

Casa Carducci Contemporanea

Unlikely Monuments. In dialogue.

Merini / Carducci

Sonia Lenzi

curated by Eleonore Grassi

January 30 - March 29, 2026

Monuments dedicated to women who played a public role, whether known, unknown, or forgotten, are undoubtedly unlikely, as are the spaces in which they are placed. Starting with the series *Unlikely Monuments. Excerpt from the catalogue*, a dialogue is created between the places, the unlikely monuments, the women represented and the viewer. This process activates a mechanism for individual and collective imagination and memory, beginning with these subjects — the urban spaces, the unlikely monument— to rethink the modes of inclusion and exclusion from history and the related social differences and inequalities. The first “In Dialogue” is presented at Casa Carducci in Bologna. Symbolically opposite the house is the unlikely monument to Alda Merini, not far from Leonardo Bistolfi’s monument to Giosuè Carducci. Merini and Carducci: two antithetical personalities and poets, who lived in different eras, confront opposing ideas of the representation of public memory in the austere spaces of the last home of the poet of unified Italy.

Casa Carducci
piazza Carducci, 5 - Bologna

Opening Hours

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Friday, 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

ART CITY Bologna opening hours:

Thursday, February 5th, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Friday, February 6th, 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Saturday, February 7th, 10:00 am - 10:00 pm ART CITY WHITE NIGHT

Sunday, February 8th, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Tickets:

€ 5 (full price) €3 (reduced) - €2 (special reduced 19-25 years old)

Free admission for Card Cultura holders, with an ARTEFIERA ticket during ART CITY Bologna, and for everyone on Saturday, February 7th starting at 6:00 pm.

Due to the unique nature of the museum, visits are always accompanied and last a maximum of 30 minutes.

A group of visitors cannot exceed 10 people.

Public Program:

Friday, February 27th at 6:00 pm- Conversation with the artist and Federica Muzzarelli, in collaboration with FAF/Research Centre Fotografia Arte Femminismi / Thursday, March 12th at 6:00 pm - Costellazione parallela. Italian poetesses of the 20th century: a discussion about the book edited by Isabella Leardini / Saturday, March 21st at 5.30 pm: guided tour with the curator, in the presence of the artist.

Information: 051.2196520 / www.casacarducci.it

Promoted by:

Included in:



In collaboration with:



1A - study - executive desk.

Installation with the unlikely monument photo-text to Alda Merini and the artist's book *Unlikely Monuments. Excerpt from the catalogue*, from which the photo-text is taken.

1B - study - work desk.

Installation with photographs of some books by Alda Merini or related to the poet, from the collection of the Biblioteca italiana delle donne.

2 - Elvira Menicucci's bedroom.

Video installation of the fifty unlikely monuments located in the city of Bologna (artist's book + map).

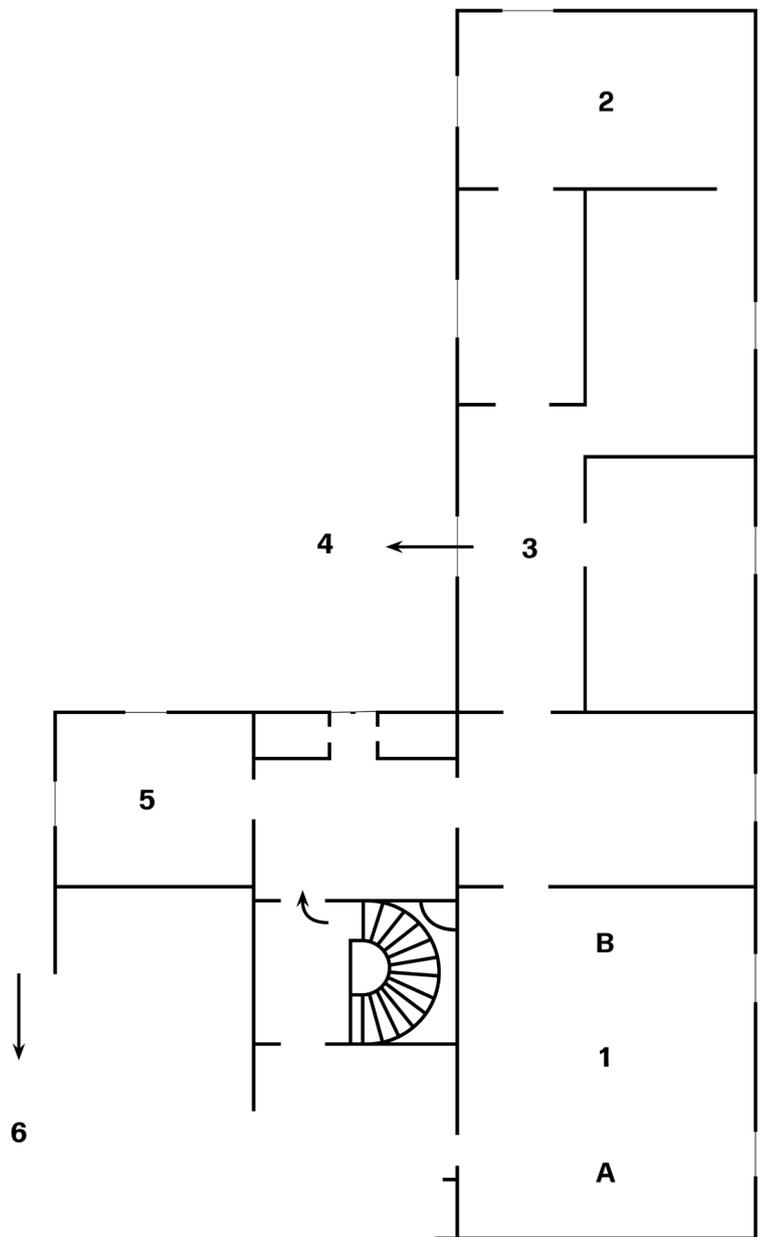
3 - view of the unlikely monument to Alda Merini.

