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### Foreword

The intention of this work is to reconstruct a human, artistic and cultural account of Francesco Perilli. The painter's words cited here are taken from the book by Domenico Guzzi and Francesco Perilli. Naturally, to revisit the life and experiences of an artist with the utmost fidelity would require a p

1949

**Nereto** (province of Teramo), Francesco Perilli, the son of Giulio Perilli and Ada Santoro

1965

**Nereto** - He frequents a "ceramics workshop"; as well as the studio of sculptor Giuseppe Augusto Murer, Francesco Casorati Pavarolo, Pietro Annigoni, Tommaso Paloscia, Giordana O

1972

**San Benedetto del Tronto** - "Galleria Arcara" - The Commune's Award "Premio Città di San Benedetto de

1972-1973

**Nereto** - Pro-Loco group exhibition

1973

**Alba Adriatica** - "Galleria Albauno". His has his first one man show. In the catalogue, a text by  
**Nereto** - "Galleria Gruppo 3". One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Eugenio Riccit  
**Foggia** - Galleria dell'Artista - "Premio Primavera" (he is awarded first prize).  
**Fermo** - Palazzo Comunale, Sala dei Ritratti. In the catalogue, a text by Giuseppe Ros  
**Siena** - Gallery "l'Antica Bottega di Siena". "XXIII Exhibition of Contemporary Art".  
**Rome** - "Il Camino" Art Gallery. "International Exhibition of Contemporary Art".  
**Paris** - L'Accademie Europeienne des Arts Cultural assembly.  
**Montesilvano** in Pescara - Serena Majestic Gallery. "I giovani e l'arte" (young artists award). H  
**Santa Margherita Ligure** Imperial Palace Hotel - The Gallery Dell'Arco organizes the city's exhibition "R  
**Torre del Greco** - "Galleria Il Buco". Exhibition of international art.  
**Genova** - Palazzo Doria. International award "Gran Premio Internazionale Genova-Vien  
**Vienna** - The Academy of Fine Arts. International award "Gran Premio Internazionale G  
**Nereto** - Galleria Gruppo 3. In the catalogue, a text by Aleardo Rubini.  
**Rome** - "Il Camino" Art Gallery. Exhibition of international art.  
*Bibliography* : "Il Tempo d'Abruzzo", May 20; "Il Mezzogiorno", September 12; "Il Mezzogiorno

1974

**Frascati** - "Galleria Altair". One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Salvatore Flavio R  
**Florence** - "Galleria Gonnelli". One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Tommaso Palo  
Museo Civico - International Art Exhibition. (One work remains on permanent display)  
**Soresina** - Cultural Center, Permanent Art Exhibit, City of Soresina. "Second Art Biennial  
*Bibliography* : "Il Tempo D'Abruzzo", May 2.

1977

**Nereto** - June 4, 1977. Francesco Perilli weds Gabriella Stintone. Francesco Perilli and Gabriella Stintone  
**Francavilla** - Palazzo Sirena. "Ribalta" (In the forefront) - "Four Abruzzi artists". Representing the region of Pescara  
*Bibliography* : "Oggi e Domani", June; "La Gazzetta di Pescara", July.

**1980**

**Nereto** - He illustrates Tito Rubini's book "Semi Dispersi" (Scattered Seeds), Unigraf Edizioni.

**1981**

**Nereto** - January. His son Daniele is born. Francesco, Daniele and Gabriella Perilli.  
**Vercelli** - Commune of Crescentino "VI World Exhibition of Contemporary Art" – he is awarded the "Golden Medal".

**1982**

**Nereto** - Palazzo Comunale, Sala Allende. One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Carlo Caracciolo.  
**New York** - Coliseum. He takes part in "Artexpo".  
*Bibliography* related to the New York Expo: "Il Progresso Italo Americano-Arte e spettacolo", Philadelphia April 25.

