

#### **Ornella Cirillo**

PhD in History of Architecture, then Assistant Professor (2001), is Associate Professor (ICAR 18) at University of Campania 'Luigi Vanvitelli', where she teaches 'History of the City' and 'Fashion History'. She researches both the architectural culture and the history of the city between 18th and 19th centuries, and the Italian fashion history in the 20th century. Since 2019 she is member of ICOMOS Italia.

#### Pasquale Argenziano

PhD architečt, Associate Professor on Drawing in the University of Campania. He teaches Drawing, Perception and Visual Communication, Multimedia graphics in the Bachelor Degree Courses of Design and Communication and Fashion Design. His researches and publications range from topographical drawing from nature to multi-scalar surveying.



# Urban and community renaissance in the Caserta area: the "arts village" of Valogno

In the territory of Caserta, among the twenty-four villages near Sessa Aurunca, an exceptional presence for its intermittent history of light and shadow, grey and colours, is that of Valogno, a small village lying on a branch of the provincial road that from the Appian Way reaches Roccamonfina, on the slopes of the homonymous volcano. This paper, integrating aspects of urban history with those of the discipline of drawing, aims to bring Valogno to the attention of the scientific community as a unique example of the application of street art to urban regeneration, in its ethical declination, before its artistic one. The street-art project (titled "The colours of grey" by the promoters) was moved on the one hand by the need to start a path of individual renaissance, and on the other by the idea of in-

volving the entire local community to increase

its sense of civic duty, rather than to business.

The project has been developed with progres-

sive enthusiasm over the last decade, managing to characterize this village as a singular "arts village", because it uses arts as a tool to push individual citizens to "give themselves" in favour of the welfare of the community.

> Keywords: Street art; Urban regeneration; History of the city; Inner areas; Valogno



4.2

Urban and community renaissance in the Caserta area: the "arts village" of Valogno

# 1. INTRODUCTION

In the territory of Caserta, among the twenty-four villages near Sessa Aurunca, an exceptional presence for its intermittent history of light and shadow, grey and colours, is that of Valogno, a small village lying on a branch of the provincial road that from the Appian Way reaches Roccamonfina, on the slopes of the homonymous volcano.

This paper, integrating aspects of urban history with those of the discipline of drawing, aims to bring Valogno to the attention of the scientific community as a unique example of the application of street art to urban regeneration, in its ethical declination, before its artistic one.

The street-art project (titled "The colours of grey" by the promoters) was moved on the one hand by the need to start a path of individual renaissance, and on the other by the idea of involving the entire local community to increase its sense of civic duty, rather than to business. The project has been developed with progressive enthusiasm over the last decade, managing to characterize this village as a singular "arts village", because it uses arts as a tool to push individual citizens to "give themselves" in favour of the welfare of the community.

## 2. VALOGNO, THE URBAN CONTEXT

This village, which was renowned in the geological sciences of modern and contemporary age for the quality of basaltic lava, has lived a long oblivion between renunciations and displacement, in the general impoverishment of small towns in the inland area, which led it to experience a massive emigration after the Second World War. As a consequence of these events from 1991 (ISTAT, 1991, p. 283) to the present day the resident population has shrunk to just eighty units and now there is a high percentage of uninhabited and also neglected houses, and a total absence of urban services. Valogno - perched on the western slopes of the volcano of Roccamonfina - over time has been conforming as a spindle along a road converging towards the intersection of several creeks, original water routes useful for transporting the products of local industries.



Fig. 1 -Reale Ufficio Topografico dell'ex Regno di Napoli, *Disegni originali della Carta dei dintorni di Napoli alla scala 1:20000* (Sheet 18, Table No.1), 1836-1840. ©Istituto Geografico Militare, Firenze.

Fig. 2 - A focus on Valogno into the cartography dated 1836-1840, compared to the current aerial ortophoto; raster layer from GIS project.



4.3

Urban and community renaissance in the Caserta area: the "arts village" of Valogno

Its urban shape is well legible in the cartography entitled Disegni originali della Carta dei dintorni di Napoli alla scala 1:20000 [1] (Valerio, 1993, pp. 640-644; Di Biasio & Conti, 2012) and made between 1836 and 1840 by the Royal Topographical Office of the former Kingdom of Naples (Fig.1). In this drawing the mountainous territory, crossed by vallevs and moats, is dotted with numerous small building clusters that are the hamlets of Sessa. This territory, as Giovan Battista Gagliardo pointed out, «non [era] che pochissimo abitata [...] ciò sarà forse avvenuto dall'essere i suoi villaggi tra loro molto vicini» [2] (Gagliardo, 1814, p. 7), highlighting precisely the rare and polycentric characteristic of the Aurunca area, which persisted, as the sources attest, since the Medieval commune period [3] (Di Marco, 1995, p. 187; Senatore, 2018, p. 349). In relation to the dynamics of settlement exploded since the late Middle Ages to obtain the increasingly widespread exploitation of the territory and of the abundant natural resources, Valogno (named in the aforementioned cartography Vologna piccolo alteration of Balogno or Baloneo [4] piccolo (Di Meo, 1819, p. 245; Diamare, 1906, p. 132), adjective that distinguished it from the neighboring hamlets of S. Maria di Valogno) contributed especially to the local economy with the mines of the boulders (de Masi, 1756, p. 272) (Fig. 2).

