

## Festival Metamorphosis

<p><b>Goal (general objective)</b>  <i>Identify the broader objective to which this project contributes</i></p>	<p>The Metamorphosis Festival - founded in 2021 and organized in the spaces of the University Botanical Garden (SIMUA) - constitutes one of the main moments of meeting and creative collaboration between university research, theatrical, musical and dance performance practices, and the Sicilian territory. The collaboration between Metamorphosis and Forthem opens this experience to the students of the universities participating in the project, offering them the opportunity to participate in the artistic initiatives and follow the seminars that will take place during the Festival. Colleagues from the various partner universities will be welcome to organize and participate in the seminars.</p>
<p><b>Purpose (specific Objectives)</b>  <i>List the specific objectives that projects shall achieve</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Experimentation and dissemination of new performance practices;</li> <li>2) Reflection on the Sicilian cultural heritage and experimentation with forms of sharing artistic languages suitable for an international audience;</li> <li>3) Meeting and cooperation between different cultural traditions and strengthening of integration practices.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Results (deliverables)</b>  <i>List the deliverables (grouped in work packages) that the project is committed to produce.</i></p>	<p>Work Package 1: Preparatory Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of suitable topics for seminars (scholars).</li> <li>• Exploration of the museum and citizen spaces of the Festival (students and scholars).</li> </ul> <p>Work Package 2: Activities during the Festival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theoretical seminars and lectures to provide context and knowledge.</li> <li>• Practical workshops led by artists.</li> <li>• Documentation of artistic activities and interaction with the artists involved in the Festival.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activities:</b>  <i>List the key activities to be carried out (grouped in work packages) and in what sequence, in order to produce the expected results.</i></p>	<p>Workshops and seminars; Theatrical, musical and dance performances.</p>
<p><b>Impacts:</b>  <i>List the impacts the project will provide to the main beneficiaries, to the organisations involved after the end of the project.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening interactions between research groups of partner universities; interaction between students of partner universities; lived experiences of the cultural realities and initiatives of the Sicilian territory; collaboration with the performance groups involved in the Festival;</li> <li>• Dissemination at European level of the activities of the Festival and partner companies;</li> <li>• Establishment of a platform for ongoing collaboration and exchange between educational institutions.</li> </ul>

<i>Please also highlight the impact on stakeholders and the educational sector(s) in general (beyond the partnership)</i>	
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**Other information**

Main contact person:

Supporting contact person:

Scientific event committee:

Place and date of the event: Palermo, juin/july 2024

## Winter School: Artscapes and Footsteps: Heritage, Multiculturalism and Aesthetic Experience in Palermo

<p><b>Goal (general objective)</b> <i>Identify the broader objective to which this project contributes</i></p>	<p>The main goal of this project is to provide students with an engaging educational experience by exploring Palermo's urban space and cultural heritage. The project aims to offer a stimulating, educative proposal to use art as a learning method and cultural enrichment by integrating theoretical lectures and practical activities.</p>
<p><b>Purpose (specific Objectives)</b> <i>List the specific objectives that projects shall achieve</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exploring the urban space of Palermo and its rich cultural heritage, both material and immaterial, in collaboration with local or international artists who use walking as a form of synaesthetic expression of the body in movement.</li> <li>2. Deepen the understanding of Palermo's historical, cultural, and artistic aspects, comparing its peculiarities with those of the participants' cities.</li> <li>3. Enhancing the contribution of migrant artists to the development of artistic traditions, emphasising how these have found integration and acceptance in the local culture.</li> <li>4. Developing a critical and comparative approach to Palermo's material and non-material culture, comparing it with the students' cities of origin through group activities.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Results (deliverables)</b> <i>List the deliverables (grouped in work packages) that the project is committed to produce.</i></p>	<p>Work Package 1: Preparatory Phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive research materials for students to understand Palermo's cultural context.</li> <li>• Guidance for individual and group reflections on cultural and artistic exploration.</li> </ul> <p>Work Package 2: Winter School Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theoretical seminars and lectures to provide context and knowledge.</li> <li>• Practical workshops and guided walks led by artists that foster hands-on learning experiences.</li> <li>• Documentation of students' reflections and creative outputs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Activities:</b> <i>List the key activities to be carried out (grouped in work packages) and in what sequence, in order to produce the expected results.</i></p>	<p>The week-long Winter School includes both theoretical and practical activities. Seminars and lectures, led by lecturers from the University of Palermo or other Forthem locations, will explore topics related to the training objectives. Practical activities will include workshops and guided walks in the city led by local or international artists specialising in urban walking.</p>

