

ZEROCALCARE DIGGING DITCHES FEEDING CROCODILES

At MAXXI, the first solo show by Zerocalcare

Featuring posters, illustrations, covers
drawn from his entire oeuvre

10 November 2018 – 31 March 2019

Extra MAXXI Space

www.maxxi.art | www.minimondi.com | www.zerocalcare.it | [#ZerocalcareAIMAXXI](https://twitter.com/ZerocalcareAIMAXXI)

Rome, 9 November 2018. **Zerocalcare**, class of 1983, a leading exponent of comic art in Italy, one of the most interesting and complex figures on the contemporary cultural scene, **will be the protagonist in a major exhibition at MAXXI from 10 November 2018** (through to 10 March 2019), coproduced with **Minimondi Eventi**.

The exhibition, curated by **Giulia Ferracci**, is his first solo show and has been produced in collaboration with **Silvia Barbagallo**.

The project covers the full career of the artist, always associated with the underground scene, a sensitive and aware spokesperson for his generation.

The **Extra MAXXI** spaces will feature posters, a broad selection of illustrations, record covers, original plates from his nine books, T-shirts, logos, labels and a site-specific work drawn by the artist for the occasion.

The layout of the exhibition has been inspired by the Armadillo, the celebrated character created by Zerocalcare and the protagonist of most of his strips and his books, the artist's conscience and alter ego. Within an all-embracing structure evoking the curves of the animal open the four sections into which the exhibition is organized: **Pop, Tribes, Struggles and Resistance, Non-reportage**.

Pop comprises colour illustrations and strips from the artist's blog, zerocalcare.it, created in 2011. Out of these stories with an autobiographical slant emerges a sharp, lucid portrait of his generation, a generation born into comfort that has seen the rights conquered its fathers transformed into privileges for the few.

Struggles and Resistance: includes 20 years of illustrations, plates and posters.

Stories drawn from the everyday, referencing protest movements, episodes from the news and politics, the numerous acts of aggression committed by Neo-Fascist groups in recent years, anti-racism marches and battles for civil rights.

The section also features the works produced for the newspaper *La Repubblica* and the magazines *Espresso* and *Internazionale*.

Out of this section emerges a clear political vision, contrary to every form of populism, inequality and abuse of power.

Non-reportage: Zerocalcare considers the G8 held at Genoa in 2001 to be a watershed moment in his life, a source of inspiration for his first comic published anonymously on indymedia. From that moment on, there have been diverse accounts of episodes from the national and international news, born out of personal experience and travel. In 2014, the artist travelled to Kobane where the Kurds were standing up to the attacks of ISIS and he told their story of resistance in the book *Kobane Calling*. These and other stories will be exhibited at MAXXI, eye-witness testimony recounted in the first person with the spirit of reportage but the form of an intimate diary written by a traveller of our times.

Tribes: traverses the sections, recounting the artist's activities associated with the world of punk and the underground scene, with illustrations, concert posters and record covers.

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Media Partners: *La Repubblica* and *Espresso*

MAXXI – National Museum of XXI Century Arts

Via Guido Reni 4a - 00193 Roma
Extra MAXXI Space

Opening hours: Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri, Sun 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM; Saturday 11:00 AM – 10:00 PM, closed Mondays. Admission permitted up to one hour before closing.

Tickets:

€10.00, dedicated Zerocalcare exhibition ticket
€15.00 full price Zerocalcare exhibition ticket + MAXXI entrance*
€12.00 reduced price Zerocalcare exhibition ticket + MAXXI entrance
* from 10 to 20 November 2018 exhibition ticket + MAXXI entrance 12 €

Admission free for myMAXXI cardholder, the subscription that permits unlimited admission for a year (€25: myMAXXI Young up to 30 years of age and myMAXXI Senior for those over 65; €50 myMAXXI Individual; €90 myMAXXI Family and Friends, for two people).

The press kit and images of the exhibition can be downloaded from the Reserved Area of the Fondazione MAXXI's website at <http://www.maxxi.art/en/area-stampa/> by typing in the password **areariservatamaxxi**

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