The geological nature of the district of the Roccamonfina volcano had, in fact, encouraged a thriving mining activity intended to derive from basaltic lava a good building material worked as a coating of building artefacts, or as a paved road (so called *basolato*). In Valogno in particular, basaltic lava was hollowed out by the leucitofiro, a compact and very tenacious stone from the extinct volcanoes themselves (Tenore, 1872, p. 25; Di Marco, 1995, pp. 167-181) that was used to carve the millstones to grind cereals. From the natural guarries located in the high seas - about 400 meters above sea level - the millstones reached the Porto delle mole on the Garigliano River, through the creeks that flowed on its left bank, giving rise to a fundamental activity in the pre-industrial food production system. This activity is remembered with an authentic millstone, donated by a



Fig. 3 - The quarries of San Felice near Valogno (photo by Alessandro Santulli).

stonecutter from Roccamofina, and placed at the entrance of the village.

Here the same great availability of volcanic stones and a labour force evidently specialized in its working has determined not only the use of stone tools in peasant activities (such as the one used to crush legumes or rings fixed to the wall to bind animals), but also the diffusion on the fronts of buildings, often of non-courtly commission, of portals with rather marked recurring motifs, such as the presence of a few monolithic lava stone blocks, the support shelves, the nuts and the keystones – marked, as often happens in "high altitude" farmhouses in this territorial quadrant, by ashlars in key with cusped extrados (Farinaro, 2014, pp. 113-114; Giannattasio, 2009).

In many cases, moreover, the ashlar in key or on the head, is engraved with the date of construction, so that the wall can perform a clear "talking" function in the eyes of the passerby. The same stone-cutting skill and ancient apotropaic beliefs can also be linked to the presence on the chimneys of the houses or even in the quarries of the *marcolfe* (Fig. 3), faces roughly carved on the stones, whose severe and terrifying features were used to drive away negative influences from the families and places they controlled. A very ancient custom, frequent in the Italian Apennine centres (Orsini, n.d.; Zati, n.d.), of which some houses of this village still retain traces.

Mining, although progressively decreasing, has fuelled the economy of Valogno until the middle of the last century, as evidenced by the documentation kept at the State Archives of Naples, but its subsequent cessation, together with the general depopulation towards the cities of industrialized Europe, led to the gradual removal of the inhabitants from the village and the consequent loss of its identity. As if by magic, in the last ten years, the history of the village has suddenly been rekindled with unforeseen lights and features, made of bright colours and painted walls, which animated its alleys with visitor intrigued by the new "arts village", with the artists who have often stayed there

Urban and community renaissance in the Caserta area: the "arts village" of Valogno

to give vent to their creativity, and again with photographers and journalists attracted by the opportunity to document and disseminate, especially on the internet, the surprising phenomenon in proaress entitled "The colours of arev" (Fig. 4). It is a specific conversion that, in recent decades, has concerned many Italian towns or large areas of the metropolises outskirts, driven by the idea of being able to exploit street art as a work of physical, social and economic regeneration «[...] attraverso l'evocazione grafica di un concetto di "bellezza" atto a promuovere sviluppo locale e crescita culturale» [5] (Zerlenga et al., 2018, p. 1247). Street art, as it is known, has lost its initial protest value thanks to these recent experiences, and it is being configured more properly as a form of applied art that combines artistic languages, techniques of representation and spontaneous or author architecture, managing to trigger the aesthetic redevelopment of places, through which different effects of social and moral quality can be generated, without adding volumes (Arnaldi, 2017; Palestini & Basso, 2018). The impulse and the reasons that animated these episodes in Italy are of various nature: the research by the muralists of walls on which to manifest this contemporary art form (e.g. Dozza, Orgosolo, Ariano Irpino, Vallesaccarda, Monteleone); the integration of primary activities such as summer or food and wine tourism with new collective interests (such as Diamante, Sant'Angelo le Fratte, Cibiana di Cadore); or the desirable brake on depopulation through a communication tool that has become attractive and easy to spread (Civitacampomarano, Nureci, Valloria). In Valogno, this peculiar process of urban regeneration was not triggered by the municipal administration, but by its citizens and, above all, to two "modern" patrons, who took refuge there in search of a project in which to believe to regenerate their family life. Giovanni Casale and Dora Mesolella, with their three children, moved from Rome to Valogno to live the new course of their

Fig. 5 - Valogno, the baronial palace: stucco decorations on the façade, and the main portal (photos by Alina Applauso).



Fig. 4 - Valogno, a glimpse on via Palazzo with the mural dedicated to the carpenter's workshop, by Alessandra Carloni.



