

ARTISTS' SELECTION GUIDELINE

“ 10 DAYS IN STONE 2021 “

Symposium of sculpture

Council of Lettomanoppello – PE – (IT)

Introduction:

The council of Lettomanoppello, known as “City of the Stone”, is situated in Abruzzo, in the province of Pescara (IT).

The following guideline is introduced by Stefano Faccini, artistic director, with the supervision of Arianna Barbetta, Tourism council member, and the consultation of Prof. Giacinto Di Pietrantonio. The “10 Days in Stone” has been a big event since 1997, with the participation of many famous international sculptors as well as local stonecutters.

The main purpose of the event has always been enhancing the “Stone of Maiella”, which is a local calcareous stone, and its manufacturing. Another objective is to propagate the value of sculpture as an ancient and contemporary form of art, and manual skills as a mean of expression which favors individual and collective wellbeing.

The main activity during the “10 Days In Stone” is the Symposium, and during the event many speeches will follow one another to expand the knowledge of the stone and its workers (conferences, commemorations, concerts, shows, workshops, excursions, guided visits and so on).

Since 2020, the artistic director Stefano Faccini and the council member Arianna Barbetta, in partnership with the coordination group, have renovated the whole image, from the logo to the graphic management, realizing the pages dedicated to the event:

[10 giornate in pietra | Facebook](#)

[Instagram.com/10giornateinpietra](https://www.instagram.com/10giornateinpietra)

We encourage the participants to visit these pages for a better understanding of the event and the location.

1. Dates, arrival and departure of sculptors:

The Symposium is held from the **22nd until the 29th of August** in Lettomanoppello – PE – Italy.

Selected sculptors are requested to arrive by **3pm on the 22nd of August 2021**. The event will start in the afternoon, with institutional, symbolic and commemorative ceremonies.

Days available to realize the projects are from Monday 23rd of August until Friday 27th of August. **Total number of days to work on the stone slabs are 5**, therefore is recommended to be aware of the complexity of the execution as well as the short period of time available. (Usually textures are faster to make than high-relieves – see paragraph 5).

Working days go from Monday to Friday from 9am to 12.30pm, lunch break, 2.30pm to 6pm, with the possibility to extend to 6.30pm.

Works will be assembled on Saturday 28th of August, and artists are requested to supervise this phase (some artists can also complete their works on Saturday morning).

Inauguration day will be Sunday **29th of August**, with a final ceremony held by lunchtime.

Related events will come in succession during the “10 Days In Stone”, and artists will be required to talk about their works and their stories during the “Aperitives in Stone” held in the local bars.

2. Artists’ request of participation:

Sculptors who wish to participate to the selection are required to comply with the following instructions.

5 artists will be selected. They have to be of legal age, without any discrimination. Sculptors who have taken part to last year’s event cannot participate.

Documents related to participation have to be emailed to comune.lettomanoppello@pec.it.

Documents needed to participate are:

- a. **APP FORM (attached).**
- b. **Resume of max 3000 characters including spaces** (any more than that will not be considered).
- c. **Sketches of the project in JPG, uncompressed, 5 to 10 images.**

Documents above have to be emailed **by 9 Agosto 2021**

The request will not be valid if any of the above information is excluded.

It’s recommended to carefully consider this year’s subject matter, paragraph 3, and the criteria of selection listed in paragraph 6.

3. Subject matter

Subject matter is **“White Maiella, Black Maiella”**. Maiella, Lettomanoppello’s area specifically, is characterized by **caves and mines, therefore miners and stonecutters**.

The project submitted should take into consideration these two aspects:

1. Stonecutters, caves, workshops, white stone and outdoor manufacturing, white powder and sculpting tools...
2. Mines, underground work in the darkness with only carbide or acetylene lamps, the dark bitumen extracted, black hands and faces, extraction tools...

These two historical and anthropological conditions, still alive today, symbolize the identity of Lettomanoppello and some adjoining areas. Projects will have to narrate these two dimensions, underground and aboveground, and the extraction of raw material which used to be the main source of income for the population.

It is important to underline this game of lights and shadows by focusing on the sense of touch other than sight. Works are arranged so that the public will be able to touch them as well, and for this reason a blind artist will be invited during the first days of the symposium.

“White Maiella, Black Maiella”, as already mentioned, is made of caves and mines, stonecutters and miners, who are in contrast based on the different ways of working the stone and extracting it, but also find meeting points through everyday social interactions and sharing the act of “breaking” with sharp tools, and therefore leaving a sign of their passage. Every hit is a permanent gesture, this is why this edition’s textures are important aspects of the projects.

Other shared aspects of these two working dimensions are the effort and sacrifice of an often debilitating job, which sometimes meant the loss of human lives, and on the other side the expression of human desire to “challenge the earth”, open walls through the rock, and

transform substance for aesthetic reasons (in the case of stonecutters) or utilitarian reasons (for miners).

4. Council and territory

The elevation of the “City of the Stone”, Lettomanoppello, varies between 126m and 1375m above sea level. It steeply climbs on the magnificent mountain range of Maiella. Flora and fauna change within few hundred meters offering an incredible setting for human traces from the past and the present.

While some active stonecutters’ workshops can still be found, trails and mines are the only remains of miners, and they are still accessible today.

Artists are encouraged to visit Lettomanoppello council’s website to find several information:

[Vivere Lettomanoppello – Comune di Lettomanoppello](#)

[Arte e mestieri – Comune di Lettomanoppello](#)

5. Stone and manufacturing for the Symposium.

- a. The **stone** to be used is the one from **Maiella**, it is a soft and compact organogetic pale yellow limestone. It is easy to work with by hands and tools designed for wood, although each sculptor has to use his/her own mechanical, electrical and pneumatic instruments because of the short time available for production. This stone is matte, can be refined, but it’s hard to polish.

