



AGGLOMERATI IDENTITY

opening

Thursday 20 July 2023, 6.30PM

with **Francesco Casarotto**, stylist and designer

on view

from Friday 21 to Sunday 23 July 2023, from 11.30am to 7.30pm

Fondazione Sozzani

via Enrico Tazzoli 3, Milano

book your guided tour

Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 from 5 to 6pm

mailing@fondazioneozzani.org

Fondazione Sozzani presents **AGGLOMERATI. IDENTITY**, a project that starts a dialogue between a selection of handmade masks by the designer **Francesco Casarotto**, who created **Agglomerati**, and the archive collection of **Fondazione Sozzani** and the **Franca Fund**. Starting an experimental conversation on the concept of identity, then linked to circularity and sustainability, Casarotto confronts iconic clothes by important fashion designers present in the archive collection, including Azzedine Alaïa, Alexander McQueen, John Galiano. Martin Margiela, Rei Kawakubo (Comme des Garçons) and many others.

"Fondazione Sozzani has the objective to support any form of creativity that has a vision and clear message of how to be more responsible. Francesco's work is the result of a personal reflection on life clashing it with his passion for fashion"
Sara Sozzani Maino, creative director Fondazione Sozzani

Agglomerating and decorating are the focus of Casarotto's creative process, who gives shape to entities such as Fear, Restlessness, Desire, Doubt, Vanity with the psychotherapist Dr. Nadia Taverna. *Agglomerati* was in fact born from an introspective investigation in search of the characters that animate the mind and who are sub-personalities, or "agglomerates" of emotions, thoughts, beliefs, images, sensations that are formed in interaction with the environment and emerge automatically and beyond our awareness from the unconscious, to request satisfaction of a need or to protect against real or imagined suffering. Casarotto guides visitor in the discovery of his hidden personalities.

Francesco Casarotto was born in 1986 in Motta di Livenza, Treviso, and obtained a scientific high school diploma and a three-year degree in Fashion Design at the IUAV University of Venice. Initially he approaches the curatorship of various international fashion exhibitions, for which he assists the great curators Maria Luisa Frisa and Judith Clark. After moving to Milan he works for newspapers and luxury brands and specializes in fashion styling. During his apprenticeship he assists and supports big international names, including Alexander McQueen and Stefano Pilati. He has been a freelance stylist since 2017 and works with international brands and magazines, providing image and product consultancy. In 2021, in response to the limitations imposed by the Covid-19, Casarotto begins to develop and create a hybrid personal project, which combines craftsmanship, fashion and art. **Agglomerati** creates imaginary characters full of personality, who come to life through handmade masks and costumes with a strong psychological content. This project of his leads the choreographer Philippe Krantz to call him to create the costumes for the show *Solitudo Sometimes* for the Teatro alla Scala.

The Franca Sozzani Fund for Preventive Genomics (The Franca Fund) was established by Francesco Carrozzini in honor of his mother in 2018 at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Carrozzini co-founded the initiative with the artist D.A. Wallach and the director of Genomes2People, Dr. Robert Green. Central to this research is a commitment to social justice and to ensuring that the future of medicine is equitable. The Fund has secured multimillion-dollar grants from the NIH to address racial and ethnic disparities in the field of genomics and is actively seeking philanthropic support to accelerate this critical work.

Fondazione Sozzani was established in 2016 by Carla Sozzani and is dedicated to the promotion of culture through photography, fashion, the fine arts, and applied arts. The Foundation has assumed the patronage of Galleria Carla Sozzani and continues all relevant public functions that the Gallery has supported since 1990. Since 2021 Sara Sozzani Maino has curated and coordinated projects dedicated to education, responsibility, and the next generation of creatives.

si ringrazia

**CANTINA
PUIATTI**

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