

Le mie mani 2025 – Third edition

### ***Fear of solitude***

The project "**Le mie mani**", now in its third edition, originates from the idea of artist **Mirko Leuzzi** to create a residency that allows him to deepen his artistic research through the participation of external figures selected via an open call, offering a unique and immersive experience.

**Board and lodging are provided by the artist, so no participation fee is required.**

The residency focuses on exploring a central theme in a dedicated space, away from the chaos of the cities.

The artist and the organizers select participants based on the criteria outlined in the call for applications, under the section "**Participation Guidelines**".

This year, the residency will take place **from June 17 to June 24, 2025**, on the island of **Alicudi**, within a house overlooking the coast, surrounded by greenery and the vastness of the sea.

The theme of this edition, "**Fear of solitude**", stems from an intimate and profound investigation into the dynamics of solitude, its perception, and its inevitability.

The artist's idea is to create a diverse group capable of bringing reflections from different perspectives on the theme, leading to a **comprehensive intellectual analysis**.

From this encounter, the artist will create a series of paintings.

### **Theme**

The **fear of solitude** is a deep and universal feeling that resonates with the most intimate aspects of our existence.

We live in an era that allows us to constantly escape solitude through the relentless use of devices that saturate our daily lives.

The illusion of perfect lives filtered through social media, the constant need for approval, and the dependence on continuous stimuli can hinder our ability to be alone and to confront our inner silence.

The inability to accept solitude often leads to superficial relationships, which become mere compromises to avoid emptiness. Society pushes individuals to seek a partner in order to conform to an imposed model, resulting in relationships experienced as a necessity rather than a conscious choice.

But what if solitude were an **opportunity**? A moment for reflection, self-exploration, an immersion in art, and a space for creation? Can solitude be embraced as a place for personal growth, capable of fostering **authentic relationships**?

## Who we are looking for

We are seeking individuals interested in exploring **existential and psychological themes** and willing to work in a **collaborative environment** focused on personal growth.

It is essential for us to emphasize that this **CALL is open to everyone**.

It would be a great opportunity for the project if professionals such as **psychologists, philosophers, writers, anthropologists, physicists, biologists, ethologists, and artists** applied, as they could enrich the shared moments with their professional and personal experiences. However, we want to stress that the call is open to **anyone** who believes they can contribute to the residency.

No **specific artistic skills** are required, but applicants must demonstrate **strong motivation, adaptability, and a willingness to share and engage in inner exploration**.

The number of selected participants will not exceed **10**.

## The project

The residency is structured in **two phases** over a total of **20 days**:

- **7 days** with the selected participants, who will spend a week in an **isolated and stimulating environment**, engaging in discussions and deepening the theme through a symposium of dialogues, debates, and exchanges of ideas. They will also collaborate with **Mirko Leuzzi** in the artistic creation process.
- **13 days** during which the artist will remain alone, fully immersed in his **creative process**.

The house hosting the residency is in a **panoramic spot** on the island, requiring a **challenging uphill walk** to reach it—offering a fully immersive experience in **nature** and the intimate **creative process**.

The daily routine of the residency will include **artistic work, discussions, individual and collective activities** to explore the proposed theme.

A **digital detox experience** will be an integral part of the journey: participants will be allowed to use their devices for **only one hour per day**.

## How to apply

The selection is **open to everyone**, with **no age restrictions**.

There is **no participation fee**.

No **specific artistic skills** are required, but applicants must demonstrate **strong motivation, adaptability, and a willingness to share and engage in inner exploration**.

Applications must be submitted **by April 10, 2025**, via email to **comunicazione.lemiemani@gmail.com** and must include:

- **A short bio**
- **A motivation letter**
- **A CV** (including any relevant skills and passions)
- **A personal photo**

The selection process consists of **two main phases**:

1. **First phase** – Evaluation of submitted materials.
2. **Second phase** – Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a **brief introductory video call** (approx. 10-15 minutes).

## **Conclusion**

The residency will conclude with an **open studio event**, where the public will have the opportunity to engage with the experiences and works created during the program.

For more information, please contact the organizational team at [comunicazione.lemiemani@gmail.com](mailto:comunicazione.lemiemani@gmail.com).

**Artist Residency conceived and funded by:** Mirko Leuzzi

**Project curated by:** Vittoria Mascellaro

**Organizational Coordinator:** Alessandra Mandalari

**Website Management:** Beatrice Conti