



**Xing**  
presents

**Sunday 24 September 2023**  
5 pm > 9 pm, every hour on the hour

**Gaia De Megni**  
**AFELIO**  
performance  
with **Gloria Dorliguzzo** and **Marta Tabacco**

**Hole 44°30'00.5"N 11°20'44.6"E**  
Piazza VIII Agosto - Bologna

**Sunday 24 September 2023** Xing presents **AFELIO**, a cycle of performative acts conceived by **Gaia De Megni** and performed by **Gloria Dorliguzzo** (also author of the choreographic adaptation) and **Marta Tabacco**. The performances will take place every hour on the hour, from 5 to 9 pm, in **Piazza VIII Agosto** in **Bologna**. This new Xing production premieres within the **Hole** series, an experimental format of occupation and activation of non-institutional places as a temporary redefinition of a public space.

**AFELIO** is based on a research on the military context and its rituals, focusing on the complex of perfected actions carried out on the guard post of the Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia (USA) for the Changing of the Guard ceremony. With this work, Gaia De Megni investigates the civic source that portrays the use of the weapon as a symbol, focusing on its fetishization in an action that redirects its lethality for those who wield it. **AFELIO** is a performative act between two dancers, facing each other and maneuvering in their hands a glass sculpture in the shape of a rifle M16A2 model, one of the most precise weapons used by the US army and employed in the Vietnam War, but today relegated to a mere object of military etiquette, embodying 'the myth' of the weapon as an element of choreography. In the action, the two performers reproduce the gestural score (*silent drill*) of the inspection and changing of the guard, alternating the use of the weapon in a continuous implementation. The precise moves of the body and the stylized acrobatics of the fragile weapon, adapted by the choreographer Gloria Dorliguzzo, mark a gesture that focuses on the choreographic exchange between the two figures, generating an image akin to the original military ceremony and recalling the rapid virtuosity of break-dance or dance moves such as the moonwalk where the movements give the illusion of the absence of gravity.

**Gaia De Megni**, visual artist, originally from Santa Margherita Ligure, lives and works between Rome and Milan. She studied Visual Arts and Curatorial Studies at the NABA Academy in Milan, furthering her studies with the MAP\_PA Master in Performing Arts organized by Palaexpo and the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome. Since 2014 she has worked with different media including sculpture, video and performance. Her work analyzes the possibilities of an image, through the fragmentation of Western imagery and its representations, mainly referring to moving images (the cinematic and digital archive) looking at individual and collective matrices. In her artistic production there is a constant interest in the possibility of finding a balance between monument and movement, between solid and liquid. Recent projects include **AFELIO** (performance 2023), *Il Mito dell'Eroe* (video and performance 2021), *Il mito dell'Androgino* (sculptures 2020), *Dedalo* (sculptures 2020), *Il peso del Tuono* (performance 2021), *Amore Giovane* (photography 2020). She has participated in solo and group exhibitions including: *Woodland*, Teatro dei Ragazzi (Turin 2023); *Ekrani i Artit* (Shkodër, Albania 2022); collective exhibition at the Castello delle Mura in Rome on the occasion of the Talent Prize INSIDEART (Rome 2021); *Hypermaremma* (Maremma Toscana 2021); *Blackout*, curated by Ana Dević, Pierre Bal-Blanc, Marco Scotini, Carol Yinghua Lu and Liu Ding and published in *Artribune* magazine (2021) *Studio Visit - 30 artists for 30 days*, curated by Adrian Paci and published by Fondazione Pini and Boîte Editions (2021); *Maker Fair* curated by *Artoday* (Rome 2020); *Esterno Notte* curated by CAMERA - Italian Center for Photography (Turin 2020); *The Wild State*, Ars Electronica Festival (Linz 2020); San Carlo, San Carlo al Lazzaretto (Milan 2019); *PROPAGANDA*, curated by Marcello Maloberti, Museo del Novecento (Milan 2019). She was awarded the Monza Biennale dei Giovani art prize (2017), Arte Accademia del DUCATO prize (2019), Lydia prize (2019), Pini Art Prize of the Pini Foundation (2023) and was selected among the nine finalists of the Talent Prize 2021.

