITLE:** Contamination

**WHERE:** Via Garibaldi, Sestriere Castello

**BIO:** Bros, stage name for Daniele Nicolosi, was born in 1981 in Milan. In 1996, he approached the street art and Milan had been covered with his drawings in five years.

More than a writer, in 2007, he exhibited his works at Palazzo Reale and he was appointed as one of the most promising contemporary Italian artists (Vittorio Sgarbi considered him like "the modern Giotto").

Even though his quotations are raising over and over again, if someone asks him "When did you tell yourself: I am an artist?", Bros answers: " Never. Others said it!".

**WORK:** 1 Euro left on the ground along Via Giuseppe Garibaldi. A video maker will film the

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event.

**ARTIST:** KENSUKE KOIKE

**TITLE:** Good Target

**WHERE:** Via Giuseppe Garibaldi, Castello 1790

**BIO:** Kensuke Koike (Nagoya, 1980) is a japanese artist, who studied at Accademia di Belle Arti of Venice and at IUAV. His photographic collages point out an outstanding expertise and create evocative compositions through vintage original photos.

His focus on what concerns the vision is also deciphered in small installations. Some samples of his projects: Bungee Jane (2016), Transceiver Unit "Dandelion" (2015), At The Western Edge Of Gaia (2014).

**WORK:** " When you look into a peephole, there's a kaleidoscope. A kaleidoscope with mirrors and a glass ball. The modified mirrors reflect in an irregular way, but if you observe carefully, you can see what there's behind. The kaleidoscope doesn't move but there's a light which swings and clouds the vision"

**ARTIST:** SERENA FINESCHI

**TITLE:** Sindone

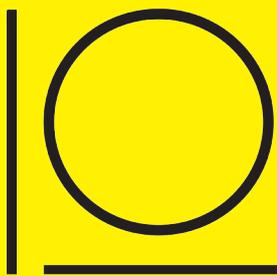
**WHERE:** Venice's Arsenale, Sestriere Castello

**BIO:** Serena Fineschi is one of the founders of GRAND HOTEL, a "place in motion" which hosts and collects ideas.

She created FONDACO with Claudio Maccari, Marina Dacci and Egle Prati in order to spread contemporary italian art and artists in an international scenario. In 2016, she also realised CAVEAU, a safe built in a medieval wall in Siena, which accomodates ideas.

Her never-ending research goes under the surface which she examines through "substracion", looking for a transformation beyond the apparent image of material's skin.

**WORK:** A flag with traces, signs, use of an effigy which transforms itself in a drape where each identity's reference gets lost, modifying its origin.



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**ARTIST:** JAN VORMANN

**TITLE:** Dispatchwork

**WHERE:** Ponte de la Corte Nova. San Lorenzo, Castello 5056c. Calle de la Fraterna, Castello 3370

**BIO:** German born artist (Bamberg, 1983) split between Russia and Germany, Jan Vormann studied at Kunsthochschule Berlin-Weißensee.

His research has been influenced by Karin Sander and Inge Mahn, two of his professors. Since 2006 he has exhibited his works, especially in the north-est Europe and some of his projects were: Flameproof White Flag, Sol LeWitt vs God, Pirate Ship, Slow Revolutionm. Dispatchwork is his most famous project which consists in urban interventions which leads him to travel during the last four years.

**WORK:** Insertion of plastic toy bricks into the cracks of the venetian houses' walls.

**ARTIST:** MARCO SAMORÈ

**TITLE:** Valeria Valeria

**WHERE:** Corte Nova. San Lorenzo, Sestriere Castello

**BIO:** In 2011, Marco Samorè (Faenza, 1964) founded and managed TESCO, an experimental laboratory, a hub for cultural and artistic experimentation.

His research starts from the analysis between individual and society, through different media such as photography, installations and design, which modify the space's perception creating disturbing atmospheres.

An example of his projects is Capricci (2013).

**WORK:** Coloured prints on textiles and venetian brocades, hung on clotheslines.

**ARTIST:** ROBERT MONTGOMERY

**TITLE:** All Europe Must Be Everywhere A Refuge For The Broken Hearted

**WHERE:** public library Campo San Tomà, San Polo

**BIO:** (born 1972) is a Scottish-born, London based sculptor and poet, known for his site-specific installations created from light and text. Montgomery

received his MFA and his BA from Edinburgh College of Art, and has been the Artist-in-Residence at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston Texas. In his early career, Montgomery experimented with creating minimalist sculptures with elaborate poetic titles. Eventually, Montgomery dropped the sculptures all together and began to focus on the combination of verbal and visual presentation.

