



fiera internazionale d'arte
moderna e contemporanea
international exhibition
of modern and contemporary art
Bologna
01/04.02.2019



Xing
presents

Oplà. Performing Activities
Performance ad Arte Fiera 2019
curated by Silvia Fanti

Bologna 2,3,4 February 2019

with

Alex Cecchetti - *Love Bar*
Cesare Pietroiusti - *Artworks that ideas can buy*
Cristian Chironi - *Bologna Drive*
Nico Vascellari - *Ciao Ciao Arte Fiera*

Arte Fiera 2019 gives space to live arts in the light of the 'tradition' that **Bologna** has cultivated since the 70s, entrusting the curator Silvia Fanti, co-director of Xing, with the creation of a special project dedicated to performance, ***Oplà. Performing Activities***, who has devised a programme of activities to be held in, around and outside the fair-grounds (**Friday 2, Saturday 3, Sunday 4 February 2019**).

The history of performance in Italy is inextricably linked to Bologna: the legendary International Performance Week of 1977, the 'performance theatre' of the 1980s together with the multi-media experiences of the 1990s and new millennium have consolidated an uninterrupted link between the city and the live arts.

The aim of *Oplà* is twofold: to create a physical link with the fair and the city through itineraries, for spectators - and also a virtual link through the social media; and to create within the framework of a big commercial event spaces where objects and services are not on sale but rather follow a different, paradoxical economic logic based on the exchange of words and ideas.

(Simone Menegoi, Arte Fiera).

Working today with the contemporary means creating occasions, contexts and moments that show not so much "what art is" but "what art does". The question is therefore how to respond to the proposal to make Performance part of an art fair without turning it into a merely decorative or, at worst, inappropriate accessory.

Oplà. Performing Activities slips performance into a functional context, creating opportunities to be an active part of an artwork. The performances are not individual shows lasting a set time, but rather activities proper: a series of microsystems involving creation, work and service. For three consecutive days, *Oplà* will lay on a series of critically acute but generously open-minded performing activities that anyone can be a part of. The decision to involve Italian artists - all of them prominent figures - is in line with the curatorial approach of this edition of Arte Fiera.

Each of the four ingenious performance projects reveals an ability to analyze and respond to the specific context of an art fair. Each Activity triggers a cascade of participative relations, proving that cross-pollination and mutual interaction are still possible in Italy today and that aesthetics can be paired with ethics and economy of means with willful waste.
(Silvia Fanti, Xing)

info: www.artefiera.it www.xing.it/event/454/opla_performing_activities_i

PROJECTS

Cesare Pietroiusti
Artworks that ideas can buy

31 January - 1+2+3 February
opening hours
hall 25 - booth B25

Artworks (for sale in exchange for visitors ideas) by: **Maria Thereza Alves, Massimo Bartolini, Ludovica Carbotta, Adam Chodzko, Francesco De Grandi, Michele Di Stefano, Sam Durant, Jimmie Durham, Emilio Fantin Roberto Fassone, Valentina Furian, Margherita Morgantini, Caterina Morigi, Giancarlo Norese, Luigi Presicce, Ana Prvacki, Aldo Spinelli, Alessandra Spranzi, Luca Trevisani, Serena Vestrucci, Cesare Viel, Luca Vitone**
Concept: **Cesare Pietroiusti**

Artworks that ideas can buy is an exhibition in a booth, very much like all the others in the fair, in which about 20 artists of different generations and poetic styles each display an artwork. But the creations are not on sale in exchange for money but for ideas. Visitors can leave their comments, opinions, proposals, criticism or suggestions regarding any of the works on show. Then, as happens in some auctions, the ideas, still in closed envelopes, will be put into a box and opened only at the end of the fair. The artists/authors will decide whether any of the ideas put forward by visitors is

"worth" their piece of art. If so, the artist will accept the exchange and the visitor will become the owner of the work. If, on the other hand, the artist decides that no idea is up to his/her work, it will not change hands.

