

THE END OF THE BORDER (of the mind)



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LA FINE DEL CONFINE (della mente)

A project by Stefano Cagol invited to the Barents Art Triennale 2012-2014 in Kirkenes, Norway

March 5 - April 12, 2013

a symbolical line of light will be brought along a trip/expedition through 7 European nations from Dolomites to Arctic, 300 Km over Polar Circle on the 70th parallel of latitude arriving to cross the extreme border of Europe with Russia

going until (and beyond) the limit of the border... physical and mental border
... culture and ethic, creation and expedition, on-the-road and nature, daring and crossing
giving the cue to a diary, video and photo artworks, a book, a documentary film

<http://www.endofborder.com>

INVOLVED INSTITUTIONS:

Barents Art Triennale: Kirkenes, Norway <http://www.panbarentz.com/>

Pikene på Broen: Kirkenes, Norway <http://pikene.no/>

Dolomiti Contemporanee: Casso, Italy <http://www.dolomiticontemporanee.net/>

IIC Italian Cultural Institute in Oslo <http://www.iicoslo.esteri.it/>



CONCEPT

The project **THE END OF THE BORDER (of mind)** by Stefano Cagol, artist invited to the Barents Art Triennale 2012-2014, is a symbolic one month travel / expedition through Europe until its extreme boundaries, from the Dolomites to the Arctic, tracing evocative lines of light in the sky able to cross borders.

A powerful slash of light to identify and underline borders and their fate. The artist opens a variety of reading layers ranging from an emotional look at geography, to an affront to the sedimentation of history and political divisions and disputed lines. In fact enlightening the end means to declare the death of borders, but means also to go till the corner of a border still living.

Stefano Cagol wants to look for the result of borders from south to north of Europe, from the limit of Mediterranean culture to the limit of European culture, from the Alps beyond the Arctic Circle, from a vertical landscape to a horizontal one, from the presence of human intervention to its absence.

So the trip is extremely symbolical, even because it symbolizes **at the same time an inner journey, a psychological process**, a mental path to the end of limits. **In fact the expedition will be intimate.** In fact the artist will do everything by himself: driving, starting the beacon, shooting. He will be accompanied just by an assistant, while during his previous expedition above the Arctic Circle in 2009 he was totally alone.

Rewind: Stefano Cagol already realized an expedition over the Arctic Circle in 2009-2010 as artist in residence by Bar International of Pikene på Broen. He was in Kirkenes during winter, when there is the last light of the day before the absolute night. He walked in the fjords in complete solitude, accompanied just by the tripod and the video camera. In this condition, in the raw and desolate winter landscape he acted alone with rescue flares, beacons, flames, horns. Then he realized a video work of this extreme action, and the video has been the subject of a solo show as collateral event at the 54 Venice Art Biennale in 2011.



