

OPEN CALL
for the SELECTION of N°8 SCULPTORS
"10 GIORNATE IN PIETRA 2022"
Sculpture Symposium
Municipality of Lettomanoppello – PE- (IT)

Preamble:

The Municipality of Lettomanoppello called "City of Stone" is situated in Abruzzo, province of Pescara (IT), according to the artistic direction of Stefano Faccini, with the supervision of the Councillor for Tourism of Lettomanoppello Arianna Barbeta and the president of the event Prof. Giacinto Di Pietrantonio, presents the following regulations.

The "10 Days in Stone" is a major event that began in 1997 and has seen the participation of numerous internationally renowned sculptors, as well as several local stone workers. The "10 Days in Stone" is a major event that began in 1997 and has seen the participation of numerous internationally renowned sculptors, as well as several local stone carvers.

The main objective of the event has always been to promote the method of working limestone and, specifically, "Maiella Stone". It also aims to disseminate the value of sculpture as an ancient and contemporary art form, as well as that of manual skills as a means of expression to promote individual and collective wellbeing.

The activity of the Symposium in the "10 Days in Stone" is the main one, even if during the days there are many interventions aimed at extending the knowledge of the "Maiella Stone" and its workers (commemorations, concerts, shows, workshops, excursions and guided tours, conferences...).

Since 2020, the entire image has been renewed, from the logo to graphic management, creating pages dedicated to the event:

[10 giornate in pietra | Facebook](#)
[instagram.com/10giornateinpietra](https://www.instagram.com/10giornateinpietra)

We invite sculptors who send in their application to visit the pages in order to better understand the type of event and the location.

Since the last edition, stone murals have been created during the symposium, which from this year will be called "Pietrales", based on an idea of president Giacinto Di Pietrantonio.

-1- Period: dates, arrival and departure of the sculptors:

The Symposium of the "10 Giornate in Pietra 2022" will be held **from 28 August to 4 September in Lettomanoppello - PE- (IT)**

The selected sculptors are requested to arrive **by 3 p.m. on 28 August 2021**; in the afternoon the event will start with institutional, symbolic and commemorative events.

The days available for the realisation of the works will be from Monday 29 August to Friday 2 September 2022, **5 days in total to sculpt the slabs**; therefore artists are advised to carefully evaluate the difficulty of realisation in relation to the time available. (Usually textures help to speed up the work because they are less complex than high relief - see paragraph 5)

The working days from Monday to Friday have the following times: 09.00 to 12.30, lunch break, and 14.30 to 18.00. (with extra time for those who wish to sculpt until 18.30).

Saturday 3 September **will be dedicated to the assembly of the stone murals and the artists will be asked to supervise this phase** (some artists will be allowed to finish or polish the works also on Saturday morning).

On Sunday 4 September there will be a moment of sharing with the whole community where the works **will be inaugurated in a closing ceremony**, closing the event at lunchtime.

The hospitality to the artists begins on Sunday 28th August with the first dinner and overnight stay until the morning of Sunday 24th (check out from the B & Bs and breakfast)

During each day of the "10 Giornate in Pietra" there will be related events and the artists will be asked to talk about their work and their story during the "Aperitifs of Stone" at the village bars.

The selected sculptors will be joined by two local stone masons who will also create the works of the stone murals - Pietrales-.

-2- Artists' request for participation:

Sculptors wishing to participate in the selection must comply with the provisions set out here.

The selected artists will be **n. 8** must be of age, without any discrimination, but sculptors who have already participated in the previous year will not be allowed to participate.

The documents relating to the application must be sent **no later than 00:00 on 15 June 2022** to the e-mail address comune.lettomanoppello@pec.it or by e-mail ufficio.protocollo@lettomanoppello.eu indicating in the subject: **"SELEZIONE ARTISTI - MANIFESTAZIONE 10 GIORNATE IN PIETRA 2022"**.

The documents required to participate in the selection are:

-a- APP FORM (attached)

-b- Curriculum Vitae of 3000 characters, including spaces (if more than the indicated characters, the request will not be considered)

-c- images of sketches and/or drawings illustrating the project; JPG format, uncompressed, number of images: from 5 to 10

If even one of the requirements in these documents is missing, the application will be excluded.

[It is advisable to carefully consider the proposed theme for the current year, paragraph N.3, and the selection criteria indicated in paragraph N.6].

-3- Theme:

"ENVIRONMENT: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MAN AND NATURE IN MAIELLA".

