

Spazi d'Ascolto
Chiara Gasbarro
2024

Spazi d'Ascolto represents an inner journey and a search for a deep connection with the surrounding world, a sort of diary of time and space where Gasbarro asks herself: How much time are we willing to dedicate to others? How much time are we willing to dedicate to observing and listening to the nature that surrounds us?

The work aims to be the continuous flow of *Traversata, 2023/24*, a visual, auditory, and tactile translation of her *Sentipensare con l'Arno*. The Maori saying “*Ko au te Awa, ko te Awa ko au*” (*I am the river, the river is me*), which Chiara discovered thanks to the A4C Arts for the Commons artists, deeply resonated within her and continues to accompany her on her walks along the banks of the Mugnone.

For the RIVA 2024 Project, the artist intends to narrate these walks through a series of small booklets, which will serve as Points to Pause within the collective installation. The coordinates of certain points along the course of the Mugnone will mark the rhythm of the work.

Chiara has chosen to use bound paper in small booklets as her expressive medium. Paper, in its dual nature of fragility and resilience, is a material that evokes a direct connection with time and memory, offering a physical support that can be touched, leafed through, and interpreted in a personal way. Each page, through the interplay of textures, the alternating use of light and dark pages, collages, notes, and quotes, allows the rediscovery of beauty in small details like *the trembling of leaves, the song of birds or the gurgling of water*.

In a society marked by relentless acceleration and dominated by technology, where every notification demands immediate attention, the booklets become a refuge for reflection. Here, the viewer is invited to observe and slow down, to pause for a moment from the frenzy of daily life, immersing in an intimate dialogue with themselves and the narrated environment. They have the opportunity to contemplate and savor, in order to truly feel, returning to the essential, to the simplicity of printed paper.

Exhibition text by *Veronica Bandini, Laura Bissolati*

Translation by *Camilla Marruganti*