

# The Happenstance Scotland + Venice 2018



## Cultural Connectors Forum

### Venue: The Grand Hall, Palazzo Zenobio

(Collegio Armeno Moorat Raphael, Dorsoduro 2596, Venezia 30123).

The Cultural Connectors Forum is about bringing together influential thinkers and makers from a wide spectrum of disciplines and interests; science, art, theatre, architecture, anthropology, health and well-being, education, environmental studies, film-making, journalism, entrepreneurship and activism.

The forum is built from inspiring people we've met in Venice, and from across Scotland, people who all think about the role of building, bridging and reconnecting relationships within, and beyond, their specialist fields.

This emphasis, on inbetweening, has been one of the most valuable aspects of The Happenstance. Through offering a freespace for people to gather and exchange, we have been delighted to watch new networks emerging, new possibilities taking shape. In the context of an Architectural Biennale, this inbetweening has been described by The Happenstance Curator, Peter McCaughey, as 'Architecture Plus', where the emphasis is on the 'Plus'.

This Forum will offer each contributor a freespace to present, (10 mins), and to see how other presenters approach their challenges, locations, budgets and aspirations for the future.

There is an idea here to build, and supercharge, existing initiatives and to support emerging ideas and networks through the sharing of resource, tools and time.

The day of the event will include lunch, a convivial evening meal together at Zenobio, and a series of film screenings in our garden afterwards.

[www.thehappenstance.org](http://www.thehappenstance.org) | [www.ads.org.uk/scotlandvenice2018](http://www.ads.org.uk/scotlandvenice2018)

#Happenstance18 @waveparticleglasgow @ArcDesSco

Scotland  
+ Venice



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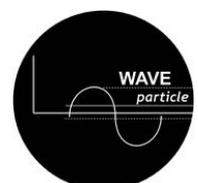
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2018



## Itinerary

- 10.00 – 10.15am: **Coffee & registration**
- 10.15 – 10.30am: **Introduction, Peter McCaughey, Lead Artist/Director of WAVEparticle with Alberto Lago, Designer**
- 10.30 – 11.30am: **Presentations**  
**Karen Phillips:** *Must Go On*  
**Giovanni Cecconi:** *Borrow Blend and Serve for social infrastructures*  
**Corrado Claut:** *Associazione Viviamo Venezia, A small association to connect people*  
**Basharat Khan:** *Representation, value and public spaces*  
**Lucia Pedrana:** *Global Art Affairs Foundation Venice*
- 11.30 – 11.45am: **Coffee break**
- 11.45 – 12.45pm: **Presentations**  
**Harald Turek:** *Switch Art Project: Contemporary Video Art in Public Context*  
**Chiara Gaspardo:** *About Cultural Association*  
**Antonella Maione:** *DO.VE the Meaning of a District Association*  
**Ben Parry:** *Zone to Defend: The Liberated Territory Against the Airport and its World*  
**Nicolò Cristante:** *Sull'ex Chiesa di S. Marta. Un'idea di riqualificazione culturale*
- 12.45 – 1.00pm: **Summary**
- 1.00 – 2.00pm: **Lunch**
- 2.15 – 3.15pm: **Presentations**  
**Nicola Delon & Lola Paprocki (Encore Heureux):** *Infinite Places*  
**Andrea Curtoni:** *BURB - The Dynamics of Urban Re-appropriation*  
**Maggie Rose:** *Shakespeare at the Beccaria Juvenile Prison in Milan, a Theatre Workshop Bringing Together University Students and Inmates.*  
**Heather Claridge:** *Designed in Time*  
**Ronna Bloom:** *Poetry Cuts to the Chase*
- 3:15 – 3:30pm: **Coffee break**
- 3:30 – 4:30pm: **Presentations**  
**Emma Soletti:** *Venice Open Stage, International Theatre Festival;*  
**Irmi Hitthaler:** *Taking Part and Being Part of Chance*  
**Jane da Mosto:** *WahV: Venice as a Living City*  
**Giovanni Andrea Martini:** *Open Yourself to Everybody for Sharing: the experience of 'Nuovo Cinema Libero' at Ca'Zenobio*  
**Paolo Rosso & Alice Ongaro Sartori:** *The Garden of Unaccompanied Children - Serra dei Giardini, Venice*
- 4.30 – 6.00pm: **World Café**
- 6.00 – 8.00pm: **Convivial meal**  
A welcome to Palazzo Zenobio from Samuel Sarkis Baghdassarian
- 8.00 – 8.30pm: **An Association of Associations**  
Discussion
- 8.30pm – Late: **Evening screenings and presentations**  
**Roddy Buchanan:** *Song Exchange*  
**Jacqueline Donachie:** *Pose Work for Sisters*  
**Silvio Pasqualini** at *The Happenstance, Venice Biennale 2018*  
**Confluenze** three short films by *Paloma Leyton, Anja Dimitrijevic and Laura Santini*  
**The Happenstance Film Highlights**

