

PRESS RELEASE



sotto l'alto patrocinio
del Parlamento europeo



Ministero degli Affari Esteri
e della Cooperazione Internazionale



IAMVULNERABLE for the Contemporary Day 2024 On October 12th in Paris

a project curated by Sergio Mario Illuminato



On the theme of vulnerability an imaginary dialogue between the artist and Pier Paolo Pasolini

The project 'IAMVULNERABLE', curated by Sergio Mario Illuminato, has been officially included in the twentieth Day of Contemporary Art, the major annual event promoted by AMACI – Association of Italian Contemporary Art Museums, with the support of the General Directorate of Contemporary Creativity of the Ministry of Culture and in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. This event, scheduled for October 12, 2024, celebrates the vitality and importance of contemporary art in Italy and around the world.

As part of this prestigious day, 'IAMVULNERABLE' will be featured through a transdisciplinary performative practice at the Italian Cultural Institute in Paris, an internationally renowned space.

To offer a deep understanding of the thought behind the project, an intriguing imaginary dialogue between Sergio Mario Illuminato and Pier Paolo Pasolini on the theme of Vulnerability is proposed below. This concept, a cornerstone of the project, serves as a springboard for a critical and timely reflection on the role of the artist in contemporary society, creating a link between individual fragility and collective fragility.

Pier Paolo Pasolini: I have always tried to give a voice to those living on the margins, in the peripheries, to fragile existences. It is not the job of art to make reality acceptable, but to reveal its contradictions. I found true humanity in the vulnerability of people; the kind that has been lost in bourgeois illusions of well-being.

Sergio Mario Illuminato: I share your vision, Pier Paolo. In the 'IAMVULNERABLE', project, we celebrate precisely that wounded humanity that you have always defended. Mistakes, vulnerability, failure – I don't see them as signs of weakness, but as potential spaces for regeneration. We live in a society that expects us to be flawless, but I find the most authentic beauty in imperfection.

Pasolini: Perfection is merely a mask for mediocrity, another tool for conformity. This is why I have always rebelled against the idea of progress that dehumanizes, of consumerism that erases differences. Your artistic 'ruins' are a similar cry, a demand to return to an art that speaks sincerely.

Illuminato: The 'ruins' we exhibit in this show represent not only the debris of a daily life that hides its fragility behind solid façades but also spaces for regeneration. Here, we can rebuild not only the aesthetics but also new possibilities for social cohesion. Art must not be limited to representing reality; it must create new spaces for thought and action.

Pasolini: Exactly. The role of the artist is not to please but to disturb. To create discomfort that awakens consciences. My art has always been, and still is, a rebellion against a world that stifles individual identities in the name of productivity and conformity. How do you address this in your work?

Illuminato: To disturb, yes, but also to make people reflect. 'IAMVULNERABLE' invites people to enter an emotional space, to confront their own fears and vulnerabilities. It is an immersive experience that, like your works, shakes and disorients, but at the same time pushes towards a new awareness. I wanted to involve artists who work with 'living matter,' directly touching the body and soul of society, just as you did with your films and poetry.

Pasolini: In your work, I see the same desire to break traditional narrative structures. You use a transdisciplinary language, while I mixed poetry, cinema, and essay to create a sense of disorientation. Art should never be confined to a single language. The fusion of different expressive forms can give rise to a more powerful aesthetic and intellectual experience.

Illuminato: That's the same principle guiding my work: art as a collective language. The artists involved in 'IAMVULNERABLE' do not work separately, but as a unit, creating interconnected artistic organisms. There is no hierarchy between disciplines, but a constant dialogue between painting, sculpture, photography, cinema, sound, and performance. Art is not just an individual act, but a collective process.

Pasolini: "This is the core of our discussion: art as a political and social act. A genuine revolution cannot come from power but from the margins, from the 'vulnerable.' We need works that are not just mirrors but windows onto possibilities we have yet to see."

Illuminato: I share your approach. Art is no longer a private act but a public space for reflection. Vulnerability becomes the starting point for building new forms of resistance, beauty, and

community. Every failure, every mistake is another brick in the construction of a different, more inclusive, more human world. Failure is an achievement, as I affirm in this project.

Pasolini: We are in agreement. Art must remain human, imperfect, and vulnerable. Only then it can continue to be a weapon for changing the world. We don't need art that comforts us, but art that forces us to confront our condition. You do that, and for that, I respect you.

Illuminato: Thank you, Pier Paolo. Your journey paved the way. I only hope that our work today can continue to awaken those consciences you shook with your works.

"**IO SONO VULNERABILE**" will take place from October 3rd to November 29th at the Italian Cultural Institute in Paris, curated by Sergio Mario Illuminato, under the high patronage of the **European Parliament**, the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation**, the **Lazio Region**, the **Metropolitan City of Rome Capital**, and the **Department of Culture of Rome Capital**.

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<https://iicparigi.esteri.it/it/>

www.instagram.com/iicparigi/

www.facebook.com/iicparigi

www.iosonovulnerabile.it/practive-performative/2024-2/

www.instagram.com/iosonovulnerabile/

www.facebook.com/iosonovulnerabile/

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