

## Who we are

Written by Administrator

Wednesday, 10 December 2008 00:15 - Last Updated Wednesday, 10 March 2021 12:32

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## “THE POETRY OF DOLLS“

### Internal and External Workshops

### of the Sollicciano prison in Florence



Foto di Davide Mandolini

“Poetry of Dolls” is a project undertaken by the **Associazione Pantagruel** of Florence. The project was started in 2001 when a training course was initiated in the women’s section of the Sollicciano prison as an opportunity for creativity and also as an answer to the economical and therapeutical needs of the participants.

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Operators began teaching a group of female interns to make dolls as created in the Waldorf schools, schools which put into practice the teachings of Rudolf Steiner.

Every year the "Poetry of Dolls" involves about 15 people at Sollicciano while 3 women have set up an outside workshop by taking advantage of alternative detention measures (under custody of the social services). The workshop is located at Via di Mezzo, 39/R, Florence.

The dolls are very particular items, made with all natural materials according to precise rules. Their creation is therapeutical to the maker and the dolls are destined to children who will receive them and play with them, thus these dolls serve many positive purposes.

In the external workshop training courses are conducted to teach doll-making to all those individuals who want to learn this form of craftsmanship, giving them the chance to do volunteer work on the project. Next door to the workshop, at Via di Mezzo, 39/R - Florence, an exhibition area was created , with its own entryway.

Our project has economical support from Banking Foundations and the "Tavola Valdese" of del Valdese Church by financing from the funds of the 8/1000 tax contributions, plus the direct contributions from various associations, clubs and parishes as well as many individual citizens.

With the help from the Tavola Valdese project we are able to donate dolls to the SIM Protestant Mission in the village of Mahadaga in Burkina Faso, which is a mission that assists the variously handicapped in the surrounding villages (see Photo).

To learn more about the activities of our association and particularly the project "Poetry of Dolls" come and visit us, telephone or e-mail us...

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