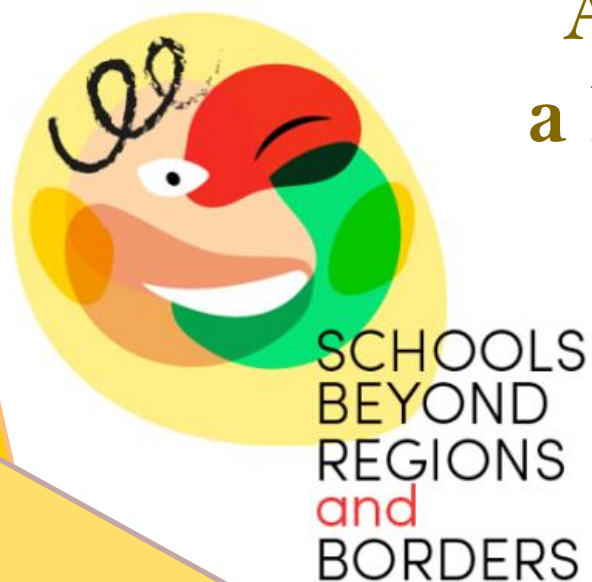



THE ACT OF GIVING: THE ESSENCE OF COOPERATION AND PUBLIC ETHICS

A reflective journey springing from
a lecture by professor Dirk Semmann




III – IV classico
Liceo A. Maffei - Riva del Garda
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We have attended an online lecture presented by Professor Semmann from Göttingen University. The title of the said lecture was *HUMAN COOPERATION: SO CRUCIAL, SO FRAGILE...*



... we have shared our thoughts on the perspectives put forward by the lecturer through a written reflection (which is also influenced by the short essay FELICITÀ. DARE UNA FORMA ALLA PROPRIA (SHAPING YOUR OWN HAPPINESS) by Antonio Petagine),



and so we have grasped the anthropological and ethical significance of *experiencing cooperation*, whether in political scenarios or in our everyday interactions, while also considering the insights on the ACT OF GIVING provided by Carmelo Vigna and Francesco Viola.



Ultimately, we have wrapped up our thorough analysis by crafting something inspired by the artworks of Italian artist Emilio Isgrò.

A FOCUS ON THE “ACT OF GIVING” AS THE HEART OF COOPERATION

The foundation of our comprehensive analysis has begun with viewing cooperation as a political experience - not solely an economic one - rooted in values like solidarity, democracy, equality, self-sufficiency, and self-responsibility.



We have traced its roots back to the anthropological experience of the ACT OF GIVING



The act of giving is an essential and spontaneous aspect of our daily interactions, often present even when we may not realize it.



Despite the promotion of a "there-is-no-alternative" strategy in economic theories concerning interests and profits since the late 17th century, it is the practice of giving that continuously adds meaning to our lives within society.



The act of giving serves as the fundamental force that unites every community and society. Regardless of how it presents itself, it is this spirit of generosity that binds individuals together and strengthens relationships over time.

The act of giving appears to create a strong basis for reinterpreting the idea of the common good, which differs from the public good.

The common good is a shared benefit for all individuals who make up society and hold legal personhood; in fact, society is designed to serve everyone. Conversely, the public good pertains to the well-being of society as a whole.

By replacing the principle of the common good with that of the public good, we shift from prioritizing justice to emphasizing usefulness, allowing national interests to excuse any infringement on individual rights.

We must also remember that the common good should not simply be seen as the sum of each individual's good, nor should it be considered solely as the good of the majority within a community.

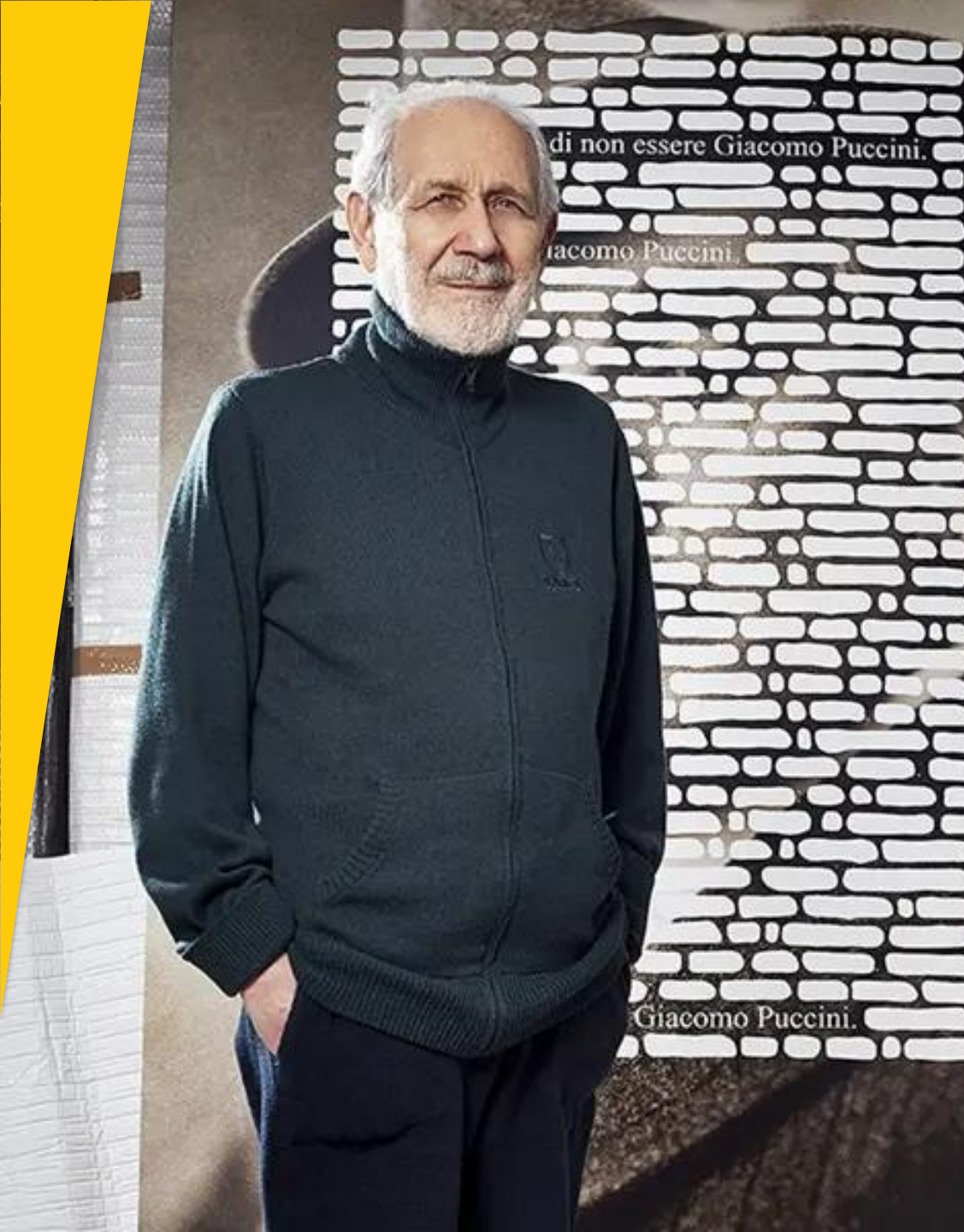
Implementing the latter approach in society would lead to the oppression of minorities by the majorities.

The common good can only arise from an agreement between the two spheres which regulate society – the public one and the private one.

Just as the common good is not simply a theoretical concept or solely in opposition to individual good, a similar comparison can be made regarding social purpose and individual responsibility.

Establishing conditions that promote excellence and enhance human well-being is a precondition of social purpose. However, it must also be supported by the increasing and widespread social responsibility of individuals.





A LOOK AT OUR CREATIONS...

Drawing inspiration from the works of Italian artist Emilio Isgrò, we've tried to capture the essence of what we've learned through various artistic creations...

Here are some examples:

coordinazione convenzione

pratica sociale

sistematicità:

natura sistematica.

regola convenzionale

autonomia,

pratiche sociali potenziali

dinamicità:

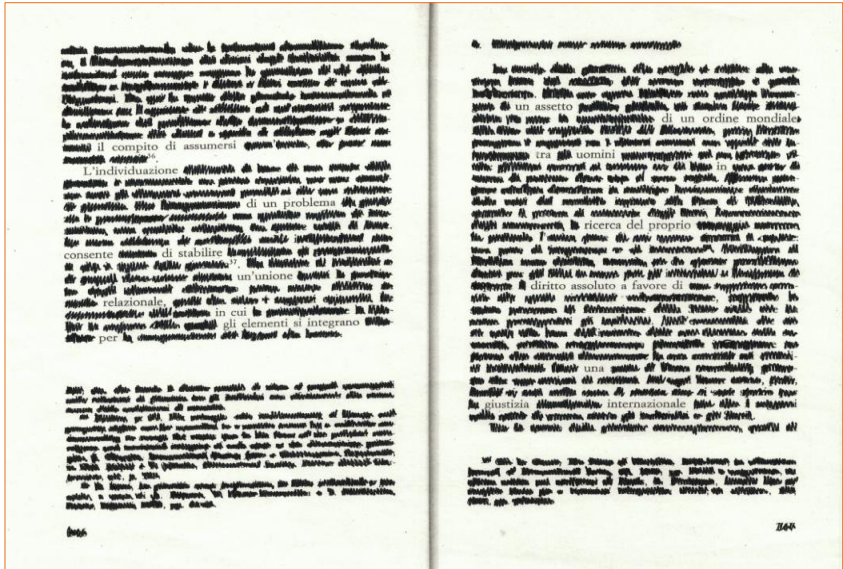
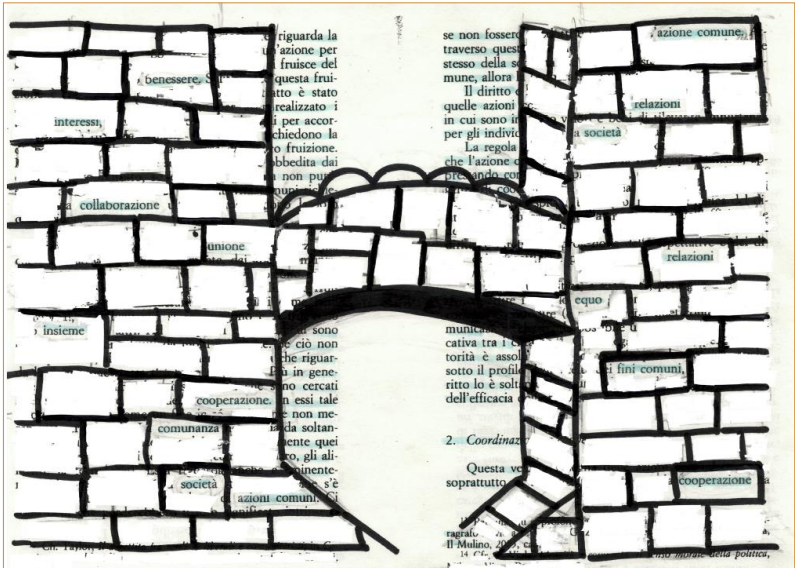
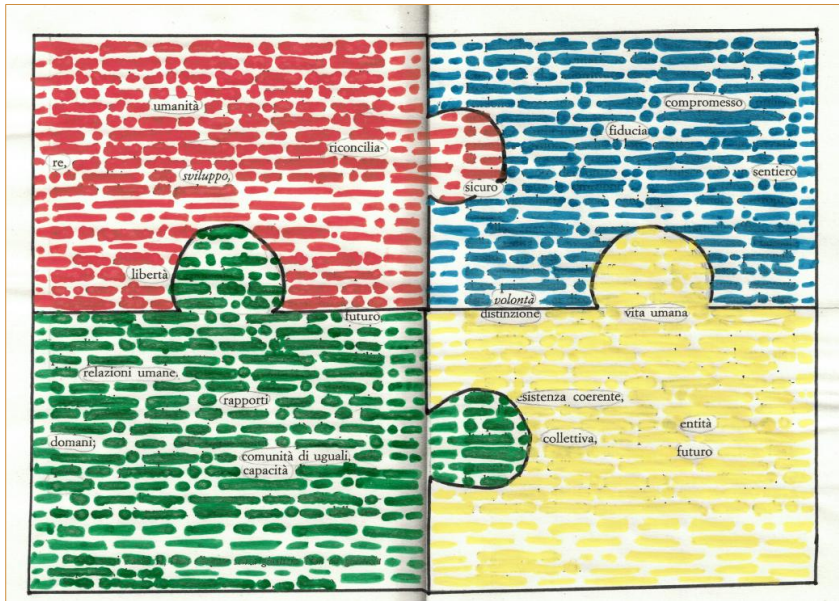
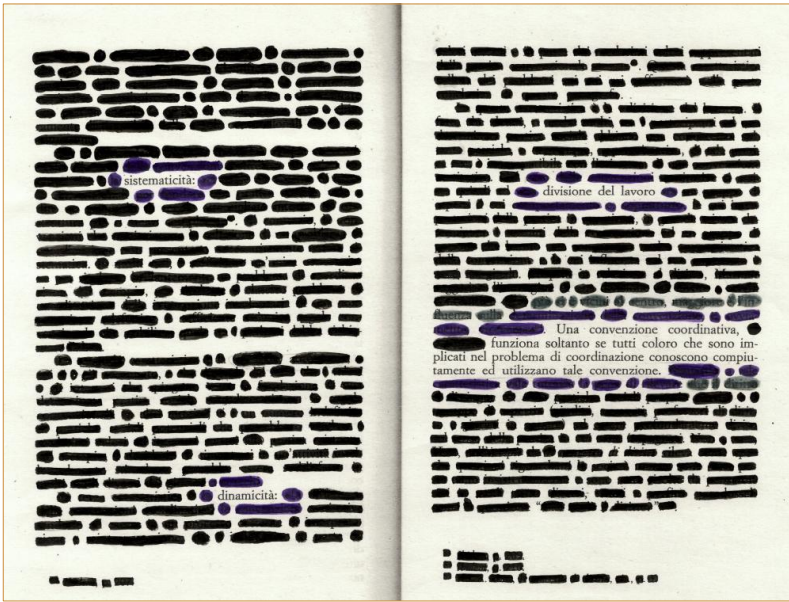
processo costante di interpretazione e reinterpretazione,

convenzioni costitutive
divisione del lavoro tra un gruppo di esperti

diritto,

convenzione coordinativa,

società umana



uguaglianza
diritti di cittadinanza. amicizia
diritti umani eguaglianza
libertà comunità
territorialità cittadinanza linguaggio
comunità

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virtù
COOPERAZIONE
...

