Acronym – INCOMMON

Title – In praise of community: shared creativity in arts and politics in Italy (1959-1979)

Principal investigator – Annalisa Sacchi

Department – Department of Architecture and Arts

ERC sector – SH5 - Cultures and Cultural Production

Iuav Role – host institution

Duration – 60 months

Start – 01/06/2016

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Iuav budget – € 1.398.685,91

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Description – INCOMMON will be the first study to systematically analyse the field of performing arts as resulting from the practice of commonality both theorized and experienced over the 1960s and the 1970s. In particular, the project is aimed to study the history of the 'laboratory Italy' as the place where artistic counterculture expressed by performing arts arose in a milieu characterized by a profound relation between philosophy, politics, and revolutionary practices.

The project will connect historical, philosophical and artistic debates to those in other sciences, sociology and in particular Social Network Theory, in order to reveal significant structures of meanings in the artistic community and to reveal the peculiar characteristics of shared creative processes. The methodology that will be developed is meant 1) to produce new ways of modelling the knowledge and interpretation of performing arts and 2) to create an innovative form of digital archive visualization, where rich interfaces will sustain and improve the understanding of the context and relationships analysed.

INCOMMON will produce a comprehensive approach, oriented toward collection, digitalization, restoration and dissemination of direct documentation and related materials of the Italian performing arts production of the great creative, political, existential wave of the counterculture, preserving and making accessible a patrimony that otherwise will continue to be lost to future generations.

Objectives – INCOMMON will unravel the complex relationships between the political and philosophical context of counterculture, the emergence of performing arts in Italy, and the role played by the social networking among artists. Bringing these three elements together in a single analytical framework will contribute to a truly interdisciplinary re-foundation of performance theory and archiving.

The overall objectives of INCOMMON are i) to study, collect and contextualize those encounters between theatre, music, visual arts, cinema and video art that assumed the form of performances, especially those created as collaborations between artists; ii) to apply the concept of 'will-to-the-common' to the art field of the counterculture; iii) to underline the significance of artistic communities in the local and international scene; iv) to create a digital archive of the performances of the Italian artists of the period.

Website – www.in-common.org

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