## Presenters' Bio's

### Samuel Sarkis Baghdassarian

Samuel Sarkis Baghdassarian is the Keeper of Collegio Armeno Moorat Raphael in Palazzo Zenobio. Samuel has been a fantastic support to The Happenstance.  
[samuel@collegioarmeno.it](mailto:samuel@collegioarmeno.it)



### Ronna Bloom

Ronna Bloom is a poet, registered psychotherapist, and author of six books of poetry. She is currently Poet in Community at the University of Toronto and Poet in Residence at Mount Sinai Hospital.  
[ronna.bloom@utoronto.ca](mailto:ronna.bloom@utoronto.ca)



### Roddy Buchanan

Roddy Buchanan's work deals with today's crucial questions in a way that refuses cynicism or ironic distancing and enthusiastically embraces and commits to the world. As an artist, he's learned to cultivate a diversity of projects to sustain his economy.  
[roddyb69@hotmail.com](mailto:roddyb69@hotmail.com)



### Giovanni Cecconi

After three busy decades spent in top-down projects to safeguard Venice and the lagoon, I enjoy exploring and practicing bottom-up sustainable projects to promote human well-being through socio-ecological transformations. I am sustaining a continuous connectivity action with my own resources or the ones I can Borrow, Blend and Serve.  
[ceccogio@gmail.com](mailto:ceccogio@gmail.com)



### Heather Claridge

Heather Claridge is a geographer, planner & urban designer working in Glasgow and leading on a range of regeneration and place-based initiatives since 2008. Her creative approach to urban planning was recognised when she was awarded UK Young Planner of the Year 2018 by the RTPI (Royal Town Planning Institute).  
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**Corrado Claut**

Corrado Claut is a Mathematician working as Senior Specialist/System Architect at an Italian IT Company. As a resident in Dorsoduro he is involved with "Associazione Viviamo Venezia", a small association that collaborates with Parishes of Dorsoduro to involve local people in social events.  
[viviamovenezia@gmail.com](mailto:viviamovenezia@gmail.com)

**Confluenze**

Confluenze (Anja Dimitrijevic, Paloma Leyton and Laura Santini) is a collective that gathers artists and architects focusing on fluid work dynamics that alternate between individual researches and sporadic collaborations among the members.  
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**Nicolò Cristante**

Nicolò Cristante is the Co-Founder and CEO of FontegoMedia. He is a researcher in logic and metaphysics and has a PhD from Ca Foscari University, Venice  
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**Andrea Curtoni**

Andrea Curtoni is an Architect and the Co-founder of Biennale Urbana, Venice. He has a PhD in Urbanism from IUAV University of Venice. His research focuses on spontaneous practices in urban transformation, processes with particular attention to the regeneration of abandoned spaces.  
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**Nicola Delon & Lola Paprocki**

Nicola Delon, Architect, has Co-founded (with Julien Choppin) the agency Encore Heureux, Paris in 2001 to develop a general practice in designing buildings, installations or exhibitions. Lola Paprocki, Architect, joined Encore Heureux after graduating in 2017. Encore Heureux, was the Commissioner of the French Pavilion (Infinite Spaces) at this year's Venice Biennale.  
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**Jacqueline Donachie**

Jacqueline Donachie is an award-winning artist whose practice is rooted in an exploration of individual, family and collective identity and the events, structures, platforms and spaces through which it is constructed and supported. She holds a PhD from Northumbria University, UK.

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**Chiara Gaspardo**

Chiara Gaspardo is the President of About Association, Venice and a freelance Production Manager. She has produced contemporary art exhibitions and events for the Venice Biennale and other cultural institutions and collaborated with artists such as Ahmet Ogut, Paolo Icaro, IRWIN, Andreco, Chiharu Shiota, Stephanie Owens, Urbonas.

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**Irmi Hitthaler**

Irmi Hitthaler studied Social and Cultural Anthropology and Educational Studies in Vienna/Austria and currently works in Italy/Southtyrol at the Regional Management Pustertal. In the past 10 years, she has been working in the field of community and regional development with a main focus on participation processes.

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**Basharat Khan**

Basharat Khan is a Glasgow-based Film-maker, Photographer and Visual artist interested in discovering stories, representing people through the medium of film. He is the Creative Director of Bash Art Creative.

