



Xing
presents

Saturday 3 + Sunday 4 February 2024

MARK VERNON (UK)
Saturnine Orbit

sound installation & live, première

Casa Museo Giorgio Morandi + Fienili del Campiario
Grizzana Morandi (Bologna)

special project **ART CITY Bologna 2024** on the occasion of **Arte Fiera**
in collaboration with **MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna** and **NEU Radio**

Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 February 2024, Xing presents as a special project of **ART CITY Bologna 2024**, ***Saturnine Orbit***, a sound installation and a live performance specially commissioned from **Mark Vernon** in the **Casa Museo Giorgio Morandi** and in the spaces of the **Campiario barns**, a privileged subject of the Bolognese painter during his holiday periods in the Bolognese Apennines in **Grizzana Morandi**. Mark Vernon revisits the life and work spaces of an isolated and meditative Morandi, making the debris of everyday life reverberate through spectral soundscapes and eerie tones: an exercise in modern hauntology.

The project is in collaboration with **MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna** and **NEU Radio** and is part of the **five special projects of ART CITY Bologna 2024** that will explore and reinterpret the work of **Giorgio Morandi**, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his death, through the expressive languages of contemporary art.

For ***Saturnine Orbit*** Vernon creates an instant linear tape collage of sounds with a narrative of its own. The tape acts as a chronological sound diary, verbally annotated with the location, time of day and the weather conditions – considerations that might have been important to Morandi as a painter. Alongside field recordings collected on site during the production residency, Vernon will employ Morandi's objects as sound instruments, using the negative space of bottles, pots, jugs and vases from the Casa Morandi studio as small resonance chambers, while the environmental field recordings of the surrounding countryside will be played from inside these objects with tiny speakers and microphones. Through this process the outside becomes the inside: the world in a bottle. In addition to digital recordings, Vernon will use a portable reel-to-reel tape recorder, a sound technology that would have been in use during Morandi's life time. Excerpts from the only extant recording of the Bolognese artist's voice will also be included. All the material thus collected and recomposed will be presented in a sound installation with a more abstract compositional tone, and in a live performance that will have more of a performative visual element focusing on the manipulation of objects and other props, interactions between mics and speakers, the tape player and tape loops. During ART CITY, a daily series of sound extracts from the creation in progress will be aired on NEU Radio; the live sound performance in the barns will also be broadcast live.

Mark Vernon is a Glasgow based artist who explores concepts of audio archaeology, magnetic memory and nostalgia through his sound works. At the core of his practice lies a fascination with the intimacy of the radio voice, environmental sound, obsolete media and the re-appropriation of found sounds. A rich collection of domestic tape recordings; audio letters, dictated notes, answer-phone messages and other lost voices often find their way into his unorthodox soundworlds. These diverse elements are distilled into radiophonic compositions for broadcast, fixed media, installations and live performances. A keen advocate of radio as an art form, he co-runs and curates Glasgow's art radio station, *Radiophrenia*. He is an award winning radio producer who has produced programmes internationally for stations including Resonance FM, VPRO, Sound Art Radio, Radio Revolten, Deutschland Radio Kultur, Radio Cona, Kunstradio, Wavefarm, Radio Art Zone, RADIA and the BBC. His solo music projects have been published through labels including Kye, Glistening Examples, Canti Magnetici, Flaming Pines, Misanthropic Agenda, Entr'acte, Gagarin, Calling Cards Publishing, Psyché Tropes, Granny, Persistence of Sound, Sonoris, Discrepant, 3Leaves and his own meagre resource imprint. He performs regularly at venues and galleries in the UK, Europe and beyond including festival appearances at Hideous Porta, Apologies in Advance, Tectonics, Counterflows, Full of Noises, Supernormal (UK), Radio Revolten (Germany), Wien Modern/Untape Me (Austria) Sonikas (Spain), LUFF, SONOHR (Switzerland), Oscillation (Belgium), Longueur d'ondes (France), Soundtiago (Chile), Xing/Art City Bologna (Italy).

meagresource.com
markvernon.bandcamp.com
soundcloud.com/markvernon

Xing is a cultural organization based in Bologna that conceives, develops and curates projects, events and editorial productions characterized by an interdisciplinary approach toward the issues of contemporary culture, with particular attention to generational tendencies and new languages.

www.xing.it

Partners: ART CITY Bologna 2024, MAMbo Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna, Arte Fiera, Città Metropolitana di Bologna, Comune di Grizzana Morandi, Casa Museo Giorgio Morandi. Media partners: Zero Edizioni, ATP diary, NEU Radio.

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**Mark Vernon – Saturnine Orbit
programme**

Saturday 3 February

11 am – 6 pm
sound installation
Casa Museo Giorgio Morandi

Sunday 4 February

11 am – 6 pm
sound installation
Casa Museo Giorgio Morandi
+
4 pm
live sound performance
Fienili del Campiaro
also streaming on NEU Radio
+

from Wednesday 31 January to Saturday 3 February

3 pm + 3.30 pm + 4 pm

Saturnine Orbit – sound diary

3 minutes daily on air on NEU Radio @ MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna
www.neuradio.it

Where

Casa Museo Giorgio Morandi
Strada Provinciale di Grizzana SP24, 115
Loc. Campiaro - Grizzana Morandi (BO)

Fienili del Campiaro
Strada Provinciale SP24, 112
Loc. Campiaro - Grizzana Morandi (BO)

Free access

Xing info

info@xing.it
www.xing.it [facebook.com/xing.it](https://www.facebook.com/xing.it) [instagram.com/xing.it](https://www.instagram.com/xing.it) twitter.com/xing_italy

NEU Radio info

www.neuradio.it

ART CITY Bologna info

1 > 4 February 2024
artcitybologna@comune.bologna.it
www.artcity.bologna.it [facebook.com/artcitybologna](https://www.facebook.com/artcitybologna) [instagram.com/artcitybologna/](https://www.instagram.com/artcitybologna/)

Restaurant & refreshment

Locanda fienili del Campiaro
Loc. Campiaro, 112/C - Grizzana Morandi (BO) – mob+39.348.6608847 (booking in advance)
<https://www.locandafienilidelcampiaro.it>

Press kit

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0zarx6woyt3zkhy1syzly/h?rlkey=kj3mhl4j7o3ktwl1anith6fz&dl=0>

Hashtags

#artcitybologna

Xing press

mob +39.339.1503608
press@xing.it

ART CITY press

tel +39.051 6496653 / 6496620