Environment and the relationship with man:

The theme examines the **relationship between man and nature**, a complex relationship studded with tensions and difficult choices. The proposed reflection touches on the subject, offering the possibility of expressing the balances and imbalances that emerge: how much the anthropisation of natural places can cause a benefit or be a condemnation for nature and whether, in fact, man is his own executioner. After all, we know that following any catastrophe, nature will still be able to continue its existence, so it is man who finds himself at a crossroads between these two choices: to inflict punishment on himself for centuries to come, or to decide to review his disproportionate presence on this globe. Man's ability to measure up to the earth that hosts him is a crucial point that will further fuel the cultural, social and political debates of the coming years, considering among other things the climatic conditions, the rapid depletion of resources and consequently the frustrating lack of a rapid response to all this. The term "Anthropocene", which defines an as yet undefined geological epoch, goes into the heart of this aspect, reinforcing with this scientific-temporal classification the massive physical intervention of man on the planet.

So we are asking you, the sculptors, how do you intend to bring together with your works these two apparently antithetical parts, man and nature, and how do you intend to touch the public with your sensitivity? What is the role of small towns and villages, and how can they create a link between man and nature?

We know that it is complex to answer all these questions with a single work and a brief synopsis, but the indications and questions given here are intended only as food for thought, as well as providing a direction proposed by the artistic direction and members of the community.

Many of the works will be arranged, as in the previous year, in such a way that visitors can also enjoy them through their hands, making them accessible to the visually impaired.

Environment and Maiella:

It is considered important to take into account that the "Environment" that welcomes the participating sculptors is the Maiella, the "Mother" mountain. The Majella National Park is located in the heart of the central Apennines in a vast mountainous area of about 740 square kilometres at a short distance (30 km) from the Adriatic Sea, right in the heart of the Mediterranean. It includes the broad mountain range of the Majella Massif, represented by a series of north-south aligned peaks, which exceed 2,500 m, the narrow and elongated relief of Morrone (2,065 m), Porrara (2,137 m), Pizzalto (1,966 m) and Rotella (2,199 m) as well as the relatively lower reliefs of Pizzi and Secine (1,883 m). Thanks to its peculiar features (high reliefs not far from the sea), unique in the European panorama, and to the unusual geomorphological heterogeneity of the territory, resulting from the combination of karst, glacial and fluvial processes from which the Pietra bianca della Maiella (White Stone of the Maiella) originates.

The Park is characterised by a great variety of microclimates, ecosystems and ecological niches that have allowed the development and conservation of a

precious and rare heritage of biodiversity. In fact, one third of all Italian flora and several rare species of wildlife, including the Marsican Bear, are protected in the Park. The Park, recently recognised as a Unesco Geopark, has a great geological heritage that is closely linked to its cultural one: many caves are of archaeological interest and the steep rocky slopes of its mountains have been frequented since the Middle Ages by hermits as places of solitude and asceticism. Moreover, in recent centuries, the great work of shepherds, farmers and miners has left in the territories of the Park, and also in Lettomanoppello, evident signs on the landscape (dry stone walls and huts collected on site; tunnels and infrastructures, heritage of industrial archaeology, linked to the past exploitation of bitumen mines). The events of the Second World War in the area were also often conditioned by the geological and morphological characteristics of the territory. Last but not least, it is worth noting the skill of the local craftsmen, especially the stonemasons, whose work has strongly characterised the villages and monuments of the Park and continues today in some municipalities such as Lettomanoppello with the creation of refined stone furnishing accessories.

-4- General information on the municipality and territory:

Lettomanoppello, known as the "City of Stone" is the north-western gateway to the Maiella National Park, with an altitude ranging from 126 m. a.s.l. to 1375 m. a.s.l. to the Passolanciano-Majelletta ski basin.

This municipality frames breathtaking views and on fine days from some areas it offers one of the most evocative views because it exposes the entire coast of Abruzzo, Molise and part of the Gargano.

Its appearance is influenced by the link between man and the environment, with traces of the past that today characterise the landscape, such as the huts and dry-stone complexes, evidence of the agricultural and pastoral activities carried out in the mountains by the local population.

Its territory is home to an important site linked to the cult of **St Michael the Archangel**, which dates back to the 7th century AD and is an important historical site with a strong spirituality. Archival documents, in fact, report news of the devotion that the Latvian community attributed to the Archangel with a procession that on 8 May every year, walked from the village to the cave where the statue of the Saint is still located.