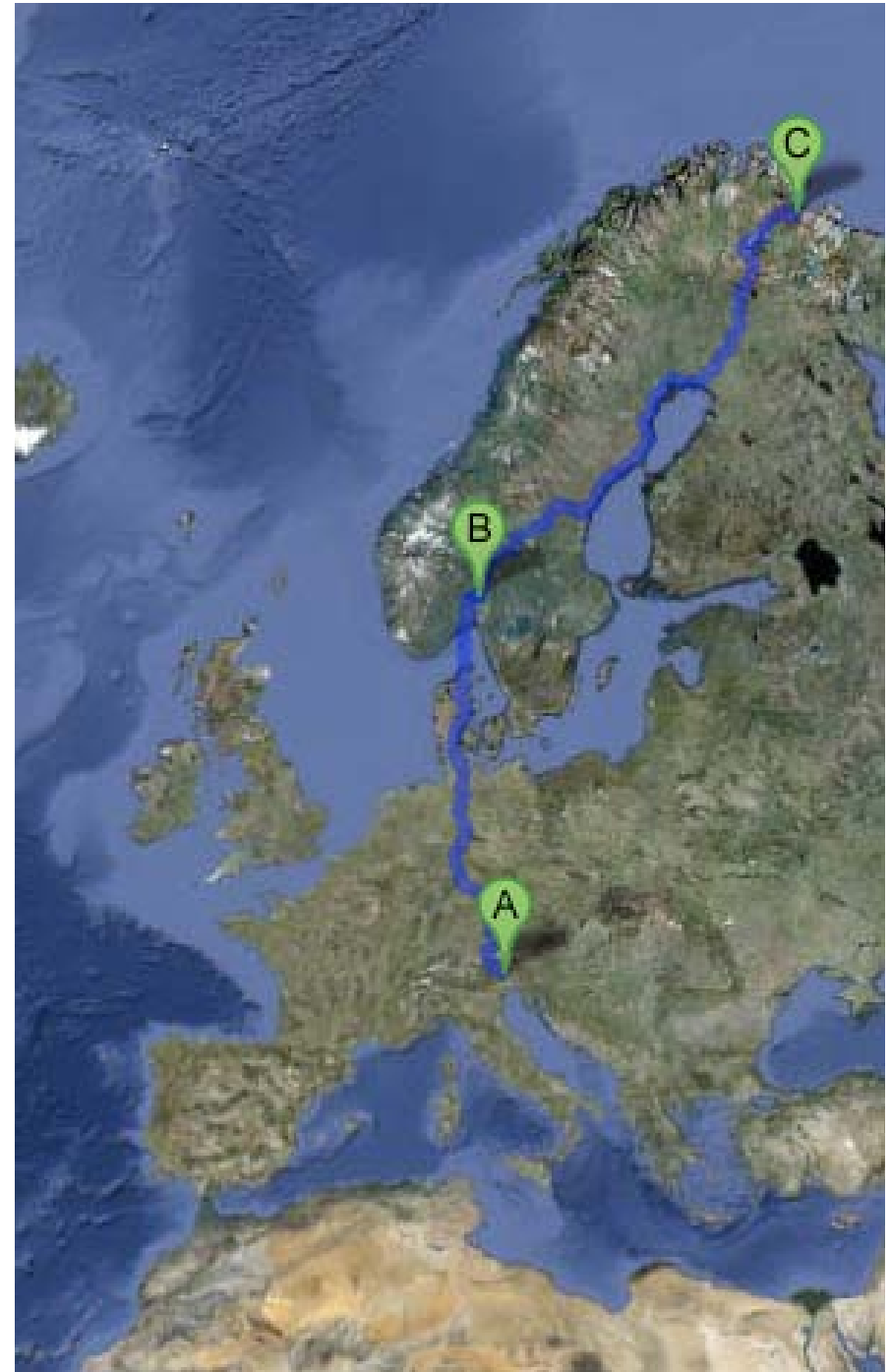
Stefano Cagol, *THE END OF THE BORDER*, 2013
Simulation of the line of light over Casso, Italy, and the Vajont dam.

THE TRIP/ THE EXPEDITION

The total trip/expedition will be of 9000 km from the Alps (Casso, Vajont dam, Italy) to the Arctic (Kirknes, Barents Region, Norway). The main subject of the trip is a powerful beacon that draws 15 Km-long lines of light.

It will go around over **an independent mobile work station**: a van with the beacon and a power generator on his open body.

The aim of the beacon light will be symbolical locations, border locations, meaningful locations. **Both locations selected in advance, and** encountered along the way triggering **snap actions**. In fact the mobile work station will be able to stop in the perfect point and to do also sudden steps feeling borders along the journey.



LOCATIONS

The lines of light ideally join 8 countries. The main places where fixed lines will be generated will be in particular three, marking the beginning, the middle and the end of the trip, according to trajectories of the ray defined in advance.

In particular:

- 1) from Casso in the Italian Alps, a line will be marked above the Vajont Dam;
- 2) in Oslo, starting from the top of the Ekeberg to pass over the city center;
- 3) in Kirkenes, the light will start from Varangerfjord for crossing the border with Russia.

