

YURI IN WONDERLAND

English version

An Immersive Journey Through Nature, Technology, and the Magic of the Moon
(April 19 – June 12, 2026, Casa Comunale)

Roots and Visions Yuri Catania's solo exhibition places the Val Mara territory at the very core of its poetics, casting an intimate gaze upon the garden of [CasaGalleria.ART](#) in Rovio, where the artist lives and works among the flowers cultivated by his wife, Silvia, and the majesty of Monte Generoso. It is precisely from these deeply daily roots that Catania shapes his identity, sparking an unexpected and fascinating dialogue with the themes that most define him: the avant-garde of technology, the mystery of space, and the iconic figure of the female astronaut.

From Earth to Bronze: The Exhibition Path The path unfolds as an ascending journey from earthly intimacy to the cosmic infinite.

It opens in the darkness of *Black Flowers Secret Garden*, where the beam of a flashlight unveils the act of love within the garden tended by his wife Silvia, captured in dreamlike nocturnal shots printed on cotton paper. From this contemplation blossoms the meditation on time in *A Day of Flowers*, a pictorial diary of 365 flowers created daily on an iPad.

The gaze then rises toward the horizon: from the melancholic black-and-white visions of the series *"My Generoso: una Montagna per Amico"* (an artwork exhibited on the exterior wall), to the evocative pandemic skies of *Hope x The Future*, where photographs encapsulated in plexiglass display cases are activated with a flashlight to project hand-carved messages of hope into space.

The exhibition continues with the artwork *"Moon Flowers Mission Pink Peonia"*, part of the homonymous series of monochromatic and minimalist paintings where the matter of the lunar surface, crafted with paper and plaster, takes center stage alongside the tiny astronaut floating in the universe, evoking the poetics of *The Little Prince* in a play of scales between cosmic vastness and earthly fragility.

At the center of the path are the works created through painting and collage on reclaimed materials from the *"Cartoni Animati"* series.

The climax of the exhibition abandons the terrestrial atmosphere to embrace the sidereal unknown: iconic female astronauts from the *Astro Girl* series, overpainted in acrylic, guide us toward a new genesis, sublimated by the theme of spatial maternity that takes shape both in the overpainted canvas version and in the tactile majesty of the bronze sculpture.

"New Eva 2029" is the artist's first bronze sculpture, created in close collaboration with the historic Perseo Foundry, marking the beginning of a new creative phase for the artist.

An Interstellar Journey *Yuri in Wonderland* is an invitation to look beyond, to awaken our innate curiosity toward the unexplored. Through the figure of the astronaut, a symbol of technology and research, Catania reflects on humanity's role in relation to nature, calling for the respect and protection of our environment. It is a journey where creativity knows no bounds, a bridge between the infinity of the cosmos and the intimacy of a blooming garden.

Useful Information

Event Location: Casa Comunale Val Mara - Via Cantonale 89 – 6818 Melano

Inauguration of the Street Art and "Yuri in Wonderland" Exhibition: April 19, 2026 - 11:00 AM

Exhibition Opening Hours: From April 20 to June 12, 2026 Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Or by appointment

Guided Tours: Free, by reservation only (including the evening session with flashlights) via the website: www.valmara.ch/yuri-in-wonderland.

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