**WORK:** A couple of posters 2x2mt arranged on the lateral doors of the building

**ARTIST:** SBAGLIATO

**TITLE:** Untitled

**WHERE:** Calle dei Tagiapiera, close to Arsenale, Castello. Facade of San Leonardo church, Cannaregio

**BIO:** is a collective of three young roman artists; they use posters and do sampling architectures. Their photographies, focused on existing architectural elements, make a dialogue with the urban context through trompe l'oeil devices, which invite us to think about the paradoxical nature of everyday life.

**WORK:** trompe l'oeil posters on wall

**ARTIST:** SEBASTIANO SOFIA

**TITLE:** Butterfly

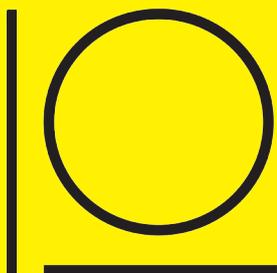
**WHERE:** private space in Via Garibaldi, Castello 1830

**BIO:** born in Verona in 1986, trained at Naba in Milan. He's been Luca Trevisani's studio assistant, in 2013 he was selected for Viafarini residency program in Milan and in 2015 he was an artist in residence at Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa in Venice.

In his sculptures we find the coexistence of two opposite worlds, nature and artifice; he translates his research with photographies, videos and performances.

Examples of his work: "andata e ritorno dall'inizio alla fine" (2013), "Skinned"(2013).

**WORK:** Sculpture



**ARTIST:** FEDERICA DI CARLO

**TITLE:** Ogni cosa è illuminata

**WHERE:** Sestriere Castello

**BIO:** She has studied to the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome, Bologna and Barcelona. Lives and works between Rome and Milan (1984).

Her work tries to build this osmotic relationship between the self and the world. The observation of the balance of the world, is at the basis of her research she uses as a device for dissolution of forms and values of archetypes to break the banks of preconceived thoughts and penetrate in a new areas of knowledge. She starts with a study of the physical laws to develop her art on other levels, developing the theme of the border and the vision in relation to human beings and through the element of light.

**WORK:** video installation on the Corderie dell'Arsenale wall during the exhibition opening

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## SUPPORTERS

Special thanks are due to all the people who believe in this project, helping and supporting us during the realization of the exhibition; Alberto Cancian, who manages the PRC headquarters and works at Radio Vanessa; Edoardo Cimadori; Andrea Volpato; Paolo Rosso; the guys of Al Vecio Calice who made possible the realization of the work by Julian Soardi; Mrs Romana, who gave the collective Sbagliato the permission of working on her house wall; the families who gave us the strings for the work by Marco Samorè; Galante family who offered the Palazzo Bollani balcony.

Another thanks to Octopus for the technical support and Pixartprinting, who supported the project with its material and made possible the realization of the works by Libia Castro & Ólafur Ólafsson, Robert Montgomery, Marco Samorè and Ivan Tresoldi.

Finally, we would like to thank the TankBoys for the visual communication and graphic design.

Thanks the following commercial shops:

LIBRERIA ACQUA ALTA di Luigi Frizzo  
in Castello 5176, Venezia

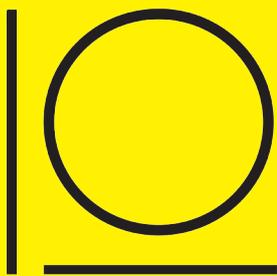
CAFFE DODO di Edoardo Milliaccio  
in Fondamenta Ormesini 2845, Venezia

PASTICCERIA TONOLO di Franco Tonolo  
in Calle San Pantalon, Dorsoduro 3764, Venezia

OSTERIA RUGA DI JAFFA di Alvisè Cinelli  
in Castello 4864, Venezia

MAGNA BEVI TASI di Laura Biasutti  
in Campo Santissimi Filippo e Giacomo, Castello 4520, Venezia

OSTERIA DELLA TANA di Abdus Salam



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**BISTROT DE L'OSMARIN** di Davide Venier  
in Fondamenta de L'Osmarin, Castello 4976,  
Venezia

**BAR DA MONICA**  
in Isola della Giudecca, Zitelle 78/79, Venezia

**BACARO RISORTO** di Mattia Sopradassi  
in Campo S. Provolo 4700, Castello, Venezia

**OSTERIA DA ALBERTO** di Graziano Scarpa  
in Cannaregio 5401, Venezia

**TUTTINPIEDI STREET FOOD** di Marino Gastalo  
in Calle del cavalletto 1099, San Marco, Venezia

**LA ROSA ROSSA** di Alvise Fuser  
in Calle Mandola, S.Marco 3709, Venezia

**SNACKBAR CASTELLO** Guan Lihua e Lin Rengui  
in Via Garibaldi , Castello1667, Venezia

**OSTERIA AL PONTE** di Claudia Tellero  
in Cannaregio 6378, Venezia

**AL VECIO CALICE**  
in Via Garibaldi 1664, Castello, Venezia

**ACQUA & MAIS** di Alvise Tiozzo  
in San Polo 1411/1412, Venezia

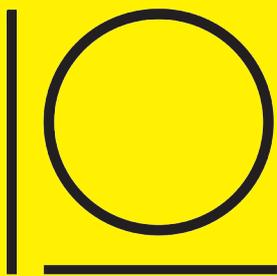
**IL GIARDINETTO - BIO & GRILL**  
in San Tomà, 2910 Rio della Frescada, Venezia