**1983**

**New York** - Coliseum. By invitation, he takes part in "Artexpo".  
Perilli recalls: "[...] In 1983 I had the opportunity to exhibit several of my works at the Coliseum.  
**La Spezia** - "3rd Biennial Art Exhibit of the City of La Spezia" (chosen artist).  
**Toronto** - "Columbus Center". One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Giordana Canali.  
**Toronto** - "Columbus Center". He gives a talk on the topic of "Multiculturalism".

In Perilli's words: "[...] I am convinced that interculturalism, or the intercultural process, is none other than the process of Pluriculture, in turn, is summed up in the coexistence among and by different cultures within a society. While Multiculturalism, as far as I'm concerned and as far as what I think it really is, is nothing more than the process of interculturalism. To that end, Multiculturalism, by analyzing the syncretistic derivation of the encounter between different cultures, Have I not been sufficiently clear?

I will try to explain myself better, saying that Multiculturalism is not only positive, but it is a means of survival. Hence it follows, evidently, that those cultural identities which are, in their innermost depths, in contact with each other. These are themes that I have been reflecting upon for almost twenty years and more. I have always been interested in the process of interculturalism.

*Bibliography related to the New York Expo - Arte e spettacolo*, Philadelphia April 25.

Rai Corporation of New York, interview by Gianfranco Norelli broadcast in the United States and Canada.

**1984**

**Toronto** - He meets numerous intellectuals and instructors from the University of Toronto. The National Congress of Italian Canadians commissions from him a "Multiculturalism Medal" to be awarded to the city of Toronto. Back in Italy, he works on numerous sketches for the "Symbol of Multiculturalism".

*Bibliography related to the "Symbol of Multiculturalism"*, November 16.

Interview on M.T.V. of Toronto by Angelo Persichilli. "Toronto Star", October 1, 1997.

**1985**

**Nereto** . He completes the Multiculturalism Monument.  
**Toronto** - The monument "Symbol of Multiculturalism" is inaugurated.

Perilli recalls: "[...] The idea evolved, naturally, through several designs that I was working on in Toronto. Remembering, today, what happened, it would seem that it was all linear and simple. In reality it was a long and difficult process. After many ups and downs, in fact, they actually came to the conclusion that they couldn't use it as a monument.

Which I did as soon as possible. The project, nevertheless, became lost in the ministerial cabinet. After some time, to my surprise, I received a phone call from a representative of the Italian Commission. It was that year in which the Congress of Italian Canadians decided to present Toronto with the Symbol of Multiculturalism. While the same Congress commissioned from me a medal, with my multiculturalist Symbol, to be awarded to the

**Vatican City** - Francesco Perilli was received to illustrate the multicultural project by monseigneur Perilli recalls: “[...] I have already indicated how enthusiastic I was when, in 1985, I returned to Rome. The Undersecretary of that Council received me, Monseigneur Raffaele Farina, and I showed him the Symbol. ‘When did you conceive the monument?’, he asked me. ‘At the end of the Seventies, beginning of the Eighties’. ‘Prophetic. This is the philosophy of the Pope’, he said. To round off our talk, some time later he asked me to write a text for the front page and p. 5. “Maclean’s”, July. RAI, TG2 1985

1986

**Nereto** - Perilli establishes the “Center for Studies on Multiculturalism”. He recalls: “[...] I was in Nereto. That same year and still on the crest of optimism, I, along with several intellectuals of Abruzzi, founded the Center. Obviously amid the skepticism of many [...]”.

1987

**San Benedetto del Tronto** - “Open Art”. One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Giorgio Ruggeri.

1988

**Roseto degli Abruzzi** - Municipal gallery. Group show. In the catalogue, a text by Claudia Ricci.

**Nereto**

- The monument “Symbol of Multiculturalism” is inaugurated. Perilli explains: “[...] Central to the entire compositional axis, the human figure symbolically represents the multiculturalist philosophy. Likewise, the eight meridians, held aloft by eight doves, also have a precise symbolic significance.”