Each artist can have **2 to 5 slabs** of different dimensions: approximately 60-80 cm x 100-120 cm x 8 cm. and irregular on the sides.

Each artist can choose the number of slabs he/she wants to use for the project.

Only one side of the slab can be carved.

Slabs have to be manufactured part in high-relief, part in texture: it is recommended to **cover 50-70% of the surface with texture and 50-30% with high-relief**, trying to clearly show in the drafts how the textures will be made.

It’s important to state the **disposition of the slabs in the draft, and plan how the slabs will be manufactured**, taking into account that they will be hanging in the historic center, on old houses’ walls. The disposition of the slabs can be either horizontal, vertical or diagonal.

Once ready, the slabs will be installed from 1.5 to 3m height from the ground, depending on their size.

The works will be put on the house walls in the historical center of Lettomanoppello permanently. Each work will be carefully installed following the artistic director and the artists’ instructions, who will supervise during the process.

Work will remain property of the Council of Lettomanoppello.

6. Selection criteria and jury

- a. **Eligibility:** applications from the artists have to be forwarded to comune.Lettomanoppello@pec.it by the 9 Agosto 2021

The request will be evaluated by the artistic direction and the supervisors based on the accuracy of the documents forwarded.

- b. **Technical-artistic jury's selection:** each member of the technical-artistic jury (consisting of art historians, architects, critics and artists) will declare who the 12 artists passing this first stage of selection are, abiding by the following table.

Evaluation criteria	Score
Coherence with the topic "White Maiella, Black Maiella": efficient cohesion to the topic.	1 to 8
Innovation of the project: original elements are present in the whole work or part of it. It is also referred to techniques e.g. unique textures, unusual high-relief.	1 to 5
Overall composition: the project shows a uniform composition, or the artist voluntarily choses to create constrasts still giving continuity to the work.	1 to 5
Artist's motivation and description of his/her work: reasons behind the decisions to take part in the event, and description of the project to the jury.	1 to 5
Short biography: experiences as a demonstration of competence in working with stone and similar materials, and participation in previous symposiums. Artistic career in relation to the artist's age.	1 to 5
Complexity: works shouldn't be too complex nor too simple in relation to the short time of a symposium. Maximum score is achieved if there's balance between the two parameters. It is also taken into consideration the presentation and the artist's biography.	1 to 3
Total	6 to 31

- c. **People's choice:** lastly, the population of Lettomanoppello will declare the 5 finalists. Each person will vote only one artist, without following the criteria above.

7. Obligations and responsibilities:

Obligations of the artist.

The artist obliges to realize a sculpture during the event, following the drawing already approved by both juries.

The selected artist will:

- a. Take on any responsibility regarding his/her own person.
- b. Take on any responsibility regarding any personal and material damage to third parties while performing.
- c. Confirm his participation to the first stage of selection.
- d. Follow all the indications obtained from the artistic director Stefano Faccini, during the event.
- e. Follow manufacturing times as per guideline.
- f. Follow **check in time (by 3pm on 22/08/2021) and check out time (at the end of installation on 28/08/2021).**
- g. **Complete his/her work between the evening of 27/08/2021 and morning of 28/08/2021.**
- h. **Have his/her own electrical and mechanical tools to manufacture his/her work (see paragraph 9).**
- i. Respect all the rules in place for COVID-19.

Obligation of the event organizer

The event organizer will:

- a. Pay the artist the amount agreed upon (see paragraph 8).
- b. Pay for all **board and lodging** expenses for the duration of the event.
- c. Inform of potential changes during the event, through the artistic director.

8. Payment and additional agreements

The organizer obliges to pay the artist for his/her work the total amount of €900,00 including **travel expenses and GST**.

This amount includes laws obligations which will be paid after the event, when a written communication from the association chosen by the Council of Lettomanoppello will be received. Payment will be made only with proof of identity.

For all the matters not specified in this agreement, parties will refer to Italian law regulations and authorities.

Parties explicitly agree that:

- a. the artist's work will be installed in a place chosen by the artistic director, after having consulted the technical-artistic staff.
- b. The workpiece will become property of the Council of Lettomanoppello.
- c. In case of quitting or partial realization of the work, the artistic director will evaluate the amount that will be paid to the artist.

Commento [EM1]: Sostituire con il simbolo dell'euro.

9. Tools

The Council of Lettomanoppello will provide tools and staff to help moving the stone slabs during the whole time.

Artists will be required to bring their own professional tools. Artists coming from bordering regions will be required to also have their own compressor.

Sculptors will have to have their own DPI gear (protective gear).

The stone slabs given by the council will be placed on a solid base, comfortable for manufacturing.

10. Promotion

The staff of the Council of Lettomanoppello is committed to promote the details of the event through several media and social media, and the assistance of the Maiella National Park.

An extensive promotion is guaranteed, regionally and nationally, thanks to a press agent and communication experts.

11. Notification of selection

Sculptors will receive an email with the notification by *15.08.2021*.

For any query regarding this document, please email 10giornateinpietra@gmail.com
ph:320/0760123

This document has been written by Stefano Faccini's artistic direction, with the supervision of Arianna Barbeta and Giuseppe Ferrante, the consultation of Professor Giacinto Di Pietrantonio, and the approval of Simone Romano D'Alfonso, mayor of Lettomanoppello.

*please note that the composition of the slabs can have infinite possibilities, chosen from the artist's project