**IL VIZIETTO** di Serguei Michtichenko  
in San Polo 2532, Venezia

**RISTORANTE SAN GIORGIO** di Ahmad Ashfaq  
in Castello 2185, Venezia

**RISTORANTE DUE COLONNE**  
in San Polo 2343, Campo Sant'Agostin, Venezia

**HOPERA Cafè & Bakery**  
in Via Giuseppe Garibaldi 1386 – 1387, Venezia



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## EVENTS : CALENDAR

**MAY 25th – h 11.00am**

Press conference of the exhibition titled FROM THE CITY at the courtyard of San Lorenzo in Castello 5065/i.

Presenters: AURORA FONDA (director of the course in Curatorial Practice and Contemporary Art) and the students of the 23rd course; GIOVANNI ANDREA MARTINI (President of the Municipality); ROSSANA PAPINI); all the exhibiting artists.

After the press conference, the students will guide the journalists throughout the calli and venues of Sestriere Castello, discovering the art pieces spread in the neighborhood.

**MAY 25th – h 6.00pm**

Official opening at the PRC headquarters, Corte Nova, Castello 2061/A.

The exhibition will open with the talk VIVA/agire locale (VIVA/local action), the first of a series of panel discussions which investigate the city of Venice and the role of art in the contemporary age.

Presenters and panelists: AWAI association, ABOUT association, MARCO POLO bookshop, LACUNAE PROJECT, FRONDE, ZOCCOLE DURE.

Following:

Projection of the video "Ogni cosa è illuminata" by FEDERICA DI CARLO

**MAY 28th – h 4.00-12.00pm**

Party at the AplusA gallery with Eight hours extended Dj-set (vinyl only) by Lorenzo & Simone Gianni.

**MAY 29th - h 5.30pm**

Talk CURA/ARTE E TERRITORIO (CARE/ART AND TERRITORY) at the headquarter of PRC, "Sette Martiri" section, Corte Nova, Castello 2061/A

CURA analyzes the relation between art and territory, examining how the artistic experiences take care of the urban context in different ways.

Presenters and panelists: MATTEO STOCCO (artist), DARIO SMANIA (LIFE VIMINE), DELIA MANGANO e CAMILLA CROSTA (independent curator of the project "WAVES IN MOTION"), GIULIA MAZZORIN (TEATRO MARINONI, STALKER), AGNES KOHLMAYER (professor at IUAV)

Following:

Projection of the video Metagoon by MATTEO STOCCO and Tent\_action by ELENA BELLANTONI

**MAY 30th – h 5.00pm**

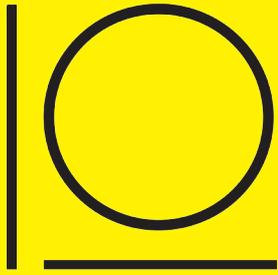
Talk DIORAMA/DOV' È L'AGORÀ? (DIORAMA/ WHERE'S THE AGORÀ?) at the courtyard of the Municipality; San Lorenzo, Castello 5065/i.

DIORAMA questioned about art and aesthetic topics in the contemporary life, reflecting the point of view of the individual and the collectivity and their relation with the urban context and its dynamic.

Presenters and panelists: MAURIZIO GUERRI (philosopher), DANIELA ANGELUCCI (philosopher), GIOVANNI ANDREA MARTINI (President of the Municipality of Venice), E. TANTUCCI (journalist, author of "A CHE ORA CHIUDE VENEZIA?")

Following:

Projection of the video Hala Yella addio/adios by ELENA BELLANTONI



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## CONTACTS & LINKS:

**Email:** [corsocuratori.fromthecity@gmail.com](mailto:corsocuratori.fromthecity@gmail.com)

**Sito:** [www.fromthecityvenice.wordpress.com/](http://www.fromthecityvenice.wordpress.com/)

**FB:** [www.facebook.com/fromthecityvenice/](http://www.facebook.com/fromthecityvenice/)

**Instagram:** @fromthecityvenice

**Hashtag:** #fromthecityvenice