**Pescara**

- He meets Federico Zeri. Perilli recounts: “[...] I had of course read several books by Zeri. There was another problem. I didn’t know how to contact him, or where he lived. By accident, one day I said I was a painter, and in a somewhat different tone Zeri said: ‘Contemporary art does not interest me’. Everyone was already out of the Theatre. A small crowd surrounded Zeri, who was waiting for his companion. ‘You are with the Professor?’, I asked. ‘Yes, why?’, he replied. ‘I would like to show him these paintings’. ‘Who are you? ... really interesting’, he said to me. Then, handing them back to me: ‘Call me in June’. ‘He’s not joking, is he?’, I asked his companion. ‘Zeri never jokes about these things; do as he tells you’. And today, for example, it is with gratitude that I recall how he intervened personally in support of the Symbol. I would say, from all evidence, that you have by now taken off toward national and, I predict, international recognition.”

**Alba Adriatica**. Perilli’s “Monumento ai caduti” (Monument to the Fallen) is inaugurated.

1991

**Bologna** - Bologna Francesco Perilli meets art critic Giorgio Ruggeri in his studio on Via

**Ascoli Piceno**

- Sala Mercatori, Palazzo Comunale. One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Giorgio Ruggeri.

**Ripatransone**

- Municipal Gallery of Modern Art. Group show of artists from the Abruzzo-Marche region.

**New York**

- Artexpo. Edigell Expostions, a division of Edgel Communications.

**Rome**

- The Symbol of Multiculturalism is chosen as the cover of the book: “La Società Multiculturale”.

*Bibliography*

: “La Repubblica-Il Venerdì”, May 17; “AdnKronos”, May 28; “Il Centro”, October 1991

1992

**Pratola Peligna** Palazzo Comunale. “Arte Abruzzo”.

**Nereto**

- He organizes the Conference "Problemi Multiculturali tra le due Europe" (Multi

**1993**

**Rome**

- "Studio S" Contemporary Art. "L'orrore del vuoto" (The Horror of the Void), one

**1994**

**Parma**

- He meets Arturo Carlo Quintavalle.

**Alexandria**

, Egypt. Musèe des Beaux-Arts of Alexandria. "XIII Biennial of Alexandria" - Pou

**93-94**

**Sulmona**

- Palazzo dell'Annunziata. He is invited to the "Sulmona Awards". (Awarded the

**Cairo**

- "Akhenaton Centre of the Arts". One man show "Vernincisioni" (painted engrav

**Nereto**

- Perilli's "Monumento a Ferdinando Ranalli" (Monument to Ferdinando Ranalli)

**1995**

**Bologna**

. "Galleria Ariete". One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Domenico Guzzi.

**Rome**

- "Studio S" Contemporary Art. Invited to the exhibition "Opera Ultima" (Recent

**Dusseldorf**

- Internationaler Justmarkt. "Art Multiple".

**Cologne**

- Kolon Messe. "International Art Exhibition".

*Bibliography*

: "La Repubblica Giorno & Notte", Bologna, April 6; "Il Resto del Carlino", April 6

**1996**

**Bologna**

- "Galleria Ariete". "Cromatica" (Chromatics). Group show.

**Dusseldorf**

- Internationaler Justmarkt. "Art Multiple".

**Atlanta**

- "Archer Locke Gallery" - Group exhibition.

**New York**

- "New York's Outsider Fair". With the "Archer Locke Gallery" of Atlanta.

**Atlanta**

- One of his paintings is housed permanently in the exhibition space of the "Coo

**1997**

**Naples**

- "Galleria Il Diagramma 32". One man show. "Vertigini e memorie" (Giddiness a

**Geneva**

- "Galleria d'Arte". "L'Arcade Chausse coqs".

**Rome**

- He illustrates a book by Sante De Pasquale, "Specularità Inversa" (Inverse Sp

**Sarajevo**

. The monument "Symbol of Multiculturalism" is inaugurated.

