

**Title :** A Great Circle

**Media :** Video/Performance

**Year :** 2003/2004

**Selected Exhibitions :** 2006 "Netmage" curated by Xing, Palazzo Re Enzo , Bologna; 2005 "A Great Circle" curated by Andrea Lissoni , Spazio Lima , Milano; "A Great Circle", Galleria Monitor, Roma; "Deficit!" curated by Xing, Raum, Bologna; "A Great Circle", Fabrica, Treviso.

When I first conceived this project, a video based on three different performances, my main interest was to develop a new and personal way of documenting my performances.

In each of the performance I've tried out different ways of filming and relating with the space and the audience.

This project started with a fascination towards moles, creatures that create a link between the underground world and the superficial one.

While working on the project I have decided that this would have become a way for me to build a bridge to connect my experience as a singer of an underground/punk band and the world of visual art.

I have involved in two of the performances With Love, the band I sing for since ten years, and made with them the soundtrack of the video.

"Buio Primario", solo show, June 2003, Galleria Biagiotti, Firenze.

I've installed a 15 meters long wooden tunnel inside the gallery space. I lived inside this tunnel (50cm high x 50cm wide) in total darkness for a week. The duration of the performance was not planned before as I didn't want to feel as in a cage. I filmed this performance only when it was over. I entered the tunnel another time for several hours trying to remember what had happened inside there before and acting it in front of an infrared camera.

"Glitter Secondario", solo show, September 2003, Tent CBK, Rotterdam.

The performance was staged inside a large installation made of four ambients linked by sound. Before entering the space the audience had to sign a contract in which they declared that whatever would have happened during the performance they wouldn't have suit either me or the museum. Then they had to walk through a long, dark and narrow wooden tunnel which brought them to a large room in which I was performing with four microphones. The microphones caught the sound I was producing as well as the one of the whole room. These sounds were live manipulated by a band that was in another room and then finally played through a huge amount of speakers that found space in between these ambients.

This performance was filmed live by hidden cameramen. Around the whole installation I've built some corridors that only the cameramen had access to. Through little holes on the walls of the installations, that only they could open, they managed to film the performance without having been noticed by the audience.

"Nodo Terziario", group show, December 2003, Galleria d'Arte Contemporanea, Monfalcone.

When the audience arrived at the museum the director drove them where the performance was about to take place, a huge natural hole in the middle of the forest near by. The performance consisted in a live concert made with sounds recorded during "Buio Primario" and "Glitter Secondario" mixed with rumors recorded in the hole few days before. For this performance I was wearing a long cape made with hundred t-shirts (bands, fashion designers, record label etc) I had collected over the past ten years that I torn apart and then sawn together. The performance was filmed both live and by acting it afterwards using both the videocameras used to film the previous two performances.

Each time I was invited to present the video I've created a new performance that related to some aspects of the video.

**A Great Circle #0** , Fabrica, Treviso. The video was screened inside the Fabrica's cinema while I was singing live over the soundtrack together with the Italian noise musician Maledetto.

**A Great Circle #1** , Radio Citta' del Capo, Bologna. Two DJs at the local radio watched the video and tried to describe it to the audience while broadcasting the soundtrack of the video.

**A Great Circle #2** , Raum, Bologna. The video was projected in a local cinema while I was driving around the streets of the city with a car with speakers installed on the roof. If the police or somebody would have stopped the performance the projection would have been stopped as well.

**A Great Circle #3** , Time In Jazz, Berchidda. The festival is an interesting mix of jazz concerts and art created by the popular Italian jazz player Paolo Fresu. The video was projected on the main stage while me at the voice and Paolo Fresu were providing a live improvised soundtrack.

**A Great Circle #4** , Galleria Monitor, Roma. An appointment was given to the audience in front of the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna. A spacious tourist bus stopped in front of the Galleria and the driver invited everybody in. When everybody took place inside, the bus started to drive around the city. In the meantime my video was screened on the TV of the bus and I was singing live using the tourist guide's microphone of the bus that I had previously adapted to my needs (longer cable and sound effects).

**A Great Circle #5** , Spazio Lima, Milano. For this presentation I have involved my band, With Love, as this was also the first time that "A Great Circle" was available as CD/DVD for the public.

The space that hosted this exhibition has three different floors. I've arranged my performance so that different actions, done by different members but coordinated by me, would take place at the same time on the different floors to then finish all together and become a With Love's concert.

**A Great Circle #6** , Palazzo Re Enzo, Bologna. The video was presented as my contribution for the Netmage Festival. I've decided to install my video in the same room where an audio piece by Arto Lindsay was installed. The video was screened without its original soundtrack (installed somewhere else in the palace) and was "using" during the day the Arto Lindsay's installation.

The installation consisted in a very large screen made with natural wood and a stage (the stage was removed from a local youth squat) on which every night I have invited a different band to play.

Each band could have provided the music they would prefer but they had all been notified before that they had to use a drumset that was part of my installation. The bass drum was also holding the videoprojector so that when the drummer would use it the images would start to shake.

"A Great Circle" will be released on CD/DVD by the American record label Golden Standard Laboratories ([www.goldstandardlabs.com](http://www.goldstandardlabs.com)) owned and founded by Omar Rodriguez of the band The Mars Volta.

A Great Circle was sponsored by Fabrica and the Rotterdam Festival.

