

**Bea McMahon**  
*PURPLE*  
**Masseria Torre Coccoaro – Fasano (BR)**  
**August 31– November 12, 2022**

To celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation, Masseria Torre Coccoaro is pleased to present *PURPLE*, the site-specific installation by the Irish artist Bea McMahon, created in collaboration with Rita Urso artopiagallery in Milan. The installation will open to the public on August 31, 2022 and it will be complemented with a curatorial text by Alessandra Troncone.

Dominated by its 16th-century tower, the Masseria is the host of the conversation that Bea McMahon establishes with the specificity of the place where it is located, and specifically with its enchanting olive grove, through the conception of an intervention that enhances the beauty and presence of its century-old trees. Starting from a series of drawings and notes that she sketched on site, the artist came up with fabric sculptures that track and trace the same tree forms carved by time, giving birth to a parallel plantation that intertwines with the real one. The inflatable sculptures, animated by a ventilation system, rock at the passage of the wind, appearing like spectral presences that inhabit the olive grove. Natural pigments are employed, such as purple extracted from cabbage, hence the title of the installation, to tint the colorful surfaces that blend in with the olive fronds, animating their solid and sturdy structure, providing a lighter tone and temporarily that alters the perception of the landscape.

By inviting Bea McMahon, Masseria Torre Coccoaro, who represents excellence in the tourist sector of the Apulian territory, strengthens its relationship with contemporary art, highlighting and promoting the evergreen union between art and nature inside its own walls.

### **Biography of the artist**

Bea McMahon (Republic of Ireland, 1972; lives in Amsterdam) works with video, installation and performance art. Her work often navigates through conceptions of reality and their corresponding appearances in the outside world. Trained in science, Bea McMahon employs versions and associations of mathematics and physics that play with distinctions between objects, space and time, and symbols while resonating with a poetic form of agency between non-speaking beings and the world. Her projects have been hosted by international institutions and galleries, such as Treignac Projet, France; W139, Amsterdam; Galerie Van Zijl Langhout, Amsterdam; Billytown, The Hague; CCA Derry; Salzburg Kunstverein; Temple Bar Gallery and Studios; CCA Glasgow; Flattime House, London. She has performed at Rita Urso artopiagallery, Milan; Frascati Theatre, Amsterdam; De Appel, Amsterdam; Treignac Projet; Musiek Gebouw, Amsterdam; The Museum of Modern Art, Warsaw; The XII Baltic Triennial, Vilnius; Kunstverein, Amsterdam; W139, Amsterdam; Via Farini, Milan; Volcano Extravaganza, Stromboli, 2013, among others. She made soundworks for *Keeping the Ground off our Being* CCI, Paris.