

## Where have we come to?

We have come to you!

Marco Cavallo's first journey through Slovenia – a herald of deinstitutionalisation  
8–13 June 2025

### Programme sections of the journey

#### **Accademia Della Follia: Quelli di Basaglia... a 180° / The Basaglians**

Last year marked the centenary of Franco Basaglia's birth. He opened the doors of psychiatric hospitals in Italy and proved that madness could be treated in a different way. His efforts were translated into Law No. 180 on 13 May 1978, which made Italy a country without psychiatric hospitals. In this context, the Accademia della Follia was created to tell the stories and the turbulent history of this transformative era. The words of those who lived and still live this experience tell how astonishment, rebellion, loneliness, uncertainty, hope and longing for the forbidden possible became a path on which the impossible became possible. On stage, the actors interpret a mosaic of texts, articles, interviews, songs and authentic testimonies from Franco Basaglia, the 'Basaglians' and the 'madmen'. The texts are interwoven with music, dance and song and show new ways in which madness can return to our lives — where the power of reason and the violence of institutions are no longer reduced to illness alone. This is a story of those who participate and take a stand, of those who touch the earth, water the roses and change things.

The performance will be shown in Italian with subtitles in Slovenian.

[www.accademiadellafollia-claudiomisculin.it](http://www.accademiadellafollia-claudiomisculin.it)

#### **Basaglia cinema**

To mark the 100th anniversary of Franco Basaglia's birth, the European Capital of Culture will honour him with a year-long film retrospective that will be shown in various border regions of Slovenia and beyond. The selection includes rarely seen archive footage from his work as well as feature films dealing with mental health issues. Two special screenings will take place during Marco Cavallo's journey through Slovenia:

##### **Museum of Madness, Cmurek Castle – 11 June at 21:00**

*Cantico dei matti / The Song of the Mad (3')*

Text and music: Bianca Daponte and Claudio Misculin

A short film manifesto by the Accademia della Follia

*Trieste Racconta Basaglia / Trieste Meets Basaglia (Italy, 2012 – 54')*

Director: Erika Rossi

This documentary reconstructs the difficult journey of Franco Basaglia and his team as they transformed the psychiatric hospital in Trieste from his arrival in 1971 until his departure in 1979. How did the locals perceive Basaglia's work? Who witnessed the event when Marco Cavallo broke through the hospital gates?

**Gorizia, Basaglia Park – 13 June at 21:00**

*Cantico dei matti / The Song of the Mad (3')*

Text and music: Bianca Daponte and Claudio Misculin

A short film manifesto by the Accademia della Follia

*Noi siamo gli errori che permettono la vostra intelligenza / We are the mistakes that make your intelligence possible (2024 – 85')*

Director: Erika Rossi

Claudio Misculin, founder of the Accademia della Follia, was a mentor and leader of his "Matt actors" – "madmen by training and actors by profession" - for over four decades. He was convinced that theatre could contribute to overcoming illness and reducing stigmatisation.

**Writings and testimonies about institutional experiences**

During the events, various books on the subject of institutions and deinstitutionalisation will be available for viewing and purchase. These include the paperback edition of *\*Dom za duševno defektne Trate\** by Sonja Bezjak, which documents life and work in the former asylum at Cmurek Castle, as well as the emerging first Slovenian translation of Franco Basaglia's writings *\*No One Is Normal Up Close\** (to be published by /\*cf.) and other related works.