Made of marble, with a stone base, 3.90 m high, installed in 2019.

4 - unlikely monument to Alda Merini.

5 - living room - the map of unlikely monuments in Bologna.

6 - Monument to Carducci by Leonardo Bistolfi.



2 - 5 - 12. Dorothea Lange, 13. Margherita Hack, 15. Maria Callas, 17. Simone De Beauvoir, 21. Irma Bandiera, 23. Anita Garibaldi, 27. Maria Montessori, 31. Aleksandra Kollontaj, 32. Francesca Morvillo, 34. Frances Thompson, 43. Hannah Arendt, 45. Billie Holiday, 51. Nilde Iotti, 53. Alda Merini, 54. Sibilla Aleramo, 63. Virginia Oldoini Veraris Contessa di Castiglione, 73. Joice Lussu, 81. Olga Prati, Maria Chindamo, 85. Laura Bassi, 91. Ersilia Caetani Lovatelli, 95. Virginia Woolf, 97. Rosa Parks, 101. Ruth Bader Ginzburg, 103. Rosa Luxemburg, 105. Rukhmabai, 107. Anna Kuliscioff, 109. Simone Weil, 112. Mabel Hampton, 114. Mathilde Fibiger, 116. Maria Sybilla Merian, 117. Alfonsina Strada, 119. Tina Anselmi, 122. Rosa Genoni, 125. Mary Beatty, 127. Olympe De Gouges, 130. Jane Austen, 132. Teresa Noce, 115. Lavinia Fontana, 138. Anna Atkins, 141. Frances Benjamin Johnston, 144. Maria Ilva Biolcati, Milva, 147. Emma Goldman, 151. Ursula Hirschmann, 153. Florence Nightingale, 155. Alba de Cespedes, 158. Wangari Muta Maathai, 160. Marie Curie, 162. Eleanor Roosevelt, 164. Rita Levi Montalcini.

Sonia Lenzi is a photographer and artist whose practice takes an interdisciplinary and research-based approach. Her work explores interconnected themes such as the sense of belonging, affinities, and the memory of people and places. She uses photography to recreate social relationships through signs, symbols, and gestures. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna, holds degrees in Philosophy and Law from the University of Bologna, and specializes in Administrative Sciences and Digital Archives. Her works are held in private and public collections in Italy and abroad. Among the main projects, publications, exhibitions and installations: "It Could Have Been Me/Avrei possa essere io" (2015), Bologna, Stazione Alta Velocità/MAMbo; "Lares Familiares", Museo Archeologico di Napoli (2016), IIC London (2019), "Ritratti dell'ultimo ritratto", Danilo Montanari Editore, Ravenna (2013), "Last Portrait", Tosca Press (2019) WAL - Special Collections and Archives at Goldsmiths, University of London (2019); "Take Me to Live with You. A Social Family Album", Blue Sky, Oregon Center for the Photographic Arts, Portland (2021) and Kehrer Verlag, Heidelberg; "Looking for My Daughters", Artphilein Editions, Lugano (2022); "A Place to Live", Focus Artphilein, Lugano (2023). "Unlikely Monuments. Excerpt from the catalogue", Tosca Press, 2024 / www.sonialenzi.com