The typical **white stone of the Maiella**, worked by hand according to the flourishing tradition of Latvian stonemasons, dominates the street furniture and the houses in the historic centre, as well as being visible in the more than 100 works located in the municipal area, created during the editions of the "10 Giornate in Pietra" event. It is also possible to visit the historic workshop of master stonemason Gennaro D'Alfonso and the workshop of Claudio Di Biase, known as "La Bobba", one of the few craft workshops still active in central and southern Italy.

Lettomanoppello is also known for its nature and unique landscapes, with the presence of real "natural monuments" such as the **Grotta delle Praje**, a Unesco geological site in the Maiella Park, a cavity rich in stalactites and

stalagmites that is visited by speleological groups and tourists and is now a scientific station of the Majella National Park.

But the small town in the province of Pescara is also important for being part, together with other municipalities in the area, of the Maiella mining basin. In this area, bitumen has been quarried using industrial technology for about a century since the mid-19th century, but traces of the exploitation of these minerals are attested by archaeological research as far back as Roman times. The path that the miners have walked on a daily basis to this day is the C6 route of the Maiella National Park, the "**Sentiero dei Minatori**", a 3-km-long trail that allows visitors to immerse themselves in nature, history and geology as well as industrial architecture.

Equipped with nature and cultural trails that connect the old town centre directly to the foothills and mountains, in Lettomanoppello it is possible to go trekking and mountain biking with the splendid Maiella Mountains in the background, while during the winter it is mostly possible to go snowshoeing or reach the ski facilities.

Lettomanoppello thus offers an incredible setting for human traces from the past and present.

Visitors are invited to visit the website of the municipality of Lettomanoppello, which contains a wealth of information:

Vivere Lettomanoppello - Comune di Lettomanoppello

Arte e mestieri - Comune di Lettomanoppello

www.scoprilettomanoppello.it

-5- STONE AND WORKMANSHIP FOR THE SYMPOSIUM:

-a- The **stone** is that of the **Maiella**: Soft and compact organogenic limestone of a straw colour (easily workable also by hand and with wood tools, even if every artist must possess mechanical, electric and pneumatic instruments because of the short time for the realization). Maiella stone is polishable, opaque, but difficult to polish.

Each artist will have at his disposal **1 slab of size 170 cm. X 130 cm. Approx. and a thickness of 8 cm.** (definitive measurements only during the event)
The stone slabs on the sides will be shapeless, i.e. with irregular sides.

Each slab is to be worked on one side only.

The work on the slabs shall be partly in high relief and partly in texture.

In the project it is necessary to indicate **the arrangement of the slab (vertical or horizontal)** by drawing and/or sketch, considering that they will be mounted on the walls of some buildings in the historic centre.

Once finished, the slabs will be mounted at a minimum height of 1.50 m. up to a height of about 3 metres, depending on the work.

The works will be permanently affixed to the walls of some buildings in the historic centre of Lettomanoppello. Each stone mural carved by the artists will be mounted carefully and following the instructions of both the artistic direction and the artist himself, who will supervise the mounting.

The works remain the property of the Municipality of Lettomanoppello.

-6- SELECTION CRITERIA AND JURY:

-a- Eligibility: The request of the artists must be received **by June 15**. to the pec of the Municipality of Lettomanoppello.comune.lettomanoppello@pec.it or by email ufficio.protocollo@lettomanoppello.eu indicating in the object: **“SELEZIONE ARTISTI - MANIFESTAZIONE 10 GIORNATE IN PIETRA 2022”**. Requests will be submitted for approval by the artistic direction and supervisors on the basis of the technical correctness of the documents sent (requested in point -2-).

-b- Technical-artistic jury selection: Then each member of the technical-artistic jury composed of art historians, architects, critics and artists, considers according to the following table which will be the first 12 artists who will pass this first selection phase.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	MIN/MAX SCORE
COHERENCE WITH THE THEME ENVIRONMENT: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MAN AND NATURE IN THE MAIELLA: effective adherence to the required theme	From 1 to 9
INNOVATION OF THE PROJECT: where elements of novelty are evident in the general work or in specific parts, including technical ones (e.g.: particular textures, high reliefs that play with light and shadow in an unusual way...)	From 1 to 5
COMPLESSIVE COMPOSITION: if the project shows as a whole a unitary and not disjointed composition, or if the artist deliberately chooses to create contrasting parts that nevertheless find an effective solution of continuity	From 1 to 5
ARTIST'S MOTIVATION AND RELATIONSHIP OF THE WORK: quality of the description and motives stimulating this specific intervention	From 1 to 5
BRIEF BIOGRAPHY: the experiences reveal a correct competence in the use of stone and related materials, experiences in symposia and a relevant artistic path in relation to the age	From 1 to 5
COMPLEXITY / SIMPLICITY: a work should not be too complex or too simple in relation to the timeframe of a symposium; the maximum score is obtained if there is an average between the two parameters, but the	From 1 to 3

degree of presentation of the project on a technical level and the biography of the artist should be carefully considered.

