

# ART ON THE RUN

It is a project about the revolutionary art of the 16<sup>th</sup> century artist, CARAVAGGIO, from 400 years ago to today. The project is expected to evolve through digital media, public art, theatre, books and discussions.

<b>Applicant/Leading Partner</b>	<b>Caravaggio Foundation – Malta</b> (www.caravaggio.com)
<b>Associate Partner</b>	<b>AP+ - Malta</b> (www.ap.com.mt)
<b>Other</b>	<b>RAAK - UK</b> (www.wewillraakyou.com)

## We are looking for partners

### Project Description.

This project is about engaging people of diverse backgrounds to appreciate and connect with the world of art in an inclusive manner. *Art on the Run* will provide the opportunity to deliver several cross-cultural, cross-artistic visceral experiences which, depending on partnerships created, could include a series of books, seminars and exhibitions, a piece for theatre, a short film, online/digital applications (eg a children's game) and multiple expressions of art forms such as: Graffiti art, digital art, cartoon art, instant art, shadow theatre.

The project will deliver multi-format activities designed to provide multiple opportunities to engage with people of all ages, interests and all walks of life.

The project has as its central character, Caravaggio, one of the most enigmatic, mysterious and revolutionary painters of all time and one who remains, after 400 years, one of the most written and talked about artistic geniuses ever.

### Project Themes.

The subject matter of this project and its main protagonist, Caravaggio, provides ample opportunity to explore several fascinating and contemporary themes and to manifest these utilizing multiple strands of artistic expression.

The key themes that we envisage are the following:

1. Is that a Caravaggio in your Attic ?
  - o The fascinating multi-dimensional methods (technical, stylistic, historical, psychological etc) that are utilized to solve the riddle of attribution of works to artists is one of the underlying themes of this work and of the book that will be

launched contemporaneously. This provides a rich tapestry of material that the project will explore in depth utilizing multiple types of art media.

- Central to this project (and a key deliverable) is a book that lays the foundation for the themes to be explored. The main activities anticipated to explore the attribution aspect would be a series of workshops, conferences and exhibitions involving experts on Caravaggio and including images of his work. The events will be popularized through the production of online games ('can you spot the mirror') designed for children (or adults)... and other digital media such as location based applications for mobile phones.
2. Wet Paint.
    - Express art. Unbeknownst to many is the methodology used by Caravaggio to create his works of art that made him the 'Rolf Harris' of his day. Based on a rapid painting process – his process is worked into a complete form while still wet - his masterpieces were produced in a matter of hours not days.
    - This lends itself to the exploration, reproduction and popularization of his techniques utilizing modern media and art forms such as digital art, instant art, street art/graffiti, cartoon art.
  3. Death by Painting.
    - This theme explores the mysterious death of the artist at just 39. Did he die as a result of his technology ? (his use of poisonous materials such as lead paints, bone black is known). Was he worked to death by unscrupulous patrons ?
    - This is a theme that could be explored through the use of theatre/drama.
  4. Man on The Run
    - Caravaggio became notorious for killing a man, going on the run and being offered protection by powerful patrons such as the Knights of Malta.
    - This theme offers a wealth of subject matter that resonates to this day. The wretched life of artists and their subjugation to the whims of their patrons (or the market). The artist as a misfit living on the edge of society.
    - Another theme that could be explored utilising theatre and drama or puppetry/shadow theatre, short film.
  5. Entry and Exit
    - This theme explores the psychological processes that both the artist and the viewer encounter upon approaching a canvas – in the former case it is the feeling of approaching an empty canvas and in the latter it is the process of (surprise?) approaching a completed work.
    - This theme allows the possibility of exploring the psychological aspects of art utilizing art forms that may include drama/theatre, seminars etc.

## **Projected Outcomes**

This project anticipates delivering the following artistic outcomes

1. A series of books dealing with various themes discussed above
2. A seminar and exhibition series to accompany the book and designed to travel to different countries
3. A piece for theatre/drama
4. A short film
5. Online/digital applications such as a game and iphone app
6. Multiple applied art forms such as: Graffiti art, digital art, cartoon art, instant art.

## 7. Shadow Theatre

### **Target Audience.**

The primary target audience of this work is the non-expert general public. Just like Caravaggio's subjects, this work is targeted at the man in the street of all ages. It will, in particular, focus on delivering product to the young in a fun and engaging manner. It will however also include the involvement of experts and the delivery of 'academically creditable' seminars, publications & exhibitions.

## **About the Caravaggio Foundation**

Since its inception in 2004, The Caravaggio Foundation has been an active player in researching, promoting restoration and further studies, stimulating an open dialogue about Caravaggio's work. The Foundation has also organised a number of exhibitions and conferences including Caravaggio – Una Mostra Impossibil' organised between 1st May and 30th June 2004 at the Caraffa Stores on the Vittoriosa Waterfront.

## **About AP**

Architecture Project (AP) is a network of Architectural practices with offices in London, Malta and Croatia. Within this network we appropriate a matrix of both local and global relations to enable mutual influences of different areas of research and expertise.

## **About RAAK**

RAAK is a Social & Digital Media agency based in East London. RAAK create communication solutions that show a real understanding of Social & Digital media, but are always rooted in reality. It's not about technology; it's about people.

## **Contact Us**

Mr Claude Calleja: [claude@iphl.eu](mailto:claude@iphl.eu)