Perilli recounts: "[...] In 1997 the Abruzzo Region – and I must emphasize the humanity of all its

You are equally well aware, however, that Islamic culture does not allow anthropomorphic repre

Well. These were the reasons that led a fringe group of fundamentalists to protest vividly and z

To begin with that group symbolically covered the sculpture's genitals; it then threatened to tear i

*Bibliography related to the Symbol of Multiculturalism*: "Oslobodenje - Putredjerjak", July 14; "Dnevni Avaz" "Sarajevski Kanton", July 14; "Oslobodenje-Utorak- Sarajevska Hronika", July 15. *Bibliography*: "Il Tempo d'Abruzzo", May 4;

**1998**

- *Bibliography related to the Symbols of Angels/Turks*: "D

*Bibliography*

: "Il Messaggero d'Abruzzo", September 27; "Il Messaggero", September 27; "Il

**1999**

**Rome**

- "Studio S" Contemporary Art. One man show. "Kouros Kore". In the catalogue

**Offida**

- Museo Civico. One man show. In the catalogue, a text by Plinio Perilli.



Mr. Nemer Hammad, Head of the Palestinian Delegation in Italy, wanted to meet with me to learn more about the project. During the aforementioned meeting we studied the copious documentation related to the installation. We therefore believe that, if the same support were to come from Israeli authorities as well, such a project would be feasible. I have been advised, among other things, to address my request directly to the Mayor of Jerusalem.

*Bibliography related to the Symbol of Multiculturalism*: The City Public Art. Cover Story", June 26 ; South Africa). The "Symbol of Multiculturalism" is inaugurated in December. Perilli says: «[...] East London, the city where Nelson Mandela was born. And there's more. So

*Bibliography* : "Goodmorning", August-September.

### 2006

**Rome-Nereto** . Francesco Perilli and Domenico Guzzi publish a book they have co-authored entitled "The Symbol of Multiculturalism". Guzzi writes in the preface: "[...] I have the impression that it may indeed be necessary to give a name to this phenomenon. While it is necessary – this indeed, anticipating those who may want to point a finger at him, perhaps as far as I'm concerned and as far as what I think it really is, Multiculturalism is nothing more than a series of considerations, moreover, from which a monumental work of his was born at the beginning of the 21st century. Multiculturalism on whose principles, in reality – even though many have intervened, and are intervening

**Nereto**

- He begins the "cycle" of paintings "Fossili ibridi" (Hybrid Fossils).

**Bologna**

- "Galleria Gnaccarini". One man show. "Fossili ibridi" (Hybrid Fossils). In the catalogue

**Karlsruhe**

- Art Karlsruhe - International Trade Fair Modern Art.

**Buffalo city (East London)** (South Africa). The "Symbol of Multiculturalism" is inaugurated in December.

Perilli says: «[...] East London, the city where Nelson Mandela was born. And there's more. So

**City of Mthartha**

- A "minimal" version of the "Symbol of Multiculturalism" is in the permanent collection

**Milan**

- The "Symbol of Multiculturalism" is published on the cover of the book "Free Visions

Random House. Italian edition: Oscar Saggi Mondadori, 2002.

*Bibliography*

: RAI 3 TG Region, documentary interview. Italian News-Daily Dispatch, December

### 2007

**Nereto** . He prepares a new cycle of works entitled "Reperti dal Futuro" (Evidence of the Future)

**Venice**

. He meets with Philip Rilands, director of the "Peggy Guggenheim Museum" in Venice

We will examine in detail your material from the catalogues and documents given to us and those

**Martinsicuro**

. He completes the Obelisk dedicated to the Fallen.

**Giulianova**

. He completes the "Symbol of Multiculturalism".

**Assisi**

. He completes the "Symbol of Multiculturalism".

**Corropoli**

. Ancient Abbey

In the presence of the delegations from the Embassies of Canada, Bosnia Herzegovina, the People's

**L'Aquila**

. Sixteenth-century Castle. Museo Nazionale d'Arte Moderna.

Anthological show. The exhibition is sponsored by the Abruzzo Regione. In the catalogue, texts

### 2008

**Los Angeles** . Watts Towers Arts Center - Exhibition of Neutralism's works.

**Los Angeles**

. Installation of the "Symbol of Multiculturalism".