In addition to these official places, there are stops along all the journey that will be marked by the logic of improvisation. We have therefore to imagine a ray in the twilight over all the meaningful encountered landscapes.

THE END OF THE BORDER (of the mind) will move from the core of the Alps, the Dolomites, to Norway: to the capital of Oslo, and to the extreme border of Kirkenes. The artist will move from one symbolic place to another and to be open also to unexpected encounters. He will ideally connect through light, through light he will cancel borders, through light he will beam them.

Ideally Cagol will start his trip from Casso, a village of 14 inhabitants hanged on a mountain in the center of the Italian Alps: the light will pass over an artificial dam for hydroelectric power in front of it that caused 2000 deaths 50 years ago and till now represents the mental limit and inability to react and go further beyond the tragedy.

Then Cagol will drive to **Oslo**, looking at the border between human and urban presence and nature, between water, ground and concrete.

Finally he will go till the physical/political border of **the Barents area**, the trans-national area containing the extreme northern territory of Norway and of Russia corresponding to the Barents Sea coast. Cagol will arrive until the symbolical Paatsjoki River and the Varangerfjord toward **Kirkenes**: there he will aim the beacon at the other side of the river and the fjord, creating a bridge of light **toward the Russian side**.

Rewind: Stefano Cagol tried to dissolve the border between Italian culture and German culture that cuts the region of Trentino South Tyrol (Light Dissolution. Of the borders, 2008, parallel event to Manifesta 7, Trento). Then he tried to communicate beyond the borders in the raw, desolate winter landscape of north of Norway (Evoke Provoke. The border, 2010, Barents Spektakel, Kirkenes).

The he already did on-the-move-projects for the first time in 2006 with Bird Flu Vogelgrippe driving from Trento to 4th Berlin Biennale with a van "full of birds songs and different influences"; then again with 11 settembre arriving from Mart museum in Rovereto and ZKM in Karlsruhe to his studio in Brussels on his birthday, 9/11.



TIMING

The Barents Art Triennale lasts **from 2012 to 2014**.

The trip/expedition until *THE END OF THE BORDER* will be realized from **March 5 to April 12 2013**.

Then there will be moments for presenting the results of the project in summer 2013 and in spring 2014.



Stefano Cagol, *THE END OF THE BORDER (of the mind)*, 2013. Simulations of the line of light over Oslo and over Kirkenes.

FRUITION AND COMMUNICATION

The symbolic travel / expedition – being a complex project – is able to trigger multiple levels of fruition, method of fruition, time of fruition. It will be subject to:

1) **DIRECT FRUITION** The repeated traveling actions, taking place in public places, will have an immediate effect, directed to a **wide audience of viewers**.

2) **TRAVEL DIARY** The travel / expedition drawn by lines of light will be the protagonist of a continuous diffusion through the web and social media. In particular by:

A) **up-load of photo / video / text in progress through a specific communication system integrated with Google maps;**

B) **up-load of photo / video / text in progress through social networks;**

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CELEBRATIONS

The all trip will be marked by various celebration moments.

1) The opening of the solo project; it will be on **March 5** in Casso (Italy) by the permanent venue of Dolomiti Contemporanee where it will open the art season.

2) A symbolic “celebration in the middle” in Oslo: the exclusive reception will be hosted **on March 12 by the Italian Embassy palace**.

3) The presence of the light line in Kirkenes will start on **March 18**; this date will represent the end of the outward journey and the official opening of Stefano Cagol’s project for the Barents Art Triennale.

Rewind: At the opening of the Barents Spektakel in Kirkenes in 2011 Stefano Cagol resented hi work with the presence of the Queen Sonja.

THE BARENTS ART TRIENNALE

The Barents Art Triennale is realized by Pikene på Broen.

