

**NEARCH****Imagining : Artists in residence – Maastricht  
Rossella Biscotti**

**Rossella Biscotti**  
**(Filmmaking/Performance/Sculpture)**

Born in 1978 in Molfetta, Italy.  
Lives and works in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Rossella Biscotti uses montage as a gesture to reveal individual narratives and their relation to society. In her cross-media practice, cutting across filmmaking, performance and sculpture, she explores and reconstructs obscured moments from recent times, often against the backdrop of state institutions. In the process of composing her personal encounters and oral interrogations into new stories, the site of investigation tends to leave its mark on her sculptures and installations. By examining the relevance of the recovered material from a contemporary perspective, Biscotti sensibly weaves a link to the present.

Her sculptural works are informed by meticulous research, covering both chronicled and neglected events as well as fictitious elements. They often serve as historical witnesses to contemporary society. (ICA)



Rossella often employs the mediums of film, text, sculpture or performance to examine history and events through personal and collective memories. In her work, using rigorous research and fictitious elements, she does not reconstruct historical facts but rather investigates them and our perception of what has happened.

*« My projects deal with traces of other people's lives, more specifically those who play an allegedly minor role in history. I use these sources to provoke a reflection on the condition of collective and personal identity and memory in the present era. My work develops through research and encourages the involvement of the spectator and contemporary society at large in the process of recollection. To do so, I confront individuals with situations in which, through interviews and actions, they are asked to position themselves in relation to past events.*

*In my work the human condition extends beyond any linear understanding of time: rather than explaining when certain events happened, my video works attempt to retrace the individual's reactions to these events in time. Time thus overlaps in a continuum that moves back and forth – from the past to the present condition. »*

Rossella Biscotti took part at major international exhibitions including 55th Venice Biennale and 13th Istanbul Biennale (2013), DOCUMENTA 13 (2012), and Manifesta 9 (2012). Her work has been presented in solo exhibitions at Museion in Bolzano (2015), Haus Lange Haus Esters in Krefeld (D), Wiels in Brussels, Sculpture Center in New York (2014) Secession in Vienna and e0flux in New York (2013) CAC Vilnius (2012); and between others she has exhibited in group exhibitions at the ICA London (2014) MAXXI, Rome (2010–11), Museu Serralves, Porto (2010). Biscotti received several art awards including Premio Italia, Maxxi Museum in Rome (2010) and Mies van der Rohe Stipendium, Krefeld (D). In 2015, she was selected to take part in the NEARCH project artists' residencies at the Jan van Eyck Academie in Maastricht.