

Matèria

Luci di via

Wang Yuxiang

20.09.2025

curated by Giuliana Benassi

Now in its third edition, *Luci di via* stems from the gallery's desire to extend its exhibition space along the outer perimeter, occupying the spots once marked by the pub lanterns left behind by the building's former tenant.

Artists are invited by curator Giuliana Benassi to create site-specific installations, reflecting on space, light, and the sea. The project's title derives from nautical terminology and refers to the lights used by vessels, not to see, but to allow others to see the ship's presence. With this subtle metaphor, pointing to the desire to signal one's identity beyond the confines of the gallery's interior space, Matèria offers a project that engages with public space in the streets of San Lorenzo.

For this edition, Wang Yuxiang (Anhui, China, 1997) presents a sculptural intervention titled *We Have No More Mysteries (Non abbiamo più misteri)*, in which light - both artificial and natural - becomes an integral part of the installation. The artist's research is rooted in the study of the relationships that unfold within the meshes of nature and their simulation, drawing from an imaginary that favors the staging of rhetorical figures and layered allusions. The worlds of science and philosophy enter his work as tools for shaping thought. In addition, his experimentation with diverse materials, both organic and inorganic, leads the artist to incorporate methods of Eastern tradition, often reinterpreted in original and unexpected ways.

The works exist both by day and by night, engaging with the interplay of natural and artificial light. They embed themselves into the texture of the gallery's exterior walls, blending almost seamlessly into the urban fabric, as if they were wild grass.

As per tradition, the unveiling of the exterior lights is purposefully scheduled in between exhibitions, clearing the interior gallery space for a single, key work by the artist commissioned for *Luci di via*.

* The interior of the gallery will be open to public viewing until October 11, 2025 (Tuesday to Saturday, 11am - 7pm).

* The exterior lights are on view for a full calendar year, and their activation follows the gallery's public opening dates and times.

Wang Yuxiang (b. 1997, Anhui, China) is an artist based in Rome. His practice explores the intersection between Eastern and Mediterranean cultures through the use of humble materials and a refined, essential visual language. Guided by themes such as time, history, and memory, his work engages in a critical dialogue with place-observing, deconstructing, and reactivating spaces through site-specific interventions rooted in conceptual research and influenced by deconstructivist thought.

Wang's installations often reflect on the hidden values embedded in landscapes, questioning dominant cultural narratives and historical memory through minimalist yet symbolically charged gestures. His process involves extensive preliminary investigation of each environment, leading to interventions that create a tension between local specificity and broader cultural archetypes.

Recent solo exhibitions include *Anche il sole sorge* (Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Rome, 2024), *Pensa di Uscire* (Museo Nazionale Etrusco di Villa Giulia, Rome, 2023), and *RICCHIAMO* (Spazio Y, Rome, 2022). He has participated in group shows such as *Checkmate* (Mimmo Scognamiglio artecontemporanea, Milan, 2024), *STATO D'IMPREVISTO* (Venice, 2024), *My Generation: The Art of Post-90!* (Shanxi Contemporary Art Museum, Taiyuan, China, 2023), and *Parallelo Oriente/Occidente* (Milan, 2022).

Wang has been awarded residencies including *Fonderia Artistica Battaglia* (Milan, 2025), *Prospettiva Insulare* (Tenerife, 2025), and *Via del Sale* (Škocjanski Bay Nature Reserve, Slovenia, 2019). His work has earned several prestigious accolades, such as the *Premio Sparti* (2025), *Vinitaly-Artissima Prize* (2023), "Young Prize" at *Roma Arte in Nuvola* (2023), *Special Prize from Fondazione Cultura e Arte - Talent Prize* (2023), and the *Todi Biennale Award* (2022).

Based in the neighbourhood of San Lorenzo in Rome, Matèria opened its doors to the public in 2015. The gallery proposes an exhibition programme that touches upon all aspects of Contemporary Art. Since its founding, Matèria's purpose has been the furthering and development of the work of its selected group of Artists. The gallery programme features four exhibitions per calendar year, conceived and produced directly with its artists and often in dialogue with the space through a site specific approach. Matèria's gallery shows strive to further the research and experimentation aspects of artistic practice, with the results of this approach often showcased in a growing list of Italian and international art fairs.

Matèria represents the work of Fabio Barile, Karen Knorr, Mario Cresci, Chen Xiaoyi, Giuseppe De Mattia, Sunil Gupta, Marta Mancini, Joachim Lenz, Francisca Valador, Stefano Canto, Bekhbaatar Enkhtur, Eduardo Fonseca e Silva and Maïmouna Guerresi.

Wang Yuxiang
Luci di via

20 September 2025
6 pm - 8.30 pm

Matèria | Via dei Latini, 27 - Roma
materialogallery.com

Matèria

Hours
From Tuesday to Saturday
from 11 am to 7 pm

Contact
contact@materialogallery.com

Press enquiries
press@materialogallery.com
Roberta Pucci
robertapucci@gmail.com
mob: +39 340 817 4090
Chiara Ciucci Giuliani
chiaracgiuliani@gmail.com
mob: +39 392 917 3661