

“My whale”

Maurizio Sacripanti's museum on the Giona river in Maccagno

2023 | 04 | 22 – 2023 | 07 | 02

The exhibition traces the planning process of the Civico Museo Parisi Valle, a significant work of Italian architecture in the second half of the twentieth century on the banks of Lake Maggiore crossing the Giona river.

The building is the result of the spatial vision of Maurizio Sacripanti (1916-1996), a Roman architect and University professor, who had always been a close observer and a follower of the art scene of his time. The museum was founded after the sculptor Giuseppe Parisi (1915-2008) had donated his collection to the municipality of Maccagno, Parisi's birthplace.

An exchange of contacts that link Parisi and Sacripanti to Giulio Carlo Argan and Bruno Zevi led to the participation of the Roman architect, who, in this project, displays his ability to interpret places and their potential, emphasising the concept that was dear to him: the bridge as a place par excellence for connecting people.

An initial draft, foreseeing a larger centre of education and creativity on the banks of the Giona river, developed in 1979, was soon replaced by the ultimate project in 1980. The new plan shifts the building onto the river, thus creating a “museum over the waterfall”, according to Paolo Portuguese's concise definition, a public space for art that also serves as a link between the two parts of the village, Maccagno Inferiore and Maccagno Superiore.

Thanks to the contribution of material from the *Maurizio Sacripanti Fund* of the National Academy of San Luca in Rome, the *Maurizio Sacripanti Archive* in the MAXXI Architecture Collection in Rome and documents from the municipal archives of Maccagno con Pino e Veddasca, the exhibition retraces the various phases of the project and documents the complex construction process, which started in 1981 and was completed in 1998. The show displays the high quality and the undeniable fascination of the interior perspectives and settings that reveal the excellent designing skills of the architect.

Sacripanti's work, including both conceptual research and constructed and non-constructed projects, is also at the heart of the Spatial Sequence by the photographer Allegra Martin, a reflection in images created for this exhibition and narrated through videos, interviews and documents.



Civico Museo Parisi Valle
Maccagno con Pino e Veddasca – Lago Maggiore (Varese)



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Patronage:

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