CC BY-NC

community adventure in the silence of the small village, and sought the inspiration to look forward. share hopes, realize experiences of a new authentic sociality in the silence of the narrow alleys and in relations with the few fellow citizens. Since 2008, here they have promoted a progressive intervention of beautification of the outer walls of the anonymous existing buildings, constituting a "choral laboratory" aimed at "erasing the ugly" existing. The ugly physical, or architectural, was generated over time by the uncontrolled work of the inhabitants who did not hesitate to change the urban context with additions, demolitions and alterations, and did not hesitate to engrave the composition of the building facades, with unsightly and inconsistent forms (Pino, 2019). The "ugly" is thus more extensive to the general urban context, made for this neglected and devoid of any interest. The "ugly" is also related to the emotions of Giovanni and Dora, who were recoiled and terrified by the discovery of the incurable disease of a child, and it is also that of the entire community that was symbolically urged to cure the real and virtual spaces of their existence.

Turning from abandonment to care, from irresponsibility to involvement, "from gray to colour", the murals and other creative experiences - that the two modern patrons have made in Valogno over more than a decade, as tools of immediate, instinctive, amplified but simple communication were able to point out to the world the existence of the village and to push the local community, and the internet one, to a pressing need for attention, tying people around a new common project. Nowadays, there are about eighty works of urban art; they are painted or sometimes sculpted on the walls, with various traits - proper to the expressive languages of each artist - that are sometimes fairy-tale, sometimes didactic, sometimes commemorative; these works have been created - or rather donated - by the artists involved gradually in the regeneration program with pride and a spirit of sharing.

In most cases, the works are characterized by a limited height extension – often not exceeding the ground level – because of the desire to accompany

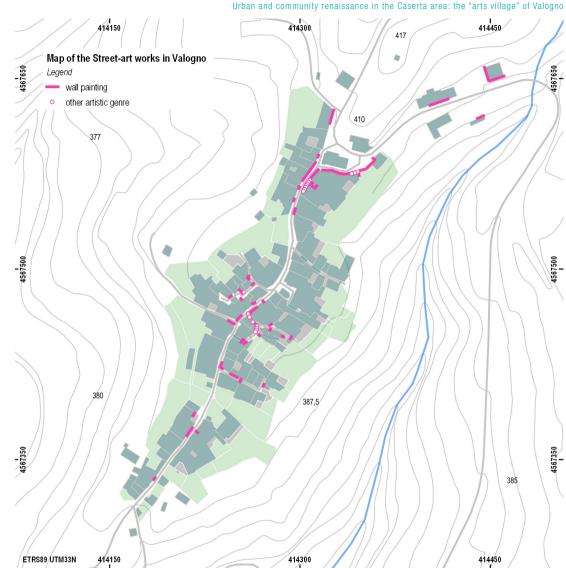


Fig. 6 - GIS map of the street-art works: wall painting and other artistic genre.

STREET ART. DRAWING ON THE WALLS

4.5

4.6

the gaze of passers-by, and because of the context characterized by streets and alleys of very small width – the main Via Palazzo has an average roadway of 3 meters –, and also for safety during execution and probably property issues.

This prerogative clearly distinguishes them from the similar Campania examples made on high walls of blocks of flats (such as in Lioni and Bonito, in the district of Avellino), or on walls of considerable length, as in San Bartolomeo in Galdo (in the district of Benevento), and in Baronissi (near Salerno). The works are carried out from the first building available in front of the street at the entrance of the village – the school disused for obvious lack of students – along the main street and in its few lateral branches – Via Razzini and Via Natali above all –, outlining a varied crossing route that also leads to meet the few important architectural testimonies of its history.

At the village entrance, there is St. Michael Archangel church, with the side bell tower, characterized by a single nave, rectangular apse and entrance portal with a frescoed bezel (the church was built in place of another more distant, located in St. Angel village on the top of the hill (Napoletano et al., 2013, pp. 205-207), probably built in the early 14th century). In the heart of the village, there is St. Anthony of Padua chapel, in the little square Bernardino Mazzeo; it is an abnormal fusion of a civil clock-tower with a religious hall. Then, the third church inside the village is the simple St. Joseph chapel, to which is linked the origin of the most important local fair for the inhabitants. On the opposite front, at 20-24 of Via Palazzo, there is the baronial palace [6] which is complex building with courtyard, probably grown on a pre-existing Catalan structure (Fig. 5); it is gualified by the adjoining hanging garden that is bordered by a wall in squared tuff, by a beautiful lava-stone portal, on which the date 1855 is engraved, and by the stucco decorations stretched out on the main facade of the palace. The latter is a peculiarity that can be considered rare, and as an interesting proof of the prominent parietal ornamentation in the Campania territory. This type of parietal decoration creates geometric squares of circles and polygons com-

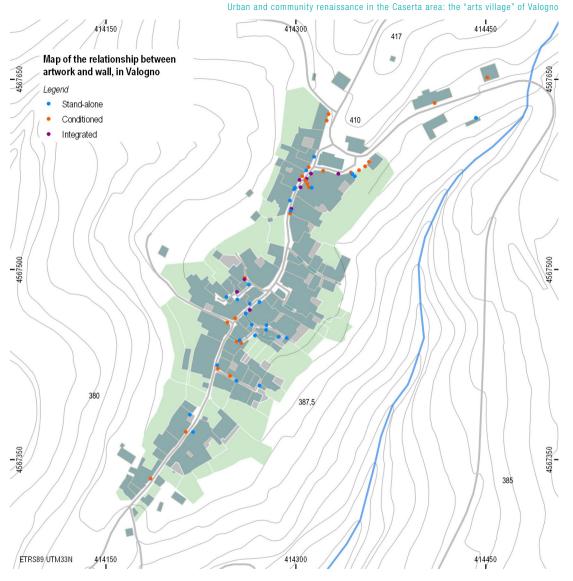


Fig. 7 - GIS map of the relationship between artwork and wall.