[bashartcreative@gmail.com](mailto:bashartcreative@gmail.com)



**Alberto Lago**

Alberto Lago is a Venetian designer whose work combines design, graphics, art and engineering. Alberto has won numerous international awards and exhibited his works worldwide. He has also published in various design/graphic magazines and scientific journals.

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**Antonella Maione** Antonella Maione is an Architect, member of the Architecture Studio Isole84, and co-founder and director (with Mauro Cazzaro) of Kanz Architetti Associati in Venice. Her work focuses on restoration, residential architectural design and interior design, along with the design and production of objects for their brand, KANZ.  
[info@kanzarchitetti.com](mailto:info@kanzarchitetti.com)



**Giovanni Andrea Martini** Giovanni Andrea Martini is the President of the Municipality of Venezia, Murano, since 2015. He is also a teacher at the 'Michelangelo Guggenheim Art High School, Venice and the author of several books about Venice and the Venetian ceramic tradition. Between 1999-2014 he was also the director of the video competition named after 'Francesco Pasinetti'.



**Peter McCaughey** Peter McCaughey, is an Artist and the Director of *WAVEparticle*, an art organisation he set up to explore the placement of art and artists into the world, beyond the confines of the gallery and museum. The focus is the contested role of the artist in the process of building and rebuilding place. *WAVEparticle* collaborates with others to produce new processes, events and objects focused on re-thinking how the places we live in, and the systems that regulate our lives, move to a more creative, connective model.  
[peter.mccaughey.at.wave@gmail.com](mailto:peter.mccaughey.at.wave@gmail.com)



**Jane Da Mosto** Jane da Mosto is an Environmental Scientist and consultant on sustainable development. Prior to establishing We are here Venice (WahV) in 2012, she was Scientific Advisor to the Venice in Peril Fund. Her most recent publication is *Acqua in Piazza* (2016), a book explaining water levels, to commemorate 50 years since Venice's famous big flood.  
[janedamosto@gmail.com](mailto:janedamosto@gmail.com)



**Ben Parry** Ben Parry is an artist, curator and researcher. His practice investigates the role of public space as a site for social change, and art as a tool for creating spaces in which to imagine alternative futures. Ben is also programme leader of MA in Curatorial Practice at Bath Spa University.  
[b.parry@bathspa.ac.uk](mailto:b.parry@bathspa.ac.uk)



**Silvio Pasqualini**

Silvio Pasqualini is an artist who has been living and working in Venice since 2014. He has exhibited his works internationally since the end of the 70s. In 2000 he co-founded the Clandestine Artists Movement with the artists Bertuccioli, Fioramanti and Gasparri.  
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**Lucia Pedrana**

Lucia Pedrana is Exhibitions and Events Organiser working with the European Cultural Forum and the Global Art Affairs Foundation.  
[lucia@ecc-italy.eu](mailto:lucia@ecc-italy.eu)



**Karen Phillips**

Karen provides artistic oversight and leadership across North Lands Creative programming efforts. She has led national and international initiatives for NLC since 2016, as the organisation's first CEO. Her arts career also includes leading the team at RUA RED, Ireland's largest multi-disciplinary arts centre in South Dublin.  
[director@northlandscreative.co.uk](mailto:director@northlandscreative.co.uk)



**Maggie Rose**

Maggie Rose is a writer and teacher. Her plays, many of them with migration and Shakespeare at their centre, have been performed in the UK and Italy. In recent years she has helped create theatre workshops at Milan's Beccaria Juvenile Prison and for the PER association in Venice.  
[margaret.rose@unimi.it](mailto:margaret.rose@unimi.it)



**Paolo Rosso & Alice Ongaro Sartori**

Paolo Rosso and Alice Ongaro Sartori have been working together since 2011 as co-curators of MICROCLIMA (Microclimate), a research-driven programme that focuses on the natural world, cultural heritage and the public sphere. It is housed in the Serra dei Giardini, a greenhouse built in 1894 for the Biennale to preserve the exotic plants that decorated the first International Exhibitions of Art.  
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**Emma Soletti**

Emma Soletti completed her degree in Visual Art and Performance in Venice. She has been the co-organiser of Venice Open Stage since 2013 and works also as freelance cultural events manager.  
[solettie@gmail.com](mailto:solettie@gmail.com)



**Harald Turek**

Harald Turek is a German Artist & Film-maker working across photography, video and installation art. He currently lives in Glasgow, Scotland where he is Digital Media Team leader at The Glasgow School of Art. Harald is also the co-founder and director (with Triona Ryan) of Switch Art Project: Contemporary Video Art in Public Context in Ireland.  
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## **Presentations**

### **Must Go On by Karen Phillips**

Over the last two years of NLC's organisational change we have adopted a collection of projects designed for our audiences and partnerships that are open to being courageous. Courage requires vulnerability and empathy. They may be socially charged or require out-of-the-box planning but their commonality is their connection between the local and the international.