Born in Rome in 1955, visual artist **Cesare Pietroiusti** has founded and coordinated many research centres, projects and conferences on art. Trained as a psychiatrist, Pietroiusti has always been interested in paradoxical or apparently irrational situations commonly considered "too insignificant to become the basis for analysis or representation".
www.pensierinonfunzionali.net

Alex Cecchetti

Love Bar

1+2+3 February

Opening hours: 17.90>19.15

Location: the Costituzione (main) entrance to the art fair

A collection of "stories to be drunk", the **Love Bar** has existed since 2012, an apparition, a strange temporary mirage, a landscape bathed by the moon. The exchange of stories and drinks – made from herbs and local plants collected by the artist himself – takes place at the bar counter, a sort of proto-theatrical stage where the role of spectator and performer becomes indistinct. In this countrified, almost renaissance setting, Cecchetti has created a place in which the speaking and the drinking happens in the mouth at the same time. Every love story told will be rewarded with a cocktail, an elixir, a potion, or another love story. For it is said that every potion is also a-story, a remedy or a question. People meet at the Love Bar on leaving Arte Fiera at the end of the day in a liminal area between two worlds, a haven amidst the flow of visitors in a mental sunset that never finishes.

Born in Terni in 1977, **Alex Cecchetti** is an artist, poet and Italian performer based in Paris. His artistic practice is difficult to classify. Cecchetti calls it the "art of evasion". Invisible choreographies, phantasmagorical narrations, objects that produce experience for and with the spectator are all part of his *modus operandi*. His performances have been presented in museums throughout Europe, including the Centre Pompidou and Palais de Tokyo in Paris, the MAXXI in Rome, and the Serpentine Galleries in London.

www.alexcecchetti.com

Nico Vascellari

Ciao Ciao Arte Fiera

1+2+3 February

24/24

At the art fair and in town

Vascellari makes the art fair the starting point for a journey across town. For three days, from Friday to Sunday, the public will be invited to look for an object that the artist has taken from one of the Arte Fiera pavilions and left somewhere around the city. The item could be a nail, a piece of wall plaster, or a sheet of paper.. As is often the case with Vascellari, the objective is to trigger spatial permutation that turns the world on its head: an ordinary object taken from a place dedicated to art acquires deeper significance by being relocated to an everyday context, becoming an art object itself thanks to the active participation of the user. Visitors can take part in the project through Vascellari's social media pages (Facebook and Instagram). The announcement will be made at midday and the public will have until midnight to find the object, sending a photo to the artist. The found object will be authenticated as a work of art and become the property of the finder, taking the form of a post-card signed on behalf of a creative collaboration: **Ciao Ciao Arte Fiera**.

Born in 1976 in Vittorio Veneto (province of Treviso) and now living in Rome, **Nico Vascellari** is probably one of the best active performers on the international arts scene today. His most recent personal shows include: MAXXI | National Museum of 21st Century Art, Rome; Palais De Tokyo, Paris; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester; Accademia di Francia - Villa Medici, Rome; and the Estorick Collection, London. Vascellari also participated in the 52nd Venice Biennale; Manifesta 7; the 15th Rome Quadriennale; and the 12th Venice Architecture Biennale. His works are held by major institutions including: The Beyeler Foundation, Basle; La Maison Rouge, Paris; Kunsthau, Graz; ZKM, Karlsruhe; CSW, Warsaw; PinchukArtCentre, Kiev; and Le Magasin, Grenoble.

www.nicovascellari.com

Christian Chironi

Bologna Drive

1+2+3 February

Opening hours: 11>13 + 14.30>17.30

Art fair grounds and the Costituzione (main) entrance (prior reservation needed)

Reservations: 349/4634730

10>11 + 13>14 + 18>19 or leave a message on whatsapp

(reservations accepted starting Monday, 28 January 2019).

Bologna Drive is the next step of the project *My House is a Le Corbusier*. This time artist and performer, Christian Chironi, seeks out evidence of the impact the great Modernist architect, Le Corbusier, has had on the city of Bologna. In *Bologna Drive*, visitors get into a Special model Fiat 127, renamed *Chameleon* for its ability to change the colour of its bodywork depending on where it stops - the colour following the typical Le Corbusier colour palette. Driven by Chironi

himself, *Chameleon* will make a tour of the fair district on a journey of urban reflection and imagination on the themes of travel, mobility, housing, crossing borders, and social transformation. Also aboard and taking part in the conversation will be Chironi's companions – among them Franco Vaccari, Giacinto Di