47

Urban and community renaissance in the Caserta area: the "arts village" of Valogno

bined to form flowery silhouettes with the coating stucco (Biscontin & Driussi, 2001: Pasquini, 2002) as it's possible to see on many fronts of religious or pure noble buildings.

In the baronial palace of Valogno, the mixed ornate bands - made by undercutting bands of smooth plaster on the curled surface - alternate combinations of semi-circles. comparable to stylized flowers, with irregular octagons with concave diagonal sides, and central smaller medallions. Studies of authentic sources, meticulous findings and material investigations will allow us to more closely frame the technical and cultural root that characterizes this little-known expression of the local artistic culture. In the meantime we can limit ourselves to associate to this episode similar cases such as, for example, in the Caserta area in Carinola, in the farmhouse of S. Ruosi, the main front of the Ciocchi farm, founded between the end of the 17th and the beginning of the 18th century (Amelio, 2017); in the Benevento area, in Solopaca, both the front of the SS. Body of Christ church and the atrium of the Ceva Grimaldi palace, and in S. Agata dei Goti the castle; in the Salerno area, instead, we can mention the monastery of S. Maria degli Angeli in Montoro.

These parietal treatments, obtained by impression on the well-prepared wall, reinterpret the idea of the painted facade that specifically used drawings and colours to explain symbolism, to create spatial depths and illusory images, and to simulate more or less valuable materials. These parietal treatments, in fact, bring to the perspectives the refined effects of the pictorial drawing with the relief effect, combining the decorative function with the protective one, also through the use of lowcost materials, whose modelling was evidently entrusted to specialized workers.

The facade of the baronial palace of the small farmhouse of Sessa Aurunca preserves, therefore, an unusual decorative system conceived with simplicity by the local workers, which ideally combines the current wall art form of the murals with the one that appeared on the curtain of the main emergency of the village at the time of its first flourishing season of life.



Fig. 8 - Valogno, the mural La fuga. I Briganti (The Horde. The Robbers), by Salvo Caramagno, along via Razzini.

Flg. 9 - Valogno, the mural



http://disegnarecon.univag.it

(cc) BY-NC

# 3. THE INFORMATION SYSTEM OF URBAN ART-WORKS IN VALOGNO

After noting the heterogeneity, the number and the spread of the murals and other works present in the urban context of Valogno – highlighted in Figure 6 – the research was initially focused on their cataloguing in a Geographical Information System, with the aim of systematizing the information obtained from multiple sources, including oral information provided by the protagonists of the events, beyond the on-site investigation. The cataloguing was conducted according to a synthetic form that follows the main items of the official form of the *Istituto Centrale del Cat*- alogo e della Documentazione (ICCD), dedicated to Opere d'Arte Contemporanee (Contemporary Works of Art, OAC 3.0; MIBACT & ICCD, 2004) [7], and has been linked to the shape elements in GIS that geo-localize all artistic examples in the village. The GIS project – developed in an open source software – was organized from the topographic layer (the Regional Technical Charter, 2014 edition) in the ETRS89 reference system (UTM33N cartographic projection). The historical cartography (1836-40) and the most recent land maps have been geo-referred to this layer, in order to draw the buildings and road fabric of the village at 1:2000 scale (Fig.2).

The urban artworks recorded on site were

drawn in GIS according to a geometric criterion that took into account the respective horizontal development, also based on the cartographic graphic error corresponding to the scale. Therefore, cases with a plan extension greater than 40 cm (especially the murals) have been drawn as polyline, adhering to the wall perimeter of the buildings on which they develop in reality; in contrast, cases with a lower extent were exemplified with points [8].

At the end of on-site survey, GIS cataloguing and vectorization, among the urban artworks – collectively signed by more or less well-known authors of this creative field [9] but still considered worthy of interest as integral parts of the project – it



Fig. 10 - Valogno, the mural *Ha tanti cieli la luna* (The Moon has so many Skies), by Silvio Fusco, Hemmanuel Fusco and Michele Roberti, along via Natali.



Fig. 11 - Valogno, the mural titled Lo studio del pittore (The painter's studio), by Salvo Caramagno, grafted on a previous work by Ugo Liberatore, at the beginning of via Palazzo.



