

# UBIK

## Associazione Culturale

Via Rolle 80, 36100 Vicenza, Italy  
info@ubikteatro.com  
mobile it: +39 3479882954 / +39 3498029517  
mobile uk: +44 7906649218

Established in Venice in 2007, UBIK results from the collaboration between Francesca Sarah Toich, classically trained actress and writer awarded with the Lauro Dantesco prize as best interpreter of Dante Alighieri's verses, and Andrea Santini, digital media and sound artist. Their installations and performances are characterised by a theatrical quality and by a unique combination and dialogue between tradition and innovation.

UBIK's first production *Venusia* (2009) was a musical performance funded by Regione Veneto and based on the soundscape of Venice, where actor's gestures could control the movement and processing of live and prerecorded sound elements.

Since 2010 the team has increasingly focused on interactive, immersive and multimedia installation projects, often characterised by a theatrical quality, by a strong musical element and by a unique combination of tradition and innovation.

Examples include: *OSCILLA* (2011) an audiovisual installation that lets users explore harmonic structures and their visualisation via a scalable interactive interface; *QuadroFonia #1* (2013) a modular multichannel audio installation where spoken poetry is transformed into music; *IN VITRO* (2015) a holographic video mapping installation where human bodies and plants appear to be generated and dissolved within laboratory test tubes and *VOLUPTA* (2015) a series of stereoscopic videos where the human body is used as a moving and dynamic screen that transforms and deforms digital projections of classical paintings.

Andrea and Francesca's work has been shown at galleries, museums and a festivals internationally including: Kernel Festival and Salone del Mobile (Milan), Science Festival (Genoa), A+A Gallery (Venice), Music Tech Festival (Berlin), Tokyo Wonder Site (Tokyo), Victoria & Albert Museum, (London) and the Centre Pompidou/IRCAM (Paris).

In 2014 the Venice Arts Academy selected UBIK among the Italian 'best practice' representatives for the European project 'Artvision'.

In 2015 the duo has been commissioned a permanent large scale interactive installation for Veneto Region's 'Istituto Ville Venete' and presented their first solo exhibition (*nyx*) of digital artworks

Info and portfolio: [www.ubikteatro.com](http://www.ubikteatro.com)

## **Selected Exhibitions**

### **Solo Exhibitions**

2016 - 'Happy Nude Year' - Bodymapped projection photo series by Andrea Santini & Francesca Sarah Toich. Mirror, Vicenza. Curated by UBIK with Teresa Giffone.

2015 - 'NYX - Sogni di una notte digitale' artworks by Andrea Santini & Francesca Sarah Toich (UBIK). Palazzo Chiericati Vicenza, Curated by UBIK with Manuela Astore.

### **Collective Exhibitions**

2016 - NeuroArt, MLAC, Museo Laboratorio di Arte Contemporanea, Università la Sapienza, Roma. Curated by Manuela Enna.

2015 - Toolkit Festival, Officina delle Zattere, Venice. Curated by Martin Romeo.

2015 - Screening Festival - Art based Research, Immaginario Scientifico di Trieste. Curated by Martin Romeo.

2015 - Kinetica Museum - GRAVITY, London. The Hospital Club, Covent Garden, 24 Endell St. London WC2H 9HQ. Curated by: Dianne Harris, Tony Langford.

2015 - The Independent Artist Fair (TIAF) London, Rag Factory, Brick Lane. Curated by Wendy McMillian.

2015 - NeuroArt, ISRAA, Treviso. Curated by: Manuela Enna and Martin Romeo.

2015 - Percorso espositivo sulla civiltà delle ville venete: "Villa-Agricoltura", Villa Contarini, Piazzola sul Brenta, Padova. Curated by IRVV

2014 - Ghisa Art Fusion. Shed. Via Pasubio 99, Schio, Vicenza. Curated by: Petra Cason.

2014 - Musitech Festival, Centre Pompidou, Paris. Curated by: Andrew Dubber, Michela Magas.

2014 - Musitech Festival, Factory, Berlin. Curated by: Andrew Dubber, Michela Magas.

