

## *The burden of humanity*

Text by Opiemme

When the pandemic brought the world to a halt in 2020, an awareness of the ongoing climate catastrophe seemed to emerge for a short time, perhaps born of the fear of being punished by nature.

The sense of guilt for that ‘delirium over which one attempts to draw a veil of dissimulation’ (Zanzotto, 2009), as described by one of the greatest Italian poets of the second half of the 20th century<sup>1</sup>, soon came to an end when the period of confinement dissolved into a memory without recall.

The great purpose for the environment was soon forgotten. The nuances of a forgotten trauma.

The great race started again, driven by that ‘feverish and unstoppable spirit,’ that ‘globalist fundamentalism’, (which), ‘with its single-mindedness, sets in motion a machine that crushes and annihilates everything’.<sup>2</sup>

Without reflection.

During that confinement, we watched as animals reclaimed territories emptied of humans, and a question lodged itself in our minds:

How much do we limit the freedom of other beings? How much does our freedom of movement constrain the lives of other beings?

Our weight on the world. Human gravity. An incontrovertible force at certain times and places.

Man disposes of nature with a presumption of omnipotence, while she lightly takes back parts of the world used and changed by humanity, emphasising how infinitesimal our impact is on her timeline.

Nature is in revolt, like ‘Camus's man’; it sets a limit to an era of limitlessness technological human dominance.

We need new, unexpected sensitive questions to evolve.

It was this realization that prompted us to invite other artists to reflect on the relationship between man and nature, following a precise dynamic: each artist was asked to focus on a specific question, present it and mediate through their work.

Not to provide answers, but to create new perspectives and provoke doubts in the audience.

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<sup>1</sup> Andrea Zanzotto, Marzio Breda, ‘in questo progresso scorsoio’, Garzanti, 2009

<sup>2</sup> Andrea Zanzotto, Marzio Breda, ‘in questo progresso scorsoio’, Garzanti, 2009

# Marignana Arte

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This is how Human Gravity was born - a collective that adapts to the places it is hosted, reshaping with the works it comprises and the questions its artists pose.