### **Borrow Blend and Serve: Activities for Building Resilience and Plasticity by Giovanni Cecconi**

Borrowing, blending and serving are the main activities of the "be yourself" Venice Resilience Lab, a project by Wigwam Local Community. The Lab connects local people with authorities through organising day-long boat trips in the Venice Lagoon. On the boat participants are involved in conversations while sharing good food and beverages without the possibility of escaping important common issues in favour of urgent personal matters.

### **Associazione Viviamo Venezia, A small association to connect people by Corrado Claut**

The presentation focuses on 'Associazione Viviamo Venezia' and the experience of collaborating with The Happenstance.

### **Representation, value and public spaces by Basharat Khan**

This presentation will focus on the role of a film-maker as cultural connector, based on the experience of The Happenstance.

### **by Lucia Pedrana**

Lucia Pedrana is Exhibitions and Events Organiser working the European Cultural Forum and the Global Art Affairs Foundation.

### **Switch Art Project: Contemporary Video Art in Public Context, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary By Harald Turek**

This presentation will focus on how to facilitate people to reconnect to their own public spaces through the experience of the Switch Art Project.

### **About Cultural Association by Chiara Gaspardo**

About Association is a group of researchers, activists, architects and artists promoting new methodologies in community regeneration; solidarity and collectivity; knowledge, resource and skills exchange as fundamentally spatial practices and processes.

### **DO.VE the meaning of a District Association by Antonella Maione**

*"we soon realized that the sense of the Association was wider, that the survival of commercial and productive activities in a city like Venice is strictly connected with the survival of the city itself"*

**Sull'ex Chiesa di S. Marta. Un'idea di riqualificazione culturale / On the former Church of S. Marta. An idea of cultural redevelopment**  
**by Nicolás Cristante**

This presentation will outline the general aspects and the theoretical and strategic foundations of the cultural redevelopment project led by the Fontego Media start-up in the Maritime Area of Venice and in particular in the historic building of the former Church of S. Marta.

**Zone to Defend: The liberated territory against the airport and its world**  
**by Ben Parry**

The ZAD is the story of the largest land occupation in France, a liberated zone of 4000 acres that has successfully blocked construction of a major new airport. The presentation will explore what we might learn from this living experiment in communal imaginaries, post-capitalist possibilities and lived-in alternatives. How can we rethink our relationship to other forms of life in nature? What is the future of ritual in new forms of struggle?

**Infinite Places**  
**By Nicola Delon & Lola Paprocki**

Infinite Places are open places, possible places, un-finished ones that establish spaces of freedom and the search for alternatives. In the French Pavilion we present a subjective selection of ten places that emerged out of specific encounters.

**BURB - dynamics of urban re-appropriation**  
**By Andrea Curtoni**

BURB (Biennale Urbana) explores the limits and inhabits the existing space between the Biennale (cultural institution), Venice (the City) and its Lagoon (Territory). It's inspired by Documenta Urbana, a project by Lucius and Annemarie Burckhardt in Kassel (1980-1982) and aims to experiment with the regeneration of abandoned and underutilized spaces of the city through the connection of artistic production with the real needs of the urban context.

**Shakespeare at the Beccaria Juvenile Prison in Milan, a theatre workshop, bringing together university students and inmates.**  
**by Maggie Rose**

This presentation will focus on a series of workshops set up at the Beccaria Juvenile Prison in Milan by Maggie Rose and Cristina Cavecchi from Milan State University, in collaboration with the Punto Zero Company based in Beccaria, for arts faculty students and young inmates. The workshops focus on using Shakespeare plays to help break down personal and social boundaries through collaborative work on playwriting and performing.

**Designed in Time**  
**by Heather Claridge**

The presentation discusses the role of temporary urbanism in shaping vibrant and adaptive places and explores the approach and learning from Glasgow's planning-led Stalled Spaces Initiative operating since 2011 to reactivate 'lost space' in the city.

**Poetry cuts to the Chase**  
**by Ronna Bloom**

I use poetry to help people connect to what's meaningful in their work, and find out what gets in their way.

**Venice Open Stage, International Theatre Festival**  
**by Emma Soletti**

Venice Open Stage promotes the meeting between drama students, young theatre professionals and a diversity of audiences in the city of Venice. The presentation will focus on the story of the project born in 2013.

**Taking part and being part of chance**  
**by Irmi Hitthaler**

Presentation about how community participation processes can be used in different contexts such as developing a community center or a public garden.

