

On the occasion of the event '*iamvulnerable*' – Failing is an Achievement, Art is Loving the Mistake, curated by Sergio Mario Illuminato and recognized among the Good Cultural Practices of the Lazio Region, VULNERARTE MAGAZINE will follow all the actors of this extraordinary initiative. The event, which will be held from October 3rd to November 29th, 2024, at the Italian Cultural Institute in Paris, will explore the human vulnerability through a transdisciplinary performative practice bringing together emerging artists and creatives in a dialogue between different forms of expression.

Interview with Miguel Gotor, Councillor for Culture of Rome Capital

The Artistic Avant-Garde as a Bridge between Past and Future

Movimento VulnerarTe APS (RMV APS): Councillor Gotor, the project '*iamvulnerable*' represents a bold artistic experiment that has come to life in historically significant places, such as the former Pontifical Prison of Velletri and the Historical Museum of Villa Altieri in Rome, once a women's prison. How does this project fit into Rome's cultural offering?

Miguel Gotor (M G): The project, curated by Sergio Mario Illuminato, is a significative enlargement of the cultural offering in Rome and its surroundings. It is an initiative that opens a new international dimension, bringing contemporary art into a dialogue with historical contexts and asking the public to engage in profound themes like human vulnerability. With '*iamvulnerable*', we managed to bring an innovative project to the Italian Cultural Institute in Paris, an ideal place to reflect on human fragility in a global context.

MV APS: The choice of the former Pontifical Prison of Velletri and the Historical Museum of Villa Altieri, once a women's prison, as locations for the first stages is highly symbolic. What do these places represent for the project?

M G: Both these locations, steeped in memory and suffering, played a key role in the project. The former Pontifical Prison of Velletri, forgotten for over thirty years, was awakened as a space for art and dialogue, while the Historical Museum of Villa Altieri, which housed the women's prison, embodies another important fragment of Roman history. In these spaces, art is not confined to the traditional white walls of a gallery, but blends with the worn stone walls and bars that bear witness to the past. The audience is called upon to reflect on the human condition, stirred by a strong emotional impact.

MV APS: What role did the artists play in such a unique setting?

M G: The artists acted as true custodians of memory. Upon entering these abandoned spaces, they felt a deep calling, an invitation to rediscover and reinterpret historical memory through art. They didn't just create works but gave life to true 'Artistic Communicating Organisms', living entities that dialogue with both the past and present. This project is much more than a simple aesthetic experience; it's an ethical and intellectual journey that invites us to confront the fragility of the human condition.

MV APS: The second phase of the project will take place in Paris. What does this new chapter represent?

M G: Bringing *'iamvulnerable'* to Paris means embracing an international dimension. Here, art tackles the theme of human vulnerability, a concept that is increasingly relevant in a society moving at a frenzied pace. In an era dominated by individualism and competition, we often tend to hide our vulnerabilities. Exploring this theme in Paris will offer a unique opportunity to engage the public on deeply human issues.

MV APS: What can we expect from the final chapter in Rome?

M G: The third and final chapter will take place at the Historical Museum of Villa Altieri in Rome, completing a creative cycle that began in Velletri and continued in Paris. Rome represents the return to the Atelier, the place of primordial creation. Here, art becomes a process of introspection and transformation, no longer just a static representation. The project will temporarily conclude but will continue to evolve, opened to new reflections.

MV APS: What impact do you hope this project will have on the cultural scene of Rome?

M G: Rome has a rich cultural heritage and a history that makes this town as the perfect place to embrace new artistic avant-gardes. With *'iamvulnerable'* and its curator Sergio Mario Illuminato, we hope to open new creative dialogues, inspiring a profound rethinking not only of art but also of human vulnerability and historical memory. I believe this project can foster new experiences and reflections, strengthening Rome's role as a cultural capital open to innovation.