Pikene på Broen, established in 1996, is a company of art curators and producers, based in Kirkenes, north-eastern Norway, close to the borders of Russia and Finland. Their main projects are an annual festival Barents Spektakel, Barents Art Triennale, Transborder Cafes, BAR International artists-in-residency program and other collaborative projects.

In 2009 Pikene på Broen were awarded Eckbos Legaters Culture Prize 2009.

The topic of next Barents Triennale is public art in borderland.

"Pikene på Broen has invited STEFANO CAGOL to participate in the Barents Art Triennale 2013 with his work "THE END OF THE BORDER (of the mind)" / LA FINE DEL CONFINE (della mente), to be realized in March 2013.

The project is meant to be a collaboration between the Barents Art Triennale/ Pikene på Broen in Kirkenes, Dolomiti Contemporanee in Casso, IIC Italian Cultural Institute in Oslo, and Kunsthall Oslo.

The artistic exploration of the borders by light as a medium from south to north of Europe, from the limit of Mediterranean culture to the limit of European culture, from the Alps beyond the Arctic Circle, that is planned by Stefano as a journey from the Dolomites, CASSO – OSLO – KIRKENES fits the concept of the Triennale that is mobile and happening in several places within and outside of the Barents Region.

The Barents Triennale will deal with the issues of art in public spaces in the borderland(s), and besides Cagol's works will include two works: the sauna project No Man's Land by Sami Rintala in Kirkenes (to be completed in summer 2013) and an installation by Lars Ramberg in Murmansk (to be completed in autumn 2013).

Pikene på Broen cooperated with Stefano Cagol in 2010-2011, when he produced the project "Evoke/ provoke (borders)" that included video-installation and flag-installation in the town spaces within the festival Barents Spektakel 2011 in Kirkenes."

Luba Kuzovnikova, Artistic director

OTHER INVOLVED INSTITUTIONS

1) **Dolomiti Contemporanee.**

Dolomiti Contemporanee or DC is a new and experimental project, a pioneer in contemporary art in the Dolomite region. In 2009 the Dolomites were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List, increasing public visibility and international significance of this site of "exceptional natural beauty". The Dolomites are a resource for Humanity.

Dolomiti Contemporanee wants to be a medium for reflection and cultural action in this territory. This territory defies narration, description. It is a space for encounter. A trigger.

Dolomiti contemporanee is a platform for a territorial project backed by a network of local business, social, educational, artistic and cultural groups who appreciate the international significance of this project. A network which is committed to promoting and sustaining the culture and resources of the local territory, whilst retaining open and direct external contact. Dolomiti contemporanee is not an exhibition. It is a project which aims at creating a network of cultural exchange.

2) **The Italian Embassy in Norway and the Italian Cultural Institute in Oslo.**

They are following the develop of the project since its begin. In fact the **Italian Ambassador in Norway was present – together with the Queen Sonja – at the opening of Stefano Cagol's participation at the Barents Spektakel in Kirkenes in 2011.**

3) In Oslo we are involving a contemporary art institution. And in Italy we are involving the Autonomous Province of Trento

THE ARTIST

Stefano Cagol (*1969, Trento, Trentino South Tyrol, Italy) studied at the Art Academy of Brera in Milan, and at Ryerson University in Toronto. During his career, he exhibited in New York, Toronto, London, Tokyo, Shanghai, New Delhi, and in Europe.

Recipient of Terna Prize 02 for Contemporary Art, in 2012 he realized solo projects at Westergasfabriek Cultuur park in Amsterdam, at Laznia Centre for Contemporary Art in Gdansk, at Museion in Bolzano and at ZKM in Karlsruhe.

He held a solo show by San Gallo Church at 54th International Art Exhibition – la Biennale di Venezia, a Parallel Event to Manifesta 7, an Off Project at 4th Berlin Biennale, and a solo Satellite Event at 1st Singapore Biennale.

