



ABOVE THE CLOUDS

San Nicola Waterfall, Bolognetta Valley - Sicily (IT)

LabCity Architecture Team



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PROGRAMME

24th June 2021 - 10:00-23:00

10:00	Beginning of the route (15 participants)
11:00-11:30	Welcoming and brief introduction
11:30-13:30	Fellinian Juggling (I part)
13:30-16:00	Lunch box pic-nic
16:00-18:00	Fellinian Juggling (II part)
18:00-20:00	Happy-hour pic-nic
20:00-20:30	Film's introduction
20:30-22:30	Projection Giuseppe Tornatore film festival
22:30-23:00	Night walk and end of the event

The project "**Above the clouds**" aims to create a dreamlike and fantastic imagery around the site of the San Nicola waterfalls in the Bolognetta Valley (Sicily). In order to better define an admixture between man, the natural environment and the performing arts, a metatheatrical scenario is designed and performed. The ancient Greek theatrical tradition, which in Sicily reached important levels in the Hellenic period and which today is part of the local cultural tradition, represents the focus of the project, subverting the space and time of the performance. Leading the visitor, the myth of Nature and the Harvest, the Greek goddess Demeter observes the flow of events and seals the pact between man and nature.

The staged event, introduced in the form of an opera *libretto*, is scheduled for the entire day of 24th June 2021, upon the occurrence of two specific conditions: the full moon and the week of the Summer Solstice. The event will be accessible only to fifteen people and built exclusively with ephemeral materials, in respect of the natural environment. Arrival at the site is possible via the Strada Provinciale 134, from the nearby town of Bolognetta. Upon arrival, two car parks allow people to leave their vehicle and take the pedestrian path to the waterfall. Along the way, the visitor can experience different elements of nature, such as a specific biodiversity, a heterogeneous and discontinuous soil, the earth, the water and the rocks, all elements that define the dreamlike imaginary on the way to the waterfall.

Once at the quarry, the event begins with the physical and material representation of the cinema that suggest the imagery of the director Federico Fellini. The temporary installation of soft ropes puts on scene the performing art of juggling in front of the waterfall. Furthermore, many inflatable cushions let people enjoy the performance while sitting or walking on the site. The juggling is performed before the two convivial moments of lunch and Happy Hour, which will take place in the form of a picnic.

When the sun goes down, as the Greek tragedy comes to an end, the space of representation becomes the space for the projection of cinema. A large canopy supported by inflatable balloons defines the backdrop for the projection of a film festival dedicated to the director Giuseppe Tornatore, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Academy Award for the Best Foreign Language of the film *Cinema Paradiso*. Such a site allows the cinema to express its community power and hosts spectators lying under a starry sky enlightened by the full moon. After the projection, the event ends with the last sensory journey, brightened first by the torches on the water and then, along the natural path, by a slender photovoltaic lighting system that recalls the fireflies in the fields at night.



Natural lights

Lights

Sounds

Smells

People

Environment

Biodiversity

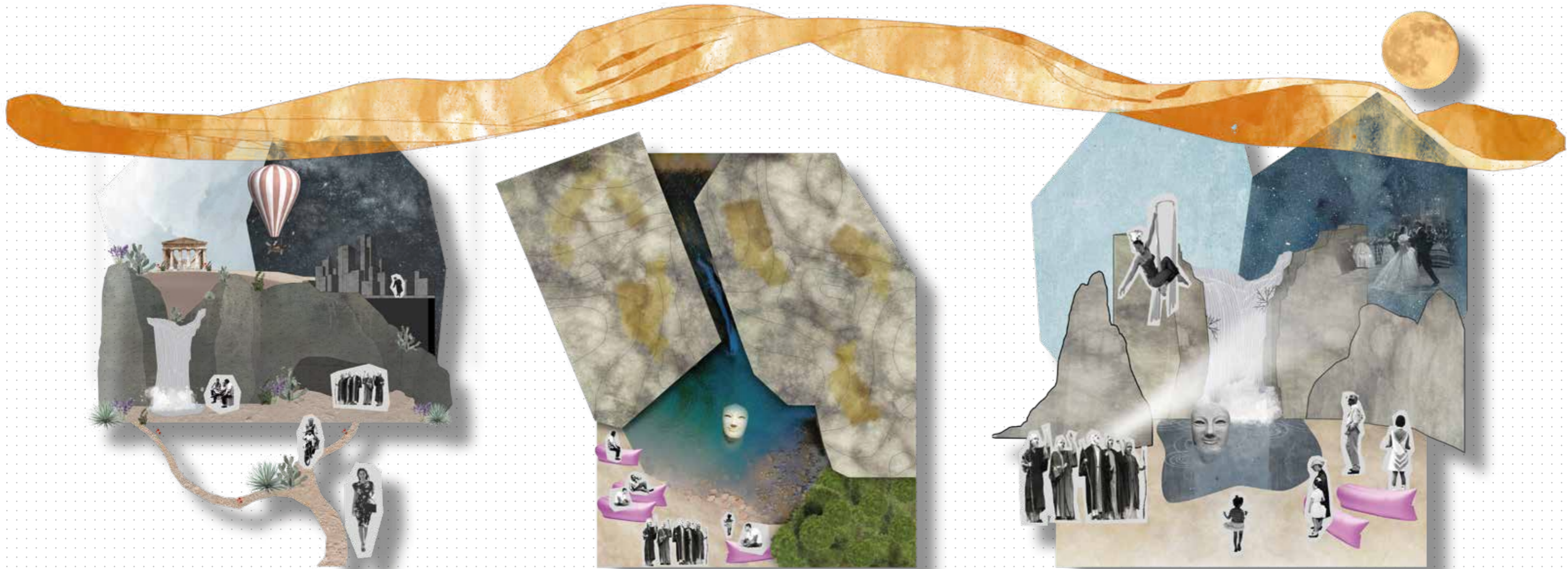
Cushions

Ropes

Drape

CONCEPT

The myth of Demeter, the Greek goddess of Nature and harvest, leads the visitor into an imaginary and dreamlike world where the Paradise of Cinema takes place. In a pleasant environment, surrounded by nature, a meta-theatrical performance takes place, allowing the visitors to become themselves actors.