4.9

is possible to count: 57 pictorial works (about m 230, and about m2 500); 10 ceramics, connected to the historical manufacturing tradition of the nearby farmhouses of Cascano and Corbara; 4 stone works and 2 metal ones [10]. It is evident that the murals promoted by the project "The colours of grey" are predominant for numerous and urban distribution – as shown in Figure 6 – compared to the other works, according to a variety of artistic techniques also found in other art villages in Campania, including Furore, in the Amalfi Coast, where ceramic panels, marble sculptures, iron, lead, wood and other materials are alternated with murals.

Among the data classified in relation to the specifics of the murals of Valogno, three aspects are to be noted, and two of them were introduced in cataloguing as an implementation of the ICCD taxonomy [11] (Greco, 2017; Ulmer, 2017). In addition to the usual dimensional data, the average height of the artistic works from the campaign plan has been recorded, in order to emphasize their variety of placement on the facades of buildings, and above all the relationship between the position in height, and the visual perception of the works in the perspectives of the road. The relationship among the pictorial work, the wall support and its technological equipment is another aspect recorded, as a direct observation of the village case studies, and as can be seen in many and much more well-known examples. In other words, within the group of murals, it was noted that in some cases the author took into account pre-existing buildings, such as portals, windows, niches, plaster fragments - to mention the most recurrent cases -, integrating them into the iconographic composition, or he was strongly conditioned in the drafting; in other cases, instead, the muralist iconography remained autonomous from the wall context: these three thematic variabilities are summarized in Figure 7.

The urban artworks preservation, in comparison with the execution chronology (between 2008 and 2020), finally shows that the works are on average in discrete/good condition, due to the favourable environmental condition in Valogno. In

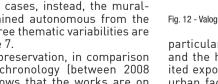




Fig. 12 - Valogno, various executive steps of the mural dedicated to Frida Kahlo, by Valentino Silvestre (photos by Maria Girotto and Valentino Silvestre).

particular, the proportion between the roadway and the height of the building facades, the limited exposure to the Sun and the winds of many urban facades have facilitated the preservation of pictorial works by external agents, especially compared with what happens in metropolitan contexts, where the large sections of road expose the masonry surfaces to the weather. The experimental application of cataloguing to the Valogno examples and their transposition in GIS aim to configure technical support for the urban fabric surveying through which we could further







Fig. 13 - Valogno, the ideative phase of the mural *L'incontro* (The Reunion), by Alessandra Carloni.

implement important aspects, and also propose the approach to the systematic study of mural works, as a phenomenon at urban and territorial scale through proper surveying tools.

## 4. DRAWINGS "ON THE WALLS"

Nowadays, the "drawing on the walls" seems therefore to be a distinctive feature of the buildings facades in Valogno, as a tool bearer of beauty and not of denunciation, as an expedient useful to qualify somewhat characteristic context, so much so that it becomes an eclectic urban workshop open to the creative activities of many muralists. Among these muralists there are both some forefathers of this pictorial sector, involved in the work of the first Italian dissemination of this artistic phenomenon since the eighties of the twentieth century (they are Franco Mora from Emilia, Salvo Caramagno and Carmen Crisafulli from Sicily)



Fig. 14 - Valogno, the mural L'incontro (The Reunion), by Alessandra Carloni.

[12] and both emerging or established young people (e.g. Alessandra Carloni from Rome, Valentino Silvestre from Naples. Emanuele Riccio from Caserta, Silvio and Hemmanuel Fusco, Michele Roberti from Valogno). The following subjects of the paintings have been entrusted to them, often in agreement with Giovanni and Dora Casale: the scenes inspired by local history and crafts - the fair of St. Michael, the brigandage, the harvesting, the processing of oil - (Figures 8-10); the quotes of the southern folk beliefs of superstition referring to the mazzamurello - as the Treccani Dictionary states «folletto del folclore romano e napoletano, in forma d'uomo, che spaventa le persone cattive ma è buono con quelle buone» [13] ("mazzamurèllo", n.d.) –; or the evocative paintings of the artistic program initiated by the two promoters, such as Valentino Silvestre's large panel dedicated to Frida Kahlo, or that by Salvo Caramagno titled Lo studio del pittore (Fig.

11); the first proposes by analogy the prevailing connotation of the "new" Valogno village, through the Mexican artist raped by the disease and resurrected to new life thanks to art; the second sums up the contribution that mural painting makes to buildings in search of redemption, with naïf traits (Fig. 12). These themes of local tradition and daily life are used in the iconography of the murals of some small Campania centres: for example, Piano Vetrale (hamlet of Orria), village of the inner area of Cilento, has a street art gallery inspired by these subjects in its alleys, for about thirty years (Pellecchia, 2012, pp. 200-201).

In this urban-scale board, each author left own marks using very different language codes, techniques and approaches in dialogue with the existing one. In this sense, in fact, it must be observed that in many cases the inaccuracies, the scraps of the masonry, the openings, and the ornamental parts present on the walls were involved in the

http://disegnarecon.univaq.it

Urban and community renaissance in the Caserta area: the "arts village" of Valogno



Fig. 15 - Valogno, the implementation phase of the mural titled *Quelli che partono, quelli che restano* (Those who leave, those who remain), by Alessandra Carloni.