2014 - NeuroArt, Festival della Scienza, Palazzo Commenda di Pré, Genova. Curated by: Martin Romeo, Manuela Enna.

2014 - MusicAlly Digital Music Awards, The Camden Centre, London, curated by: Geoff Howse, Paul Brindley.

2014 - Art Verona 2014, Bet on Utopia, Independents5/Art Verona. Curated by: Fagarazzi-Zuffellato.

2014 - Musitech Festival, LSO St.Luke, London. Curated by: Andrew Dubber, Michela Magas.

2014 - London Music Hackspace @ The Yard theatre - London (Hackney Wick, E9 5EN). Curated by Tadeo Sendon

2014 - London Music Hackspace Digital design drop-in, Victoria & Albert Museum. London. Curated by: Irini Mirena Papadimitriou

2013 - Tokyo Experimental Festival vol.8 - Tokyo wonder Site, Tokyo, Japan. Curated by: Ryuichiro Mori.

2013 - ThisAge, Galleria 'A plus A' - San Marco 3073, Venezia. Curated by: Aurora Fonda.

## **Artists BIOS**

### ***Andrea Santini***

Andrea Santini (1978) - sound and digital-media artist, lecturer and researcher in the fields of experimental music, sound art, new media and audiovisual interaction. He has completed a PhD on spatial audio and live electronics at the Sonic Arts Research Centre (Belfast) focusing on the spatial music of Venetian composer Luigi Nono. Since late 2011 he works as a lecturer and academic coordinator for SAE Institute (Creative Media College). Andrea is co-founder and technical director of creative research group UBIK (Venice). His work has been presented at international galleries and festival such as Kernel Festival (Milan, IT, July 2011), Nem Summit (Turin, IT 2011), Toolkit Festival (Venice, IT 2012), Sonorities Festival of Contemporary Music (Belfast, UK 2012), Salone del Mobile (Milan, IT 2013), Tokyo Experimental Festival (Tokyo, JP, 2013), Earzoom Festival (Ljubljana, SI, 2013), Victoria & Albert Museum (London, UK, 2014). Samples can be viewed on the website [www.ubikteatro.com](http://www.ubikteatro.com)

#### Education

2012 PhD Music And Sonic Arts (Sonic Arts Research Centre, Queen's University Belfast). Dissertation project: The spatial performance practice of Luigi Nono.

2008 MA Sonic Arts (Middlesex university, London). Research topics: spatial audio and interactive/gestural interfaces for performance and composition.

2004 BA Recording Arts (Middlesex University London/SAE Institute)

2003 Diploma Sound Engineering (SAE International Technology College, London)

### ***Francesca Sarah Toich***

Francesca Sarah Toich (1980) is an actress and writer based in Italy.

In 2005 and again in 2008 (ad honorem) she has received the prestigious Lauro Dantesco, the prize awarded by the Ravenna Center for Cultural Relations to the best young interpreter of the Divine Comedy in Italy. She regularly performs at various cultural events held in honour of Dante Alighieri and his work. Lately she has lent her voice for a digital version of the Divine Comedy (app) for mobile devices (La Divina Commedia - Dathlon, 2012). She has written theatre plays, short stories and has published two fantasy novels 'L'Ombra' in 2010' and La Notte Celtica' in 2011. Francesca combines her literary activities with a range of theatrical performances and workshops, and is particularly well known for her vocal research. She is the founding director of creative research group UBIK ([www.ubikteatro.com](http://www.ubikteatro.com)), with which she has toured in Italy and in the UK.

#### Education

2004-2009. Istituto della Commedia dell'Arte Internazionale (ICAI), Venice. 5-year professional theatrical development encompassing a variety of disciplines, tutors and professionals

2008. MA in 'Performance and multimedia production studies' awarded by Ca' Foscari University, Venice. Thesis: a survey on the present state of the Commedia dell'Arte tradition in the Veneto region.

2005. BA in 'Preservation of cultural heritage and wealth' awarded by Ca' Foscari University, Venice