<p><b>Impacts:</b>  <i>List the impacts the project will provide to the main beneficiaries, to the organisations involved after the end of the project.  Please also highlight the impact on stakeholders and the educational sector(s) in general (beyond the partnership</i></p>	<p>This proposal aims to create a transformative learning experience by focusing on students as the primary beneficiaries, fostering cultural sensitivity, artistic expression, and academic growth. In particular, this proposal hopes to have significant spin-offs in the following areas:</p> <p>Cultural Awareness and Sensitivity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased understanding of diverse cultural expressions through bodily engagement.</li> <li>• Development of synaesthetic skills as a form of artistic expression.</li> </ul> <p>Enhanced Academic Perspective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exposure to international collaborations, broadening academic horizons.</li> </ul> <p>Educational Sector Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstration of innovative ways to integrate cultural exploration and artistic expression into academic curricula.</li> <li>• Development of a model for future interdisciplinary educational initiatives.</li> </ul> <p>Globalized Learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthened internationalization of education through cross-cultural experiences.</li> <li>• Establishment of a platform for ongoing collaboration and exchange between educational institutions.</li> </ul>
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**Other information**

Main contact person:

Supporting contact person:

Scientific event committee:

Place and date of the event: Palermo, October 2025

## Workshop: Arts in the Street. Performance and Urban Walking in Palermo

<p><b>Goal (general objective)</b> <i>Identify the broader objective to which this project contributes</i></p>	<p>The main objective of this workshop is to show a small group of students (from our university and Forthem alliance partner universities) how we can use artistic practices to explore urban space, promoting an experience that actively involves the bodily dimension and is both culturally enriching and ecologically sustainable.</p>
<p><b>Purpose (specific Objectives)</b> <i>List the specific objectives that projects shall achieve</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understanding art in the streets of Palermo (street art, performance, circus, festivals, etc.): analysing the historical and cultural context of the city to understand its influence on urban artistic production; exploring the characteristics of artistic performance in public space; experimenting with walking as an art form:</li> <li>2. Exploring the concept of urban walking as an expressive medium in performance art: using the body as an instrument of artistic creation and understanding the artistic value of gesture and expressive movement.</li> <li>3. Integrating cultural history into performance: reflecting on how we can reinterpret the city's history through art to engage the community.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Results (deliverables)</b> <i>List the deliverables (grouped in work packages) that the project is committed to produce.</i></p>	<p>Work package 1: Preparatory phase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elaboration of the complete research material to be provided to the students to understand the cultural context of Palermo.</li> <li>- Guide for individual and group reflections on cultural and artistic exploration.</li> </ul> <p>Work Package 2: Workshop Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of hands-on workshops and artist-led walks to foster practical learning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• - Final discussion phase to collect the students' reflections and creative results.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Activities:</b> <i>List the key activities to be carried out (grouped in work packages) and in what sequence, in order to produce the expected results.</i></p>	<p>The workshop, organised over one or two days, will include primarily practical activities interspersed with brief discussion and theoretical reflection. The latter will be dedicated to the initial and final phases of the workshop, in which speakers (lecturers from the University of Palermo or other venues of the Forthem partnership) will provide brief theoretical insights to lay the foundations for the practical section of the workshop. Practical activities will include seminars and guided city walks led by local or international artists specialising in urban walking.</p>

<p><b>Impacts:</b>  <i>List the impacts the project will provide to the main beneficiaries, to the organisations involved after the end of the project.  Please also highlight the impact on stakeholders and the educational sector(s) in general (beyond the partnership</i></p>	<p>The primary beneficiaries of this workshop are the students, on whom the workshop will have a "boomerang effect". The students will come from very different urban contexts that the workshop proposes to put into communication, exercising an active confrontation starting from a concrete case study (that of the urban context of Palermo's historic centre). The workshop, therefore, aims to create a transformative learning experience that promotes cultural awareness, artistic expression and the academic growth of students with significant effects in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural awareness and sensitivity: the workshop aims to foster an understanding of the different artistic and architectural expressions of the various cultures that have succeeded one another in the Palermo area, demonstrating how comparing different cultural dimensions is an enrichment rather than a disadvantage. At the same time, reference to the body dimension will be central and synaesthetic skills will be promoted as a form of artistic expression.</li> <li>• Improved academic perspective: the workshop will impact students' academic careers by promoting international collaborations and interdisciplinarity and broadening individuals' intellectual horizons.</li> </ul>
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**Other information**

