

Miniature

CULTURAL PROPOSAL

Miniature

Concert-narrative, musical theatre and programmes around Italian poetry and language



Miniature — Canzoni senza età is a project built around twelve original songs in Italian. It is available as a duo concert-narrative (voice and guitar) or as a musical-theatre performance in trio, with optional talks and workshops on poetry, writing, words and music, and movement between languages. Audiences: children, teenagers and adults.

Miniature — Canzoni senza età

One work, two live formats

Miniature — Canzoni senza età is built around twelve original songs. Many texts use the first person: a cloud, a stone, a puddle, a shadow, a branch, a footprint or the sea become subjects that remember, observe, change, meet someone and leave traces.

In the duo, one voice and guitar create an essential musical narrative, without stage objects or elaborate dramaturgy. In the trio, two performers/voices and guitar turn the songs into a fully staged concert-performance in which spoken passages, movement, objects and lighting are part of the dramaturgy.

Miniature was not conceived as a teaching tool. The artistic experience comes first; talks and workshops are optional extensions, developed with the host institution according to the audience and context.

ORIGINS AND RESEARCH

Music, childhood, poetry, languages

Miniature belongs within a broader body of work developed by Arnolfo Borsacchi as a musician, composer, music educator and trainer. His continuing work with children and classes sits alongside the writing of numerous other original songs for children, separate from the Miniature repertoire, and a poetic practice developed through verse, wordplay and song.

Some of the repertoire written for educational work has been translated or adapted into other languages for music-education and training activities with children and adults abroad. The multilingual dimension is therefore part of a wider artistic and educational practice. His poetic work has also continued in the two books of poetry games *Animali in versi* and *Città del mondo in versi*.

POETIC GENEALOGY

A dialogue with *Myrica*

Among the references that help locate Miniature within Italian poetic culture is a dialogue with the gaze of Giovanni Pascoli's *Myrica*: attention settles on small, natural and everyday realities, allowing a broader poetic density to emerge from what may initially appear simple.

This relationship should be understood neither as derivation nor as an exclusive interpretive key. Miniature cannot be reduced to a "poetry of small things": its distinctive device is to give things a voice and follow their existence until themes such as relationship, transformation, time, trace, separation, loss, continuity and return emerge.

La pozza / A poça / The puddle

The first album includes La pozza in Italian, Portuguese and English. The three versions form a case within the work itself through which to observe what changes — and what remains — when the same poetic voice moves across languages: rhythm, sound, lexical choices, images and musical solutions. Where relevant, this material can become the basis for a talk or workshop.

La pozza · Italian	A poça · Portuguese	The puddle · English
The original version: a small puddle tells the story of its brief existence, play and return.	The Portuguese version was written only a few minutes after the Italian one, within the same creative impulse.	The English version required a longer process: the same story moves through different rhythms, sounds and solutions.

What can the host institution programme?

- **concert-narrative in duo: voice and guitar, with text and music in the foreground; suitable for Italian Cultural Institutes, universities, libraries, Società Dante Alighieri committees and cultural venues;**
- **musical-theatre performance in trio: a fully staged format for theatres, festivals and equipped venues, with spoken passages, movement, objects and lighting;**
- **concert + talk or concert + workshop: conversation with the artists, personification and short poetic writing, relationships between words and music, or comparison between language versions, according to the audience and shared aims.**

Accompanying activities do not presuppose a single language level: content and approach are defined with the host institution. The concert or performance nevertheless remains a self-contained artistic experience.

Host institutions and audiences

Miniature can address general and intergenerational audiences, university and Italian Studies students, learners of Italian and school groups. The proposal is particularly suited to:

- Italian Cultural Institutes;
- Società Dante Alighieri committees;
- universities, Italian Studies departments and lectureships;
- Italian schools abroad;
- libraries and cultural centres;
- poetry and literature festivals.

Examples of configuration

Duo concert	Theatrical trio	Concert + activity
A self-contained programme for cultural audiences, students, families or groups. It may be introduced or followed by a short talk.	A complete performance for theatres, festivals and performing-arts programmes. Approximate duration: 50 minutes.	Duo combined with a talk or workshop on poetry, personification, words/music or movement between languages.

Artistic credits and materials

Texts and music: Arnolfo Borsacchi, musician, composer, music educator, trainer and author of *Animali in versi* and *Città del mondo in versi*. Duo: Arnolfo Borsacchi and Annalisa Zito. Trio: Arnolfo Borsacchi, Annalisa Zito and Serena Benvenuti. Album: arnolfo.bandcamp.com. Videos, artistic dossiers and technical information: miniaturespettacolo.it.

Contact

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