**WahV: Venice as a living city**  
**by Jane Da Mosto**

Our tagline is 'Venice for the Venetians, Venice for the world'. Starting with the circumstances that brought WahV into existence, the way we work combining research, activism and concrete changes will be presented both in terms of the future for Venice as well as a metaphor for global challenges.

**Open yourself to everybody for sharing: the experience of 'Nuovo Cinema Libero' at Ca'Zenobio**  
**by Giovanni Andrea Martini**

A presentation about 'Nuovo Cinema Libero', an open-air cinema event organised in collaboration with the Municipality of Venezia Murano and Burano and presented as part of The Happenstance over the summer.

**The Garden of Unaccompanied Children**  
**by Paolo Rosso & Alice Ongaro Sartori**

This presentation will focus on a project led by MICROCLIMA (in collaboration with Roberto Sartor) between 23 May and 16 September in Serra dei Giardini, Venice, that included a series of events that transformed the garden into a playground and a place for research and conversations.

**Song Exchange**  
**by Roddy Buchanan**

The 'Song Exchange' was developed to promote cultural connection while canoeing down the Usumacinta River in Mexico with a group of environmental activists in April 2015.

**Pose Work for Sisters**  
**By Jacqueline Donachie (presented by Roddy Buchanan)**

One of Donachie's numerous artworks that employ the expertise of families affected by inherited disability to speak back to the world of science that researches them. It was made with her sister, Susan, and is mindful of Bruce Mclean's 1971 work, Pose Work for Plinths. 'When static, little separates us, but in moving on and off the plinths there are subtle differences in gait, posture and ability that speak of inheritance in many forms.'

film

with **Silvio Pasqualini** for **The Happenstance**, Venice Biennale 2018

by Bash Khan

films

by **Confluenze**

Laura Santini  
Scopus, 5'52", 2016

Anja Dimitrijevic and Emanuele Zampieri  
Valle delle Sfingi, 5'06", 2017

Paloma Leyton  
Horizontes, 8'11", 2018

- **Samuel Sarkis Baghdassarian**, Keeper of Collegio Armeno Moorat Raphael, Venice
- **Ronna Bloom**, Poet, Canada
- **Roddy Buchanan**, Artist, Scotland
- **Giovanni Cecconi**, Venice Resilience Lab and Wigwam Climate Change Coordinator
- **Heather Claridge**, Young Urbanist & Planner working as a Principal Officer, Glasgow City Council
- **Corrado Claut**, President of Association Viviamo Venezia, Sagra at Campo Angelo Raffaele
- **Confluenze**, (Paloma Leyton, Anja Dimitrijevic and Laura Santini)
- **Nicolò Cristante**, Co-founder and CEO of FontegoHub Venezia
- **Andrea Curtoni**, Architect and PhD in Urbanism at the IUAV University of Venice.
- **Nicola Delon**, Architect and co-founder of Encore Heureux, Paris, the Commissioner of the French Pavilion Infinite Places exhibition, 16th Architecture Biennale, Venice.
- **Jacqueline Donachie**, Artist, Scotland
- **Chiara Gaspardo**, Freelance Production Manager and President of the About Association, Venice
- **Irm Hitthaler**, Cultural and social anthropologist working in the field of community and regional development
- **Basharat Khan**, Film-Maker and Creative Director of Bash Art Creative
- **Alberto Lago**, Designer, Venice
- **Antonella Maione**, Architect, Co-Director (with Mauro Cazzaro) of Kanz Architetti Associati, Venice.
- **Giovanni Andrea Martini**, President of the Municipality Comune de Venezia
- **Peter McCaughey**, Lead Artist and Director of *WAVEparticle*, and Curator of The Happenstance
- **Jane Da Mosto**, Environmental Scientist, Co-founder and Executive Director, We Are Here Venice
- **Lola Paprocki**, Architect, Encore Heureux, Paris, France.
- **Ben Parry**, Artist, curator and independent researcher at the intersections of art, activism and urban space.
- **Silvio Pasqualini**, Artist, Venice.
- **Lucia Pedrana**, Exhibition and Events Organiser, GAA Foundation and European Cultural Centre, Venice
- **Karen Phillips**, Director, North Lands Creative, Caithness, Scotland
- **Maggie Rose**, Dramatist and Chair of British theatre studies, Milan University,
- **Paolo Rosso & Alice Ongaro Sartori**, Co-curators, MICROCLIMA
- **Emma Soletti**, Co-organiser, Venice Open Stage
- **Harald Turek**, Co-director (with Triona Ryan), Switch Art Project: Contemporary Video Art in a public context, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary