

Carlo Sampietro

mixed media artist

Carlo Sampietro (b. 1975, Como, Italy) is an Italian mixed-media artist based in New York. His work engages with public space, urban materials, and performative situations to examine the social, political, and symbolic dimensions of contemporary urban life.

Bio

Carlo Sampietro (b. 1975, Como, Italy) is an Italian mixed-media artist based in New York. He studied at the Istituto Europeo di Design in Milan and developed an international career as a creative director in London, Milan, New York, and São Paulo before transitioning into a full-time contemporary art practice.

His work investigates the cultural, social, and political dimensions of urban life, focusing on how cities shape behavior, desire, consumption, and collective imaginaries. Working across installation, performance, video, and large-scale site-specific interventions using found urban materials, Sampietro examines the shifting relationships between people, objects, and public space.

His projects have been presented in institutional, public, and festival contexts, including Queens Museum (New York), Museum of Design (Como), Galleria Rossana Orlandi (Milan), Berlin Short Film Festival, Figment (New York), and Dumbo Art Festival. His work has been featured in international publications such as The Financial Times, The Washington Post, El País, Corriere della Sera, and Public Art Review.



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[Printable bio](#)

[Printable Portfolio](#)

ARTIST STATEMENT

Carlo Sampietro is a mixed-media artist whose practice critically examines the cultural, social, and political forces shaping contemporary urban life. Rooted in sustained observation and field research, his work investigates how traditions, inherited behaviors, and social structures inform both individual identity and collective experience.

Working across installation, found objects, performative strategies, and spatial interventions, Sampietro explores the relationships between objects, their intended function, and their latent potential. These relationships operate as metaphors for the human condition, revealing how systems of use, control, consumption, and neglect mirror broader social dynamics.

His research engages with landscape transformation, human preconceptions, the politics of natural resource use, and the convergences and divergences between societies, cultures, and cities. Through the reconfiguration and repurposing of urban materials, Sampietro constructs visual and participatory environments that translate complex social issues into accessible experiential forms.

Rather than producing representation alone, his practice activates situations of encounter. Viewers are positioned not as passive spectators, but as participants implicated in the ethical, ecological, and cultural questions embedded in the work. Sampietro's installations function as critical devices—foregrounding the tensions between design and survival, utility and symbolism, permanence and disposability—while inviting reflection on civic responsibility and the shared production of urban space.

CV

Education

1975 b. Como, Italy , Lives and works in NY
1994–1996 – Istituto Europeo di Design, Milan

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2022 – Street Scraper, Alphabet City, New York
2022 – Chuveiro, Alphabet City, New York
2021 – PopDogs, Sagamore Hotel, Miami Beach Art Basel
2021 – The Street Is In The Hotel, Sagamore Hotel, Miami Beach Art Basel
2019 – Carlo Sampietro, Galleria Cá D'Oro, Frieze Art Week, New York
2016 – The Street Is In The House, Galleria Cá D'Oro, New York
2014 – The Street Is In The House, Villa Vigoni, German-Italian Centre for European Excellence, Lake Como
2011 – The Street Is In The House, Galleria Rossana Orlandi, Milan
2010 – The Street Is In The House, International Contemporary Furniture Fair, New York

Selected Group Exhibitions & Festivals

Queens Museum, New York
Figment Festival, New York
Dumbo Art Festival, New York
Berlin Short Film Festival
Toronto Urban Film Festival
Tirana International Film Festival
Brooklyn Film Festival
Vienna International Short Film Festival
Museum of Design, Como

Awards (Selected)

A+ Architizer Award – First Prize, Cloche Sofa

A' Design Award – First Prize, Cloche Sofa

Tirana International Film Festival – Experimental Award, Bunda Pandeiro

Brooklyn Film Festival – Experimental Award, Bunda Pandeiro

Celeste Prize – Premio Scultura Urbana, Cloche Chair

Conference and Performance

2026 – Ainda Vivo – Performance – Maceio (Brasil)

2026 -Arte Popular – La Cabra residency – Ilhia DO Ferro (Brasil)

2025 – Acqueduct – Villa Carlotta -Lake Como – (Italy)

2014 – The Street Is In The House conference, Villa Vigoni, German-Italian Centre for European Excellence, Lake Como

<https://www.tribunadosertao.com.br/cidades/2026/02/27/864478-porto-de-maceio-recebe-performance-internacional-ainda-vivo-de-carlo-sampietro>

<https://www.alagoas24horas.com.br/1724284/porto-de-maceio-recebe-performance-internacional-ainda-vivo-de-carlo-sampietro/>