TOTAL

From 6 to 31

-c- Popular jury selection: Finally, the population of the municipality of Lettomanoppello will be convened to decide who the 8 finalists will be. The popular jury will not use the same evaluation system but each participant in this public meeting will vote for one artist only.

-7- Obligations and responsibilities:

- Obligations of the Artist:

The Artist undertakes to lend his/her artistic work to create a sculptural work during the event respecting the project sent and approved by the technical and popular jury.

The selected Artist undertakes to:

- a) assume any responsibility regarding his own person;
- b) assume any responsibility for personal and material damage against third parties, caused during his artistic performance;
- c) to have received the confirmation of participation in the first selection phase;
- d) to respect all the indications given by the Artistic Director Mr. Stefano Faccini during the development of the event;
- e) to respect the working hours and days as per the Regulations of the event
- f) to respect the **check-in time (within 15:00 of 28th August 2022) and the check-out time (at the end of inauguration on 4th September 2022);**
- g) **the work is to be completed between the evening of Friday 2 September and the morning of Saturday 3 September 2022**
- h) **to bring to the site his professional electrical and mechanical equipment useful for the realisation of the work (see paragraph 9)**
- i) to comply during the event with all the prescriptions provided for by the regulations in force against the COVID-19 emergency.

- Obligations of the Producer:

The organisation undertakes to:

- a) pay the Artist the agreed remuneration, as established in paragraph 8 below;
- b) to bear all the costs of board and lodging throughout the event, in the manner established by the organisation of the 10 Days in Stone.
- c) to inform, through the Artistic Director, of any changes in the programme of the event.

-8- Compensation and additional agreements:

The "Producer" undertakes to pay to the "Artist", for the work he has performed,

the total and final sum of **€ 1200.00 including travel expenses and gross remuneration per artist.**

This amount is therefore all-inclusive of legal charges that will be paid after the event following a written mandate from the association chosen by the Municipality of Lettomanoppello that will manage the economic and administrative aspect; it should be noted that the payment will be made on presentation of a suitable tax document.

For all matters not provided for in this agreement, the parties expressly refer to the provisions of the law and of the competent authorities in force in Italy and to the customs applied therein. However, the parties expressly agree as follows:

- a) the work created by the artist shall be placed at the location defined by the Artistic Director and the President of the Event, assessed with the technical-artistic staff and the Municipality of Lettomanoppello;
- b) the sculptural work will become the property of the Municipality of Lettomanoppello, which will have full ownership of the work.
- c) in the event of renouncement to the event and/or partial realisation of the work, it will be up to the Artistic Director and the President of the Event to assess the percentage of work carried out and the relative compensation.

-9- Instrumentation artists and available:

The municipality of Lettomanoppello and the entire organisation will provide the tools and personnel useful for handling the stone slabs to be processed.

Selected participating artists will be asked to bring their own professional equipment (angle grinders, pneumatic hammers, chisels, etc.).

Artists coming from the same region, or neighbouring Italian regions, will also be required to bring their own compressor (an aspect to be considered after discussion with the artistic direction).

Sculptors must be equipped with personal PPE (Personal Protective Equipment).

The stone slabs provided by the organisation of 10 Days in Stone will be placed on a solid and comfortable base for working.

-10- Promotion:

The municipality of Lettomanoppello undertakes through the staff of 10 Giornate In Pietra 2022 to disseminate information about the event using various dedicated media and social networks, namely those of 10 Giornate in Pietra, with the help of the Maiella National Park.

Therefore, an extensive communication on a large scale is guaranteed: regional and national, with the help of a press officer and some communication experts.

-11- Communication of the results:

All sculptors who participated in the open call will receive the official communication of the outcome of the technical and popular jury by e-mail no later than **29 June 2022.**

For any info regarding this document please contact

10giornateinpietra@gmail.com - 320.0760123 Stefano Faccini

The text of the regulation has been drafted by the Artistic Direction of Stefano Faccini, with the supervision of Arianna Barbetta and the president of the event Prof. Giacinto Di Pietrantonio with the approval of the Mayor of Lettomanoppello: Simone Romano D'Alfonso