He realized a permanent public art installation for a private collection in Via Ventura in Milan, a permanent public art installation by the new educational complex in Mezzolombardo, and a permanent public art installation of 16 tons of steel for the new A22 gate in Trento; while his public art installation 'Flu Power Flu' had been on permanence on the façade of Beursschouwburg Art Center in Brussels from 2007 to 2012.

Stefano Cagol's artworks are in the collections of ZKM | Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe, Mart – Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art of Trento and Rovereto, Fondazione Galleria Civica-Centro di Ricerca sulla Contemporaneità of Trento, Nomas Foundation, UniCredit Group, Terna. Portraits about his art research have been realized – among the other international art magazines – on 'Contemporary', London; 'Eine', Vienna; 'Flash Art', Milan; 'Monopol', Berlin. Editors such as Skira and Charta already published Stefano Cagol's monographs.

Stefano Cagol's artistic research faces the idea of border and its different manifestations: mental, physical, cultural, political, communicative ones, or between individual and collective. For doing this, he uses different media like video, photography, sculpture, installation, action.

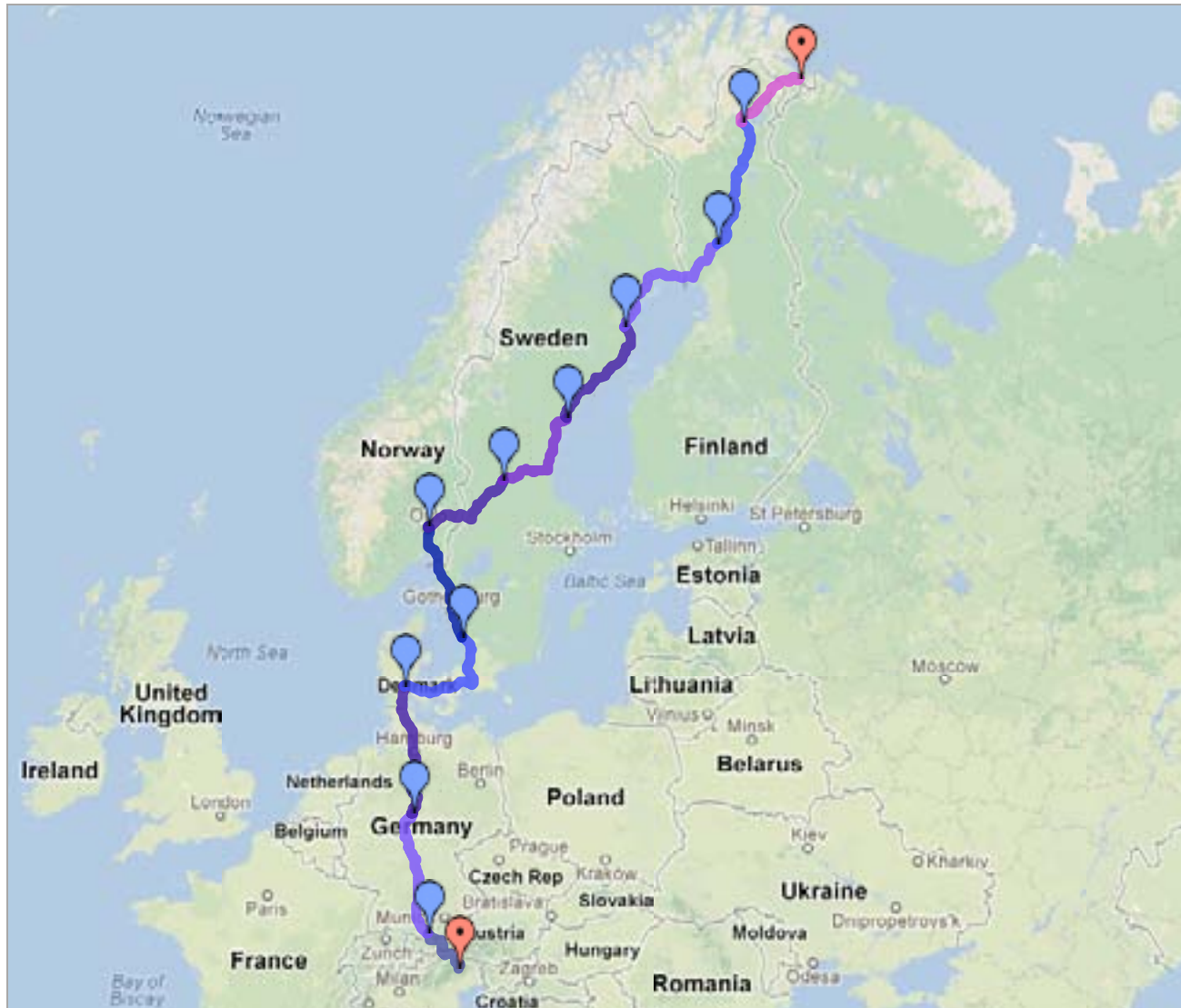
Stefano Cagol, *EVOKE PROVOKE (the border)*, 2011, video artwork
























