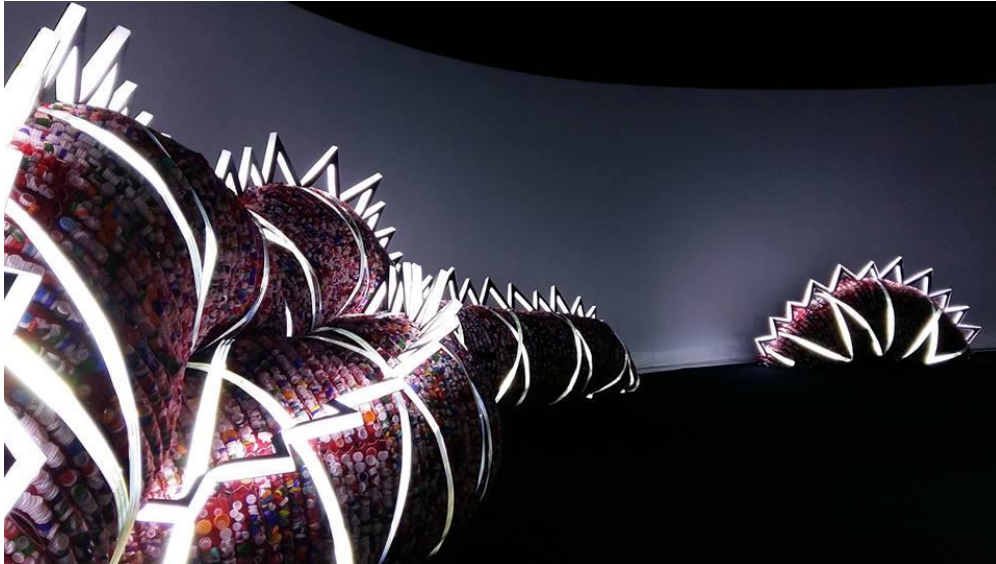


PRESS RELEASE

A GIANT PLASTIC SNAKE WILL BE SLITHERING AROUND PARIS DURING THE CLIMATE CONFERENCE DAYS



Meet the *Cilmatesaurus*, a fabulous creature created by artist Maria Cristina Finucci to raise awareness about marine pollution caused by plastic waste.

WHEN: 8 and 9 December 2015

WHERE: Paris, Palais Potocki - 27, avenue de Friedland

**APPEARANCE TIMES: 8-9 December, illuminated by night outside
Palais Potocki**

The installation is part of a wider project titled *The Garbage Patch State* (www.garbagepatchstate.org), created by the Italian artist to raise awareness worldwide about the huge amount of non-biodegradable waste carried by ocean currents and forming huge plastic “islands” in the middle of the ocean, with an estimated surface of 16 millions km² and counting.

MARIA CRISTINA FINUCCI'S IDEA, BORN IN 2013

The idea was to create an actual Garbage Patch State (even recognized by UNESCO) with its own constitution, national anthem, documents and even

embassies in the venues where the project was presented: the UNESCO headquarters in Paris (2013); the Gran Via in Madrid (2014); the Maxxi Museum in Rome (2013); the UN building in New York (2014); the Bracco Foundation during the EXPO in Milan (2015); and the EXPO pavilion Aquae Venice for the international conference Bluemed (2015). This last venue is where the giant snake showed up **for the first time**. Since then, it has been slithering its way into public awareness about wastefulness and the mountains of garbage produced by European nations. It will finally reach Paris and manifest itself to Heads of State and Government during the COP 21 Climate Conference, thanks to **Acciona** (the Spanish agency for renewable energies that “adopted” the animal) and to the **New York Times**, which invited the creature to its conference www.inytenergyfortomorrow.com

THE CLIMATESAURUS EXPERIENCE

The giant snake is made of thousands of plastic bottle caps (for the occasion, in Acciona’s corporate colours) with a black, luminescent crest running along the length of its body. The whole structure is wrapped in an extremely long white strip made of a **reflecting material that lights up with camera flashes**. *Climatesaurus* is a large, mysterious creature that still defies zoological classification, as it belongs to the artificial rather than the animal world. Without ever showing its head, it slithers in an out of the ground, then makes its way up the staircase leading to the room where the New York Times International will hold its conference in Paris on 8-9 December. In the future, the snake might show up in other venues, in the wake of Maria Cristina Finucci’s transmedia installations and nomadic projects.

The materials used for the installation are recycled and recyclable, and come from a strenuous activity of environmentally-friendly collection. The installation is the fruit of a collaboration with Università degli studi Roma TRE and the association Arte per la Sostenibilità.

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