

***From the Volcano to the Sea: Part II***  
**The Feminist Group Le Nemesiache in 1970s and 1980s Naples**

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**30 September – 2 December 2022**

**Preview: Thursday 29 September, 6 - 8.30pm**

Opening hours: Wednesday – Friday, 11am – 5pm  
(or by appointment).



'Rassegna del Cinema Femminista' organised by Le Nemesiache, Sorrento 1984, original photograph from the feminist film festival, photographer unknown. Courtesy of Le Nemesiache's archive.

'WE DENOUNCE the violence which deprived ourselves of our bodies, of our expressions and of our extensions. CREATIVITY IS POLITICAL, it is life, routine, erotics, in harmony with nature and the cosmos'  
— Le Nemesiache, 1977.

**Chelsea Space** is very happy to announce *From the Volcano to the Sea: Part II*, an exhibition presenting archival materials from the feminist group **Le Nemesiache** (1970s-1990s), for the first time in London. Based in the southern Italian city of Naples, Le Nemesiache experimented with creativity and the arts as a route towards liberation and fulfillment within their daily lives, and to oppose the exploitation of the landscape surrounding the city.

Le Nemesiache (followers of Nemesis, Greek goddess of revenge against arrogance) was founded by artist and philosopher **Lina Mangiacapre**, who returned to Naples from Rome in 1969, to pursue forms of collective living and making in the city. Together, the group created films, performances, poetry events, music, photographs, collages, books and artistic and political pamphlets. They also practiced a form of consciousness-raising called *psicofavola*, or *psycho-fable*, that focused on the use of the body and myth. By speaking through the form of the psycho-fable, the group collectively evoked powerful female figures from the Mediterranean and connected with their landscape — bordered by the sea and marked by the presence of the volcano, Vesuvius. Incorporated as a ritualistic methodology, this form of storytelling was activated as a process to transform the individual and collective body, to liberate and connect both person and place.

Le Nemesiache animated and participated in second-wave feminist struggles, their Southern-Italian feminism connecting to other forms of resistance to Western patriarchy across Europe during this period. The exhibition includes textiles, costumes, videos, manifestoes, documents, ephemera and materials from a feminist film festival the group organised in Sorrento between 1976 and 1990. Other materials include two films, *Cinderella* (1977) and *Sea Called Upon Us* (1978), made by Le Nemesiache and directed by Mangiacapre, with newly commissioned translations, which are presented in the space, alongside printed matter from the Women's Art Library at Goldsmiths.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a screening event and a publication, produced by Chelsea Space.

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***From the Volcano to the Sea: Part II***

**The Feminist Group Le Nemesiache in 1970s and 1980s Naples**, is curated by **Giulia Damiani** and produced in collaboration with the Mangiacapra Archive and members of Le Nemesiache. The items on show are from the Mangiacapra Archive. The exhibition shares the title with a show curated by Giulia Damiani in collaboration with the organization *If I Can't Dance, I Don't Want to be Part of Your Revolution* in Amsterdam, held between 2020 and 2021 at the art space Rongwrong.

**Le Nemesiache** were/are: Lina Mangiacapre (NEMESI), Teresa Mangiacapra (NIOBE), Silvana Campese (MEDEA), Fausta Base, Conni Capobianco (NAUSICAA), Maria Matteucci (MAREA), Bruna Felletti (KARMA), Claudia Aglione (Elena), Aracne, Aretusa, Astrea, Camilla, Cassandra, Coca-Dafne, Elsa/Circe, Eco, Ilizia, Ippolita, Karma, Tike, Adele, Angela, Angela Rosa, Anna, Anna N., Antonella, Carmen, Caroline, Chantal, Cicci, Cinzia, Caterina, Catherine, Consuelo, Cosima, Despina, Dina, Dolores, Elisabeth, Elisabetta, Elsa M., Esther, Gianni, Giuliana, Giuditta, Gloria, Isabel, Laura, Lilly, Lucia, Lucia M., Luisita, Lydia, Maria, Marie Laurence, Matilde, Monica, Nadia, Nazarena, Rita, Rosalba, Rosella, Rossana, Rossella, Sabine, Tonia, Vittoria.

**Ends**

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**Press Information**

For further information, images or to discuss interviews please contact:  
Karen Di Franco or Gaia Giacomelli at Chelsea Space via email [info@chelseaspace.org](mailto:info@chelseaspace.org)

**Notes to Editors**

- **Images and further information** are available upon request.
- **Publication:** As with all Chelsea Space exhibitions, a publication will accompany the show.
- **Hours:** Wednesday – Friday, 11am – 5pm (or by appointment).
- **About: Chelsea Space** is a public exhibiting space, sited on the Millbank campus of Chelsea College of Arts, where invited art and design professionals are encouraged to work on experimental curatorial projects. See: [www.chelseaspace.org](http://www.chelseaspace.org)
- In copy please refer to **Chelsea Space** and not 'The Chelsea space.'
- **Chelsea College of Arts** is one of the world's leading art and design institutions.
- Located at Millbank, next door to Tate Britain, Chelsea specialises in Fine Art, Graphic Design and Interior and Textiles Design. Since its origins in the 19th century, the College has produced many of the greatest names in the arts, including: Quentin Blake (illustrator and author) Ralph Fiennes (film and stage actor), Anish Kapoor (sculptor), Steve McQueen (artist), Chris Ofili (artist), Alan Rickman (film and stage actor), Alexei Sayle (comedian) and Gavin Turk (sculptor).

Operating at the heart of the world's creative capital, **University of the Arts London** is a vibrant international centre for innovative teaching and research in arts, design, fashion, communication and the performing arts. The University is made up of six Colleges: Camberwell College of Arts, Central Saint Martins College of Arts and Design, Chelsea College of Arts, London College of Communication, London College of Fashion and Wimbledon College of Art. Renowned names in the cultural and creative sectors produced by the University include 12 Turner prize winners and over half of all nominees, 10 out of 17 fashion designers named British Designer of the Year, more than half of the designers showcased in London Fashion Week and 12 out of 30 winners of the Jerwood Photography Award.