

stalker teatro  
projects

# SOLARIS

## WORK IN PROGRESS

From March to June and from October to December 2020, the government of Italy imposed a national quarantine, restricting the movement of the population except for necessity and health circumstances, in response to the growing pandemic of COVID-19 in the country. The lockdown measures were described as the largest suppression of constitutional rights in the history of the republic.

During those months we were living crazy times: poverty, depression and rage were rising up day after day, and we were very worried about what was going on. We reacted on a local level, reconvertng the theatre venue we manage in a hub for food distribution to disadvantaged families in the outskirt of Turin, Le Vallette district, where we used to work.



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*We reacted on a local level, reconvertng the theatre venue we manage in a hub for food distribution to disadvantaged families in the outskirt of Turin.*

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This experience led us to a deep understanding of how critical was the social context of our territory, characterised by poverty, anxiety, lack of dignity and opportunities to react.

That's why, in the same period, we reacted on an artistic level trying to think about new models / tools, to bring people hope, vision and love. In fact, despite all, we firmly believe that Art, the one that brings people together, that is for everyone and that makes you fall in love, this art, can change your life in an instant and forever.



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*First phases of research, for a new stunning participatory performance / installation, within Covid sanitary restrictions.*

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# DEALING WITH...

As all performing arts sector, we had to face to questions like:

- How to create a community in a social distancing context?
- How can digital experiences help this process?
- How to engage people within Covid sanitary restrictions?








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*A large architecture created and lived by all the public within physical distancing measures; an analogical live-chat that links people!*

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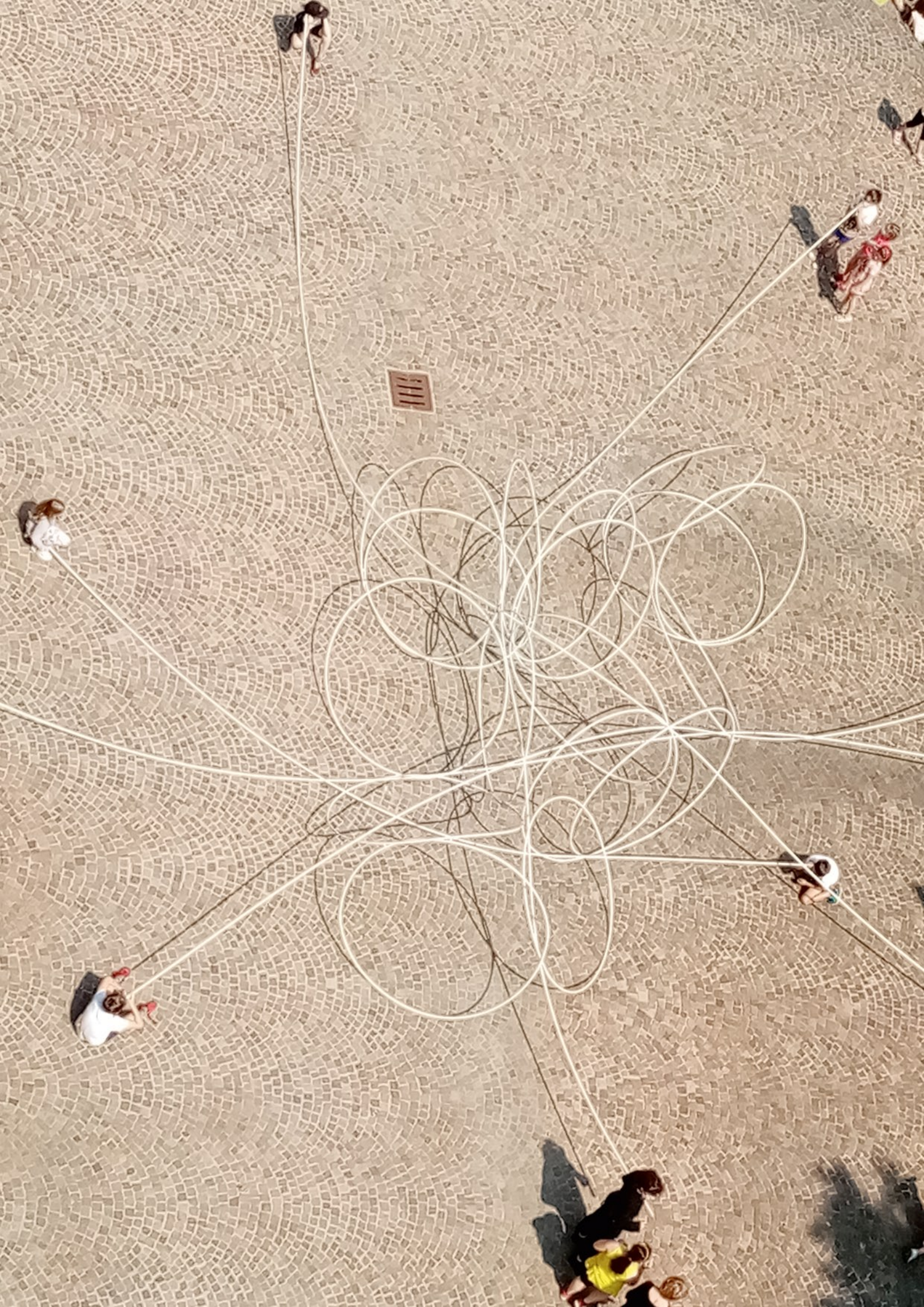
Finally we came up with a new participatory "device", that deals with the concept of connecting people in the framework of Covid. A participatory installation / performance that brings to real the shared experience of meeting people online; hundreds of plastic pipes for an interactive urban event with a striking visual and musical impact that bridges contemporary art and live performance. It's a work in progress we would like to develop in a large scale production.

