

Fine Arts Unternehmen is a brand established to promote contemporary artists, as well as events through a highly qualitative series of fine art publishing.

## **Scacciapensieri**

**by Oppy De Bernardo**

### **Title**

*Scacciapensieri*

### **Project by**

Fine Arts Unternehmen  
Museo Cantonale di Lugano

### **Curated by**

Elio Schenini

### **Text**

Elio Schenini

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Sidi Vanetti

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## Scacciapensieri by Oppy De Bernardo

With the present project, FAU literally invites readers to a journey through the ironic, bewildering mind of the young Swiss artist Oppy De Bernardo. A glossy white box subtly reminding us of some vague yet unmistakable iconography, discloses a black and gold book that, besides being an articulate recapitulation of the artist's imagery, mirrors the very same experience which spectators undergo by entering "Scacciapensieri", the site-specific installation that De Bernardo has created for the Ala Est of the Museo Cantonale di Lugano.

"*Scacciapensieri* is a work that compels us to complete a journey [...] intended to push us to that boundary zone between life and death [...] The visitor is catapulted into the unreal dimension of an architecture dominated by a pervasive whiteness that totally transforms the usual articulation of the space [...] an alienating environment devoid of all spatial referents, provoking the sensation that we are detaching from earthly reality and entering a dimension of pure light, in keeping with the accounts of those who have had near-death experiences.

At the end of this journey which seems to have led us into an ultra-terrestrial dimension of pure light, we find [...] the insoluble bond that joins life to death, despite their irreducible discongruity. Indeed, it is only from the death of the individual that humanity and the 'preciously precarious' of which Borges speaks can come to life."

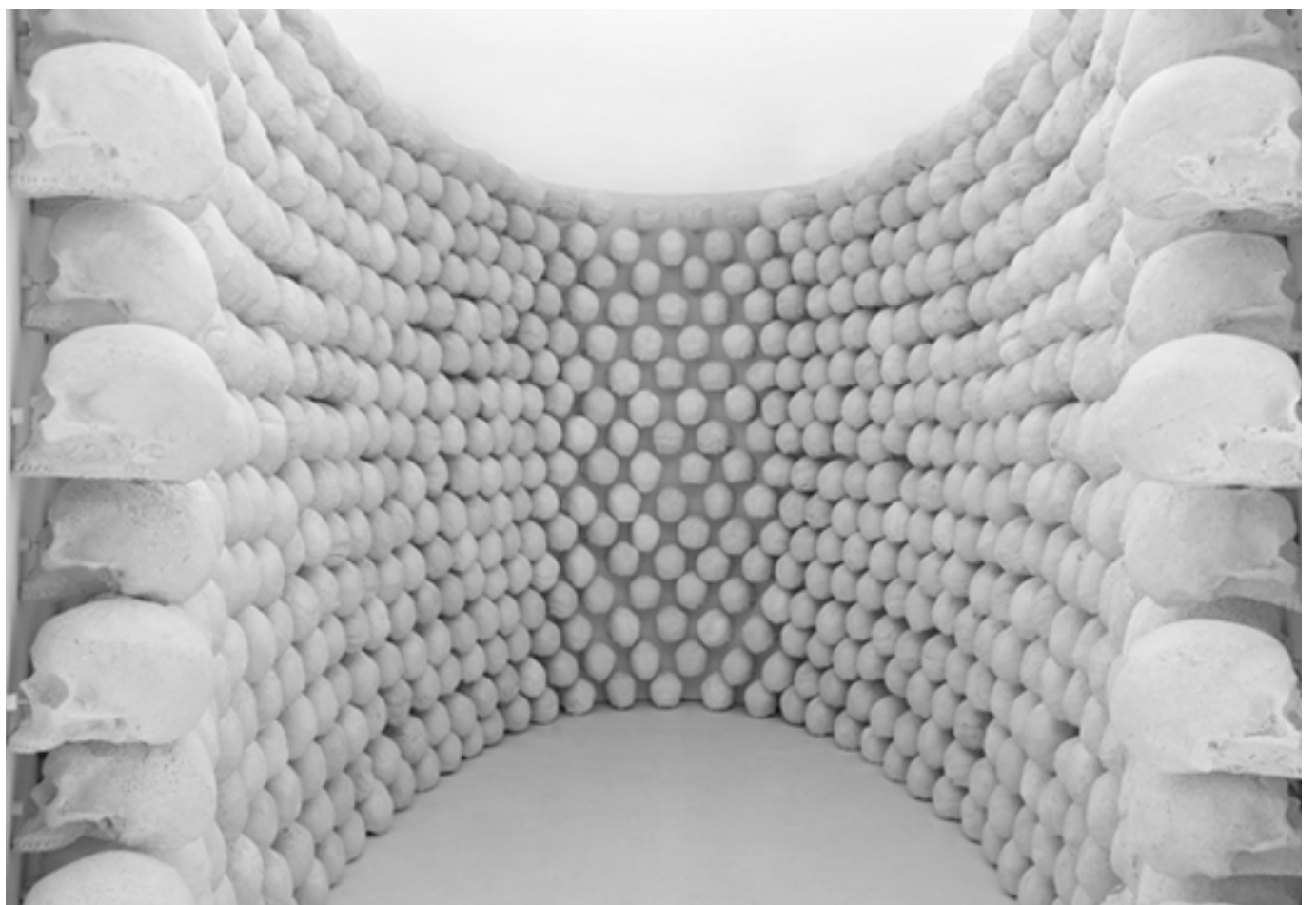
Excerpt from the text,  
by Elio Schenini.



### Press corner

- "Scacciapensieri" review, Flash Art 2012







## Oppy De Bernardo

Oppy De Bernardo, born in 1970 in Locarno (CH), where he lives and works.

Amongst his solo shows and site-specific installations, we may recall "Tu con quest'acque a rinfrescarlo impara" at I Sotterranei dell'Arte (Antico Monastero delle Agostiniane, Monte Carasso, CH, 2011), "Radix" at Frohe Ussicht (Samstagern, CH, 2011), "Le invasioni barbariche" at La Rada (Locarno, CH, 2008), "Campione N. 1" at Cinema di Rialto (Locarno, 2007).

His works has been featured in collective exhibitions, amongst which "Little Constellation" at Careof DOCVA (La Fabbrica del Vapore, Milan, 2011), "Che c'è di nuovo? Uno sguardo sulla scena artistica emergente in Ticino" at Museo Cantonale d'Arte (Lugano, 2010), Swiss Art Awards (Basel, 2010), International Festival of Intermedia Art Maribor (Maribor, Slovenia, 2010).

In 2008, he won, with his work "Relax", the Epson-FAR Prize organized by the Antonio Ratti Foundation in Como.



# **fine arts unternehmen**

Fine Arts Unternehmen AG is a swiss based company established in 1999 with the aim of promoting cultural exchange and knowledge in the field of visual arts, by organising and producing exhibitions and events, both in private and public spaces.

Projects have been realized with artists like Piero Golia, Knut Asdam, Rossella Biscotti, Johannes Maier, Moser & Schwinger, Pierre Coulibeuf, Daria Martin and many others. Many of the projects produced by the company found their way into big international exhibition venues, major film festivals and institutional shows.

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