Fig. 16 - Emanuele Riccio, mural dedicated to a stonemason with a *mazzamurello* (photo by Maria Girotto).

representation, becoming an integral part of it, so as to inextricably merge the drawing to the built. In other cases, however, the limited portions of the walls, or the different expressive choices place the murals in limited sectors, treating them as large canvases exposed in the open air. With regard to the technique of creating the painting on the walls, the artists approach the ideational and executive phase in a different way, reflecting also the free and extremely varied quality of this creative language, and the variety that is conseguential to the diversity of the surfaces on which it is expressed. The laying of street art, as is known, can be done on sight with the help of projectors, with the technique of stencil or proportional grid (Drogheria, 2015; Lauda & Zerlenga, 2018). We relied directly on the words of the most prolific authors to learn about the techniques used to transfer the drawing on the walls in Valogno. Valentino Silvestre (Naples 1990) - the youngest artist - used a grid drawn by spray and brush depicting Frida Kahlo on the mural at the entrance of the village (Fig. 12); the grid was subsequently concealed by the colour-covering layers. Valentino Silvestre has evolved the preliminary collection of images - used as a generic ideation cue in the transition to realization - towards an impromptu iconographic construction that has been able to grasp suggestions from the human and social context, rather than urban, as for example was the crown of red flowers, included in the final representation [14]. Thus the "lived moment" contributed with an added value to the aesthetic enrichment of the image. The method by which he created the image dedicated to the "harvest" and the mural entitled *Il gatto e la bambina che pren*de le stelle is analogous.

Alessandra Carloni (Rome 1984), on the other hand, defines the mural subject with a freehand drawing on paper that then transfers in digital image with raster graphics software, in which she elaborates the chromatic studies of the figures and the simulation in the building context, using photographs of the building's facade on which she will paint the mural (Figures 13-14). The author, then on site, transfers the sketch on wall by

http://disegnarecon.univaq.it



CIRILLO - ARGENZIANO

freehand with chalk, studying the proportions of the iconography and its figures impromptu (Fig. 15); afterwards she paints and refines the mural with guartz paints, stretched out with rollers and brushes [15]. In her case, the illustrative language also allows to derogate the proportions of the subjects portrayed and, therefore, not to use the grid. The process chosen by Salvo Caramagno (Catania 1953) is even more immediate: his murals are made on a white covering background, used as a real canvas: in this way, the works are made impromptu, without preparatory sketch, with easily corrected charcoal strokes, and then they are finished later with layers of acrylic colour. The artist from Catania is less creatively inspired by the place than the previous authors; he is attentive to the aspects of conservation that is offered by the conditions of reduced exposure to the Sun of the buildings' walls in Valogno, since they are forced between rather high buildings [16]. This peculiarity of the site, as mentioned above, slows down the natural deterioration inherent in the works of street-art, property favoured, however, also by the extra-urban condition, which makes the paintings limitedly susceptible to change compared to those of big cities.

Emanuele Riccio (Mondragone 1992) also applies the washable acrylic colour on the wall taking inspiration from a photograph that he uses as a reference, without being too conditioned; he creates the mural as a painting, reducing the colour range to make the effect of a vintage image posted on an ancient building facade [17] (Fig. 16).

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

The creative gestures that in various ways the over 33 artists have imprinted on the walls of Valogno, sharing the ethical and social intent with which the initiative "I colori del grigio" by Giovanni and Dora Casale was born, sensitive and cultured men, spontaneous promoters of civic sense and a special declination of environmental sustainability, have characterized it as the most colourful village in the province of Caserta. Here, then, the culture of proximity, understood

as openness to the other for mutual enrichment. as a system of actions oriented to the good of the community and not to the interests of the individual has written an extraordinary page of contemporary urban history, demonstrating that the "arts village" - imagined by us with and without apostrophe - is nourished by mutual giving of itself, before the multiple forms of art. A restaurant in solidarity and the "war vegetable garden" project have also been originated by the combination of care and sharing: the first offers dishes to those who need it: the second one has been conceived in the last pandemic days, and is a cultivation designed to donate the harvest to the poorest even with the intention of motivating everyone to small-scale agriculture to bring back lush pieces of land uncultivated. The care of a portion of the land, such as the care of the walls and that of the entrance gates to the houses, soon, «[...] significa – as Giovanni declares -, dedicarsi alla vita e ripartire con essa!» [18]

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

(Verdile, 2020).

The authors are responsible for specific parts, although they have shared all the contents of this paper: Ornella Cirillo signs the paragraphs 2. Valogno, the urban content, and 4. Drawings "on the walls; Pasquale Argenziano signs the paragraph 3. The information system of urban artworks in Valogno.

http://disegnarecon.univaq.it

412

#### ISSN 1828-5961

#### NOTE

[1] (Sheet 18, Table No.1) The originals of the Charter are kept in the Archive of the Military Geographical Institute of Florence, which politely issued the clearance to publish the detail.

[2] «The territory was very little inhabited [...] this will perhaps be the result of the remarkable proximity between its villages».