The video work has been realized during his previous solo expedition beyond Arctic Circle in Kirkenes and has been presented at Venice Biennale.





THE END OF THE BORDER (of the mind)
March 5 - April 12, 2013
Stefano Cagol
for Barents Art Triennale



-  Casso, ITALY
-  Directions to Reutte, AUSTRIA
-  Reutte, Austria
-  Directions to Göttingen, GERMANY
-  Göttingen, Germany
-  Directions to Kolding, DENMARK
-  Kolding, Denmark
-  Directions to Falkenberg, SWEDEN
-  Falkenberg, Sweden
-  Directions to Oslo, NORWAY
-  Oslo, NORWAY
-  Directions to Orsa, SWEDEN
-  Orsa, Sweden
-  Directions to Härnösand, SWEDEN
-  Härnösand, Sweden
-  Directions to Skellefteå, SWEDEN
-  Skellefteå, Sweden
-  directions to Rovaniemi, FINLAND
-  Rovaniemi, Finland
-  directions to Inari, FINLAND
-  Inari, Finland
-  directions to Kirkenes, NORWAY
-  Kirkenes, Norway

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4	5 Casso (I) @ Casso,	6 Reutte (A) @	7 Göttingen (DE) @	8 Kolding (DK) @	9 Falkenberg (SE) @
10 Oslo (NO) @ Oslo,	11 Oslo (NO) @ Oslo,	12 Oslo (NO) @ Oslo, 6 pm - Reception @	13 Orsa (SE) @ Orsa,	14 Härnösand (SE) @	15 Skellefteå (SE) @	16 Rovaniemi (FI) @
17 Inari (FI) @ Inari,	18 19 20 21 22 23 Kirkenes (NO) @ Kirkenes, Norway					
24 25 26 27 28 29 30 Kirkenes (NO) @ Kirkenes, Norway						
31 Kirkenes (NO) @	1 Inari (FI) @ Inari,	2 Rovaniemi (FI) @	3 Skellefteå (SE) @	4 Härnösand (SE) @	5 Orsa(NO) @ Orsa,	6 Oslo (NO) @ Oslo,

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 Kirkenes (NO) @	1 Inari (FI) @ Inari,	2 Rovaniemi (FI) @	3 Skellefteå (SE) @	4 Härnösand (SE) @	5 Orsa(NO) @ Orsa,	6 Oslo (NO) @ Oslo,
7 Oslo (NO) @ Oslo,	8 Falkenberg (SE) @	9 Copenhagen (DK)	10 Hamburg (DE) @	11 Nuremberg (DE) @	12 Trento (I) @	13

COVER IMAGE:

Stefano Cagol, *Light Dissolution*, 2008, site-specific installation, 7000 W beacon, 3 rpm, 180 degrees horizontal movement

The artwork came out from the installation won the Terna Contemporary Art Prize in 2009.

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