

## **SMacc**

### ***San Marcellino art, culture, creativity***

*For more than 70 years San Marcellino, one of the social care organizations belonging to the Jesuits, has been involving in the promotion of the human dignity in Genova. Its operating organisation has four areas of activity: Listening Centre, Housing, Education to Employment, Animation and Leisure.*

*Within the Animation and Leisure area, artistic laboratories have been operating since 2009. These are places where rethinking and reconstructing one's own uniqueness is possible through a self-narrative, made through, indeed, the creative languages. We have realised the importance of artistic spaces as a place where being able to feel oneself as a part of the Society and its own cultural life.*

*People who participate understand that sharing creativity is a way for taking care of oneself. Art is therapeutic for everyone, enjoying beauty, exploring the possibilities of creation are experiences that help to heal, create wellness, activate processes for rehabilitating interpersonal skills, later extending to the community.*

*The laboratories have become boundary places where people having different backgrounds can meet each other, where bridges between the most marginalized areas of the town and the more institutionalised ones can be built.*

*SMacc was born out of these experiences and became the venue for the artistic laboratories of San Marcellino - painting, poetry, music, video, creative space - in their weekly activities.*

*Its ambition is to be able to host projects having the same spirit: feeling oneself as a participant, a protagonist in building community processes through beauty, in sharing meaning, feeling welcomed and being able to express one's own worldview inside a no-judging artistic context.*

*Genova (Italy), May the 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023*