A large architecture created and lived by all the public within social distancing restrictions; a sonoric huge sculpture that can transport whispered voices further more than 100m; an analogical live-chat that links people!

This new project, named "Solaris" (a tribute to the russian master Andrej Tarkovskij), intends to be a work of high artistic profile on a social scale. The artistic focus concerns the power of art in social contexts in times of distance keeping, i.e. the communicative potential of contemporary art languages in giving people dignity and new opportunities of act. During the many experiments we conducted with this methodology of work, both in Italy and abroad, it was always possible to involve hundreds of citizens (with a particular attention to those with fewer opportunity / disadvantaged) in large scale events where the audience become co-protagonists of a huge participatory project.











## STALKERTEATRO

The artistic core of Stalker Teatro have worked together since setting up the 'Political Collective' at Turin Academy of Fine Arts in 1975, the heyday of Italy's post-68 cultural and political uproar. This has left an enduring mark on the company's work which is characterised by a strong commitment to artistic experimentation within socially sensitive or challenging situations.

The founding members of Stalker Teatro were involved with Turin City Council's ground-breaking 'cultural animation' projects in the late 70s and helped set-up Turin's first professionally run youth theatre in 1976. In 1981 they started a residency in Italy's largest psychiatric clinic in Grugliasco which led to the formal foundation of Stalker Teatro in 1986, inspired by the film "Stalker" by the Russian film maker Andrej Tarkovskij.

In the 1990s, during a five-year residency at Cittadellarte, Stalker Teatro has developed important projects with Michelangelo Pistoletto in Italy and Europe at festivals, theaters, universities and prestigious museums of contemporary art.

Using a distinctive style developed from site-specific events, performance art and participatory theatre, Stalker Teatro have performed throughout all major locations and festivals in Europe and beyond.

## awards

"Exhibit Program" contest winner 2020 (Rome – IT);  
Selected for Bi Cap Award Mirabilia International Festival 2020 (Cuneo IT);  
Selected for the International Preview GDIF – Platforms 2019 (London UK);  
First Prize Winner Stazioni d'Emergenza 2018 (Naples IT);  
Selected for Imaginarius PRO space – FRESH STREET#2 2017 (St. Maria da Feira – PT);  
Winner international call 2016 Spoffin Off (Amersfoort NL);  
"Teatri delle Diversità – Community Theatre" award ANCT 2014 (Volterra IT);  
"Franco Enriquez – Social Commitment" award 2009 (Ancona IT).

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## about us

THE HERALD Glasgow, (N. Cooper)

"[...] director Gabriele Boccacini have achieved what a million town planners have walled-in and made impossible, liberating hearts and minds by giving them space. In an ideal world, it would always be thus"

CHALON DANS LA RUE, Chalon (Anne Proust)

"[...] Se poser, regarder, écouter, respirer... Se laisser porter par le très beau spectacle que Stalker Teatro propose dans la cour de la maison des associations ... Voilà un instant magique"

LA PROVENCE Avignon, (C. Dehoux)

"[...] Au fil du spectacle, le public est conduit dans différents lieux à l'extérieur puis à l'intérieur de l'Université: il "vogue" de surprise en surprise. Si le spectateur participe activement au spectacle, il n'y est pas contraint et forcé mais invité avec délicatesse. Une interprétation déroutante"