[3] In particular, some sources report that in Valogno there were 27 "fuochi" in 1447 (referring to the hearths or households), about 160 inhabitants. Paolo Falco reports, however, that there were 32 "fuochi" in the same year.

[4] The first document mentioning the village Baloneo Piccolo is dated 1032.

[5] «[...] through the graphic evocation of the concept of "beauty", to promote local development and cultural growth».

[6] The building was declared of particularly important interest (Act. 22.1.2004 n. 42), resulting in the imposition of restriction (administrative order n.61, 18.4.2007 of the Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali - Direzione Regionale per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici della Campania); the authors thank Dr. Fabio Tarantino for consulting the architectural report.

[7] The OAC form and compilation rules are available on the website http://www.iccd.beniculturali. it/it/ricercanormative/30/oacopere-oggetti-d-arte-contemporanea-3\_00; The latest update can be found at the website http://dati. beniculturali.it/ Our cataloguing approach is like the ICCD one thinking the systematic application to street-art works. The linking to GIS is directed towards interoperability with SIGECweb system of Italian MIBACT.

[8] The geographical coordinates of the artworks were measured with GNSS rover antenna, referring to the Permanent Geodesic Network of the Campania Region.

[9] The repertoire of the authors, drawn up thanks to the kind collaboration of Dr. Giovanni Casale. includes: Aluart, Salvo Caramagno, Alessandra Carloni, Casale Family, Franchina Casella, Carmen Crisafulli, Dell'Omo Sisters, Umberto De Pippo, Hemmanuel Fusco, Silvio Fusco, Luigi Grilletti, Angelo Guadagnino. Ugo Liberatore. Rocco Lombardi, lole Mirante, Franco Mora, Michele Nedo Palmieri, Ciro Palumbo (Prometeo), Antonio Perrone, Antonio Picozzi, Angelo Rasile. Emanuele Riccio. Michele Roberti, Giovanni Russo, Antonio Sarracco, Valentino Silvestre, Fiorella Tedesco, Enzo Tortolino, Alex Treglia, Toni Tres, Fulvio Vallone. B. Vellucci, Wasa.

[10] In addition to the works listed, there are seven more made with mixed techniques and materials; all the artworks recorded are eighty to May 2020.

[11] Our cataloguing approach is like the ICCD one thinking the systematic application to street-art works. The linking to GIS is directed towards interoperability with SI-GECweb system of Italian MIBACT.

[12] These artists constituted the G.I.M.N. (Gruppo Itinerante Murales Naïf, Itinerant Group Murales Naïf) together with Bianca Bertazzoni (from Foggia), Clara Salardi (from Emilia), to Primula Campomaggiore (from Viterbo). In the eighties of the last century, this group was very active in Italy by spreading this open-air art form accessible to all.

[13] «Anthropomorphic sprite that scares bad people, but is good with good ones, typical of Roman and Neapolitan folklore».

[14] On 18.4.2020, the author was interviewed on this topic.

[15] On 20.4.2020, the author was interviewed on this topic.

[16] On 27.4.2020, the author was interviewed on this topic.

[17] On 7.5.2020, the author was interviewed on this topic.

[18] «[...] it means to devote on to life and start again with it».

#### REFERENCES

Amelio, A. (2017). Restauro e valorizzazione nella Masseria de' Ciocchi San Ruosi a Carinola (Ce). [relatore Prof. Marina D'Aprile, correlatore Prof. Marco Borrelli]. Università degli studi della Campania Luigi Vanvitelli.

Arnaldi, V. (2017). *Sulle tracce della street art. Viaggio alla scoperta dei più bei murales italiani.* Roma: Ultra Edizioni.

Biscontin, G., & Driussi, G. (2001). Lo stucco: cultura, tecnologia, conoscenza. Scienza e beni culturali. Atti del convegno di studi Bressanone 10-13 luglio 2001. Marghera-Venezia: Edizioni Arcadia Ricerche.

de Masi, T. (1756). Memoria istorica degli Aurunci antichissimi popoli dell'Italia e delle loro principali città Aurunca e Sessa raccolti dal Signor D. Tommaso de Masi del pezzo de' Marchesi di Civita. Napoli: Giuseppe Maria Severino Boezio.

Di Biasio, A., & Conti, S. (Eds.). (2012). La Terra di Lavoro nella Storia. Dalla Cartografia al Vedutismo. Roma: L'Obliquo.

Di Marco, G. (1995). *Sessa e il suo territorio tra medioevo ed età moder-na.* Marina di Minturno: Caramanica.

Di Meo, A. (1819). Annali critico-diplomatici del Regno di Napoli della mezzana età del P. D. Alessandro Di Meo del SS. Redentore. Tomo XII. Napoli: Torchi di Giovanni De Bonis.

Diamare, G. (1906). *Memorie critico-storiche della Chiesa di Sessa Aurunca, I-II.* Napoli.

Drogheria, D. (2015). *Street art: storia e controstoria, tecniche e protagonisti.* Milano: Giunti.

Farinaro, G. (2014). Portali in pietra vulcanica del Roccamonfina. Studio preliminare e caratteri essenziali. In A. Panarello & G. Angelone (Eds.), *Nella terra di Fina. Scritti in memoria di Vittorio Ragucci.* Marina di Minturno: Caramanica Editore.

CIRILLO - ARGENZIANO

Urban and community renaissance in the Caserta area: the "arts village" of Valogno

Forcellino, A. (1991). La diffusione dei rivestimenti a stucco nel corso del XVI secolo. *Ricerche Di Storia Dell'Arte*, (41–42), 23–51.

Gagliardo, G. B. (1814). *Della agricoltura di Sessa. Memoria di Giovan Battista Gagliardo Ispettore Generale delle Acque e Foreste (...)*. Napoli: Tipografia di Angelo Trani.

Giannattasio, C. (2009). La costruzione in tufo tra XV e XVI secolo in Terra di Lavoro: Sessa Aurunca. In C. Varagnoli (Ed.), *Muri parlanti. Prospettive per l'analisi e la conservazione dell'edilizia storica* (pp. 111–120). Firenze: Alinea Editrice.

Greco, C. (2017). La traccia in fieri. Mappare l'arte urbana, documentare l'assenza tra archivi web e locative media. *Ocula*, (18).

ISTAT. (1991). Popolazione e abitazioni, Fascicolo Provinciale Caserta, 13° Censimento generale della popolazione e delle abitazioni. Roma: ISTAT.

Lauda, L., & Zerlenga, O. (2018). La città Altra nel disegno delle e sulle Vele di Scampia. In F. Capano, M. I. Pascariello, & M. Visone (Eds.), La Città Altra. Storia e immagine della diversità urbana: luoghi e paesaggi dei privilegi e del benessere, dell'isolamento, del disagio, della multiculturalità (pp. 1175–1183). Napoli: Federico II University Press & CIRICE.

mazzamurèllo. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://www.treccani.it/vocabolario/mazzamurello/

4.14

Urban and community renaissance in the Caserta area: the "arts village" of Valogno

MIBACT, & ICCD. (2004). Opere di Arte Contemporanea Scheda OAC Strutturazione dei dati delle schede di catalogo. Roma.

Napoletano, A., Fiorenza, C., Guttoriello, R., & R., S. (Eds.). (2013). La Parrocchia: luogo di fede, luogo di storia. Profilo storico-pastorale delle Comunità cristiane della Diocesi di Sessa Aurunca. Marina di Minturno: Caramanica Editore.

Orsini, G. (n.d.). Marcolfe di Fanano (Modena). Retrieved May 7, 2020, from https://sites.google.com/site/ viaromea/Home/lemarcolfe

Palestini, C., & Basso, A. (2018). Utopie contemporanee della città fragile. In F. Capano, M. I. Pascariello, & M. Visone (Eds.), *La Città Altra. Storia e immagine della diversità urbana: luoghi e paesaggi dei privilegi e del benessere, dell'isolamento, del disagio, della multiculturalità (pp. 1141–1149). Napoli: Federico II University Press & CIRICE.* 

Pasquini, L. (2002). *La decorazione a stucco in Italia fra tardo antico e alto medioevo.* Ravenna: Longo Editore.

Pellecchia, R. (2012). *Le 100 meraviglie del Cilento e Vallo di Diano.* Amalfi: Officine Zephiro.

Pino, A. (2019). Valogno borgo d'arte, la città dei murales. In M. Fumo & G. Ausiello (Eds.), *Riconoscere e far conoscere i paesaggi fortificati* / *Recognizing and making known fortified landscapes* (pp. 635–638). Napoli: Luciano Editore.

Senatore, F. (2018). Distrettuazioni intermedie e federazioni rurali nel Regno di Napoli (Sessa, Cava, Giffoni). In F. Lattanzio & G. M. Varanini (Eds.), I centri minori italiani nel tardo Medioevo. Cambiamento sociale, crescita economica, processi di ristruttu-

*razione (secoli XIII-XVI).* Firenze: Firenze University Press.

Tenore, G. (1872). Saggio sull'industria mineraria e sulla costituzione geologica della Terra di Lavoro. Napoli: Grande Stabilimento Tipografico di Gennaro De Angelis.

Ulmer, J. B. (2017). Writing Urban Space: Street Art, Democracy, and Photographic Cartography. *Cultural Studies - Critical Methodologies*, *17(6)*, 491–502.

Valerio, V. (1993). *Società Uomini e Istituzioni cartografiche nel Mezzogiorno d'Italia*. Firenze: Istituto Geografico Militare.

Verdile, N. (2020). A Valogno borgo d'arte: piantati pomodori, zucchine e insalata. Il raccolto si condivide. *Il Mattino Di Caserta.* 

Zati, G. (n.d.). Apotropaiche. Sculture antropomorfe tra credenza popolare e superstizione. Retrieved May 7, 2020, from https:// www.discoveraltorenoterme.it/ apotropaiche/

Zerlenga, O., Forte, F., & Lauda, L. (2018). Disegno e periferia come bene comune. In (pp. 1247–1256). Valencia: Universidad de Alicante.