**Gloria Dorliguzzo** is a performer and choreographer based in Milan. Her choreographic investigation combines plasticity and compositional rhythm with a special attention to the visual arts. She originally approached dance from the martial arts and the art of the Japanese sword. Meeting important dance personalities like Yoshito Ohono, Malù Airaldo, Adriana Boriello and Claudia Castellucci has strongly determined her stylistic research on body expressivity. As a performer she has collaborated with international choreographers and directors such as Nikos Lagousakos, Cindy Van Acker, Crysanthi Badeka, Ariella Vidach, Giselle Vienne. Since 2018 she has collaborated as performer and choreographer with director Romeo Castellucci curating the choreographies of *The Third Reich*, *Pavane fur Prometheus*, *Senza Titolo* and *Domani*. In 2023 she choreographs *MA Mystery11*, a creation by Romeo Castellucci for the city Elefnina's Capital of culture and prominent archeological site. Since 2019 she creates her own work. Her video *Skin/Outs* (2021) was awarded at the Barcelona Film Fest and the Holland Cinedans as the best experimental film. As an author premiered the performance *Folk Tales* (2022) at the Santarcangelo Festival. In 2023 she premiered in Parma at Lenz *Dies Irae*, a concert/performance for 14 women inspired by Galina Ustvolkaya's work; and she created the installation and performance *Nynphenproject* for Festival Eutopia in Lucca, and the performance *MYEIN* for Reye Festival in Bruges. *Butchers* (2022>23) is her recent performative project that investigates the daily practices and rituals of sacrificial butchery. In 2023 a creative collaboration opened with the visual artist Gaia De Megni for the performance **AFELIO** produced by Xing.

<https://gloriadorliguzzo.org/>



**Marta G. Tabacco** is a dancer, actress and teacher born in Vicenza and based in Bologna. She studied at DAMS University in Padua, and trained in Italy, graduating as a dancer at the Opus Ballet International Dance Show Center in Florence, and as a teacher at the Dance Professional School of Centro Studi La Torre in Ravenna. Specialized in contemporary release and floorwork dance techniques, she integrates her experience in the theater and performance fields. In 2010 she moved to Mexico City, where she worked with important companies, including Contradanza, Foco al Aire, VSS. Since 2015 she has collaborated in Italy with various companies and artists including Instabili Vaganti, Krypton, Tpo, Jennifer Rosa, Aisthesis, Compagnie Voix, Associazione Coorpi, Societas Raffaello Sanzio, Gaia De Megni. She carries out a personal research creating her own choreographies and performances, and leading contemporary dance and movement research workshops. Her choreographic solo *M-io* was a finalist project in the Residenza 2020 call (La casa della nuova coreografia, Naples) and has been presented in various festivals in Italy. *Progetto Aprile* is a research that has materialized in *Fuori apri(le)*, a performative installation (Vicenza 2021), and *Verde Tempo*, a performative event and a photographic exhibition (Bologna 2022). The performance *Waiting List* (2022) made its debut at Castello del Buonconsiglio in Trento. In 2023 she performed in *AFELIO* by Gaia De Megni. Her work was supported by h(abita)t – Network of Spaces for Dance, LeggereStrutture and Spaziodanza MUVet.

#### **Gaia De Megni**

##### **AFELIO**

a project by Gaia De Megni  
performers Gloria Dorliguzzo and Marta Tabacco  
choreographic adaptation Gloria Dorliguzzo  
sculptural object Gaia De Megni  
costume consultant Beatrice Grandetti  
production Xing

Partners: Regione Emilia-Romagna, Comune di Bologna. Thanks to APCOA Parking. Media partners: Edizioni Zero, ATPdiary.

#### **Xing info**

via Ca' Selvatica 4/d – Bologna  
info@xing.it  
**www.xing.it** facebook.com/xing.it twitter.com/xing\_italy instagram.com/xing.it

#### **Where**

*Hole* 44°30'00.5"N 11°20'44.6"E  
Piazza VIII Agosto - Bologna

#### **Free admission**

#### **Press kit**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kie3sq5jupbamli/AAARbZ5bjz2t4-ye2req4euda?dl=0>

#### **Hashtag**

#xinghole

#### **Xing press**

mob +39.339.1503608  
press@xing.it