

# NEVERLAND

ART Art Therapy and adolescence for an economy of discomfort

Thesis project by Filomena Longo

Edited by Anna D'Ambrosio

In an unavoidable tangle between lights and shadows, the teenagers' world still presses as a pot with boiling water inside itself.

Adolescents enter into the psyche of the analyst with a unique identity card, taking with them, in the pathology and normality, a penetrating perfume.

It's the strongest and irresistible impulse of everyone: the impulse to self fulfilment.

**"You may give them your love but not your thoughts:**

**because they have their own thoughts.**

**You may host their bodies but not their souls:**

**For their souls inhabit in the house of tomorrow,**

**that you can't visit, not even in your dreams.**

**You may strive to be like them, but don't try to make them as you are.**

**Because life doesn't turn back and it doesn't linger with the past.**

**You are the bows from which your children are shot ahead, as living arrows. "**

**Gibran in "The Prophet"**

"NEVERLAND", work of **ART** (Art Therapy) by Filomena Longo for **AMY D Arte Spazio**, becomes economART project, focused on the economy of the disturbance in youth problems.

Configured as a therapeutic process born from an artistic laboratory in which Emanuele, Lucrezia, Erika, Jacopo and Elena are not fancy but "Proper" names in the deepest and most analytical sense of the term.

A daunting task rests with Filomena Longo, in the role of psychotherapy artist: creating an artistic decoding of the discomfort.

Positioning the artist, in a pseudo-privileged position, actually you close him in an inaccessible "Turris Eburnea", in this way you marginalizes him, alienating him; accepting the risk to marginalize and alienate from us that part of ourselves that is the aesthetic and creative dimension in its cathartic and sublimated value.

Art, in this sense, appears as an effective tool to enter relationship with the youth world because it has the ability to exploit the communicational codes, belonging to adolescent language: a not verbal but visual language, made with images and symbols.

The young man becomes active part and he turns out to be able to intervene on the images to modify and/or use them as tools to tell their own inner world and to explain their discomfort (immobility, aggression, lack of identity, anorexia, approval, lack of belonging).

**Internal memo**

Neverland is for AMY D Arte Spazio a **duty**, in respect of the new artistic levers.

Have selected a thesis for an exhibition project is like creating a liaison between school and working world.

The gallery, active partner, becomes hotbed for artistic achievements of the future.

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