The journey

The path is a "journey from A to B", that allows the imaginary of the cinema and the theater to guide the visitor toward a dreamlike world. A common thread connects the myth of Nature to the figurative power of cinema and allows the viewers to deeply merge with it.

The ground

The coexistence of different elements of the landscape composes the scene of the project. The central element of the soil is made up by several materials (vegetation, water and rocks) which allow many diverse human activities.

The cavea

In the Greek theater, the Cavea is the place for spectators, distributed around the Orchestra, where the choir is located. The complexity of the environment defines the setting of the scenes and dominates the figure of Demeter, protector of the Earth.




Sicilian Trasversale





1 Strada Provinciale 134
Starting point: Bolognetta

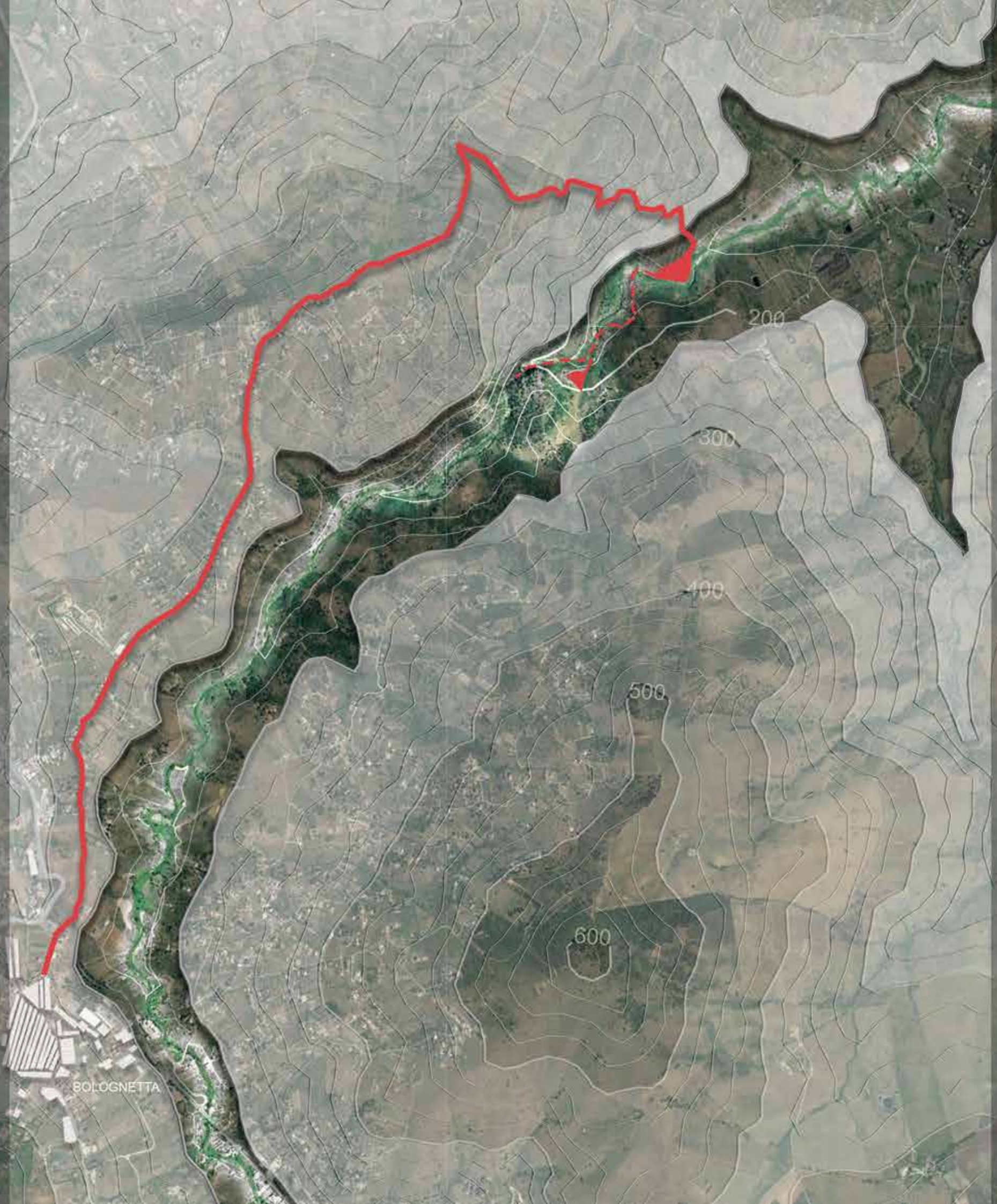
 8.9 km from Bolognetta to downstream parking

 1 km from downstream parking to San Nicola's waterfall

2 Via Baucina
Starting point: Bolognetta

 6.9 km from Bolognetta to downstream parking

 200 m from downstream parking to San Nicola's waterfall



Pedestrian path (daylight)



Pedestrian path (nightlight)



San Nicola Waterfall (daylight)



San Nicola Waterfall (nightlight)

CINEMA AND REPRESENTATION



CINEMA AND PROJECTION