Main contact person:

Supporting contact person:

Scientific event committee:

Place and date of the event: Palermo, October 2025

**Teaching mobility proposal: Beyond the Creative City. Arts & culture as an epistemological shift in reading and regenerate urban and social space**

<p><b>Objective (general objective)</b>  <i>Identify the broader goal to which this project contributes</i></p>	<p>To promote cross-cultural exchange; to enhance academic collaboration and strength academic partnerships encouraging collaborative research; to expand global perspectives by exposing participants to different cultures, and research methodologies; to encourage interdisciplinary learning.</p>
<p><b>Aims (specific objectives)</b>  <i>List the specific objectives to be achieved by the projects</i></p>	<p>To provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the "creative city" model and its historical development in urban planning and policy; to critically analyze the strengths and weaknesses of culture-led urban regeneration policies and projects through the examination of real-world case studies; to explore the complexities of the relationships between cultural policies, urban transformations, socio-economic development, and community engagement, emphasizing the socio-spatial impacts; to foster critical thinking and discussion among participants regarding the role of culture in shaping contemporary cities and communities; to introduce participants to the concept of using artistic and cultural approaches in urban research and design; to demonstrate the potential of artistic and cultural processes in reimagining and revitalizing marginalized urban areas; to promote interdisciplinary thinking and collaboration by showing how art can integrate with traditional urban research methods.</p>
<p><b>Results (deliverables)</b>  <i>List the deliverables (grouped into work packages) that the project is committed to producing.</i></p>	<p>Learning Outcomes_ By the end of this seminar and workshop, participants should be able to: Recognize the potential of artistic and cultural processes in urban research and design; Apply creative research methods to analyze and understand marginalized urban areas; Create and implement art-based research projects that contribute to reappropriation and transformation of urban spaces; Discuss the integration of artistic methods in academic and professional urban research.</p>
<p><b>Activity:</b>  <i>List the main activities to be carried out (grouped into work packages) and in what sequence, in order to produce the expected results.</i></p>	<p><b>Content of the teaching programme:</b>          Title_ Beyond the Creative City. Arts &amp; culture as an epistemological shift in reading and regenerate urban and social space          Hours_ 10</p>

1st seminar

Culture and Urban Development Through a Critical Review of Policies and Practices.

The theme of culture-led urban regeneration has been widely discussed and recognized as an important element of urban renewal and development. However, the instrumental role of culture in urban regeneration has revealed various controversies and contradictions. Within a critical theoretical framework that questions the "creative city" model and based on two research experiences, in Palermo and Boston, the seminar aims to critically investigate plans, projects, and processes of culture-led urban regeneration to grasp - at different scales and in different contexts - the dynamics and relationships between cultural and urban policies, socially engaged practices, urban transformations, socio-economic and community development, and their related socio-spatial impacts.

Hours: 4

2nd seminar + workshop

Artistic Experimentation and Cultural Stirrings Between Territorial and Disciplinary Margins. Creative Methods for Urban Research.

The seminar aims to explore the potential that artistic and sensitive languages, cultural projects, and creative narratives can offer to the sciences of the city and the territory. With particular attention to areas considered marginal, artistic and cultural processes and projects will be investigated with the aim of analyzing how art, as a research methodology and as a design tool, can integrate urban research, generating processes of reappropriation and transformation, and establishing itself as a device for the production of territory. The lesson will be enriched with a brief workshop about the use of art-based methods for urban research.

Hours: 6

Audience and Participants\_ graduate students, doctoral students, researchers  
(Master or equivalent second cycle; Doctoral or equivalent third cycle)

Resources and Materials\_ Readings, Case Studies, Visual Materials will be used to illustrate culture-based socio-spatial transformations and impacts.

Assessment and Evaluation\_ No assignments, but collaborative discussions and personal experience knowledge are deeply appreciated.



<p><b>Impacts:</b>  <i>List the impacts that the project will provide to the main beneficiaries, to the organizations involved after the end of the project.</i>  <i>It also highlights the impact on stakeholders and the wider education sector (beyond the partnership)</i></p>	<p>Expected outcomes of teaching staff members in the mobility program could be: enhanced teaching skills learning different teaching methods and approaches used at the partner institution; increase research collaboration and cross-cultural competences; encourage – through collaborative projects - interdisciplinary learning and critical thinking, which is essential for addressing complex, real-world challenges.</p>

**Other information**

Main contact person: Stefania Crobe

Event location and date: Host University of Forthem Alliance, Spring 2024