

Fondazione La Fabbrica del Cioccolato

Thursday 30 June 2016 | 18:00 | Blenio Valley | Canton Ticino – Switzerland

Opening *Cacao Collective*

with **Ivo Rovira and Ana Ponce**

As part of *Foreignness* programme, *CacaoCollective* opens on 30 June: an analysis dedicated to the complexity and peculiarity of cocoa plantations in the world and to the sustainable exploit of nature. It is a common element among plantations, beyond differences in the geographical and socio cultural context, and it connects them to the history of the factory, the valley and local people.

The event focuses on the projection of a documentary about the origin, growing, features and future of cocoa, produced by Ivo Rovira and Ana Ponce and commissioned by CacaoBarry, a company, which has produced cocoa and chocolate of the finest quality for more 170 years.

The two directors show this fruit through the people that dedicate their lives to it, crossing 11 countries in 4 continents, asking farmers and producers what makes cocoa a special tree, what connects it to their lives, how these plantations will develop in the future. Indeed, they already are threatened by the transformation into intensive cultivations.

Moreover, there will be a photo exhibition and the reconstruction of a cocoa warehouse, in order to create a multisensory experience involving images, sounds, scents, tastes and feelings from cocoa plantations.

Thanks to the contact with the seeds and the fruit, the sounds of the forest, the voices of farmers, a tasting experience offered by CacaoBarry experts, a special atmosphere will live again in Cima Norma. An atmosphere that for several years has followed the industrial processes to transform cocoa into chocolate; the factory will gain, for a while, the identity that shaped the history of the valley for almost a century.

The chocolate factory **Cima Norma** used to be the heart of industrial development of Blenio Valley, thanks to its growing activity from the beginning of XX century until 1968, when it closed; the factory was then used for different purposes. La **Fabbrica del Cioccolato** foundation is now in charge of managing the cultural activities to be held in the factory. *Foreignness* programme started in 2016; it is a cultural project created by the artistic director Franco Marinotti as an analysis of the interaction between art and the territory, meant as evolving cultural, social and political heritage.

The term *Foreignness* involves different ways of feeling stranger, different, not belonging to a particular, changing context.

La Fabbrica del Cioccolato foundation has the following sponsors and technical sponsors: Banca dello Stato del Canton Ticino, Winteler; institutional sponsors: Ente Regionale per lo Sviluppo Bellinzonese e Valli, Comune di Blenio, Organizzazione Turistica Regionale Bellinzonese e Alto Ticino, Comune Acquarossa, Comune di Serravalle; Media partners: Plug-in contemporary art and culture, Ticino Finanza and Metalocus.

Ongoing events at La Fabbrica del Cioccolato: *Paper Building*, by Daniel González, on Cima Norma main building's façade, and *Kamchatka '16*, by Anna Galtarossa, open from Wednesday to Saturday, from 14:00 to 19:00.

The **programme** includes *Confronting Comfort's Continent*, by Oliver Ressler (August); *Il Pardo in Fabbrica* second edition: carte blanche to Carlo Chatrian with a selection from the programme of 2016 Locarno Film Festival; the Spanish artist Juan Lopez and the Swiss artist Fabrizio Giannini (October); the Israeli musician, composer and guitarist.

General information:

La Fabbrica del Cioccolato foundation

Opening of *CacaoCollective* exhibition - **Foreignness** project

Thursday 30 May at 18:00

Artists: Ivo Rovira and Ana Ponce

Artistic director of Foreignness [Estericità]: Franco Marinotti

Durtion: from 30 June to 30 September 2016

Free entrance, from Wednesday to Saturday, from 14:00 to 19:00 o by appointment (info@lafabbricadelcioccolato.ch)

Information: info@lafabbricadelcioccolato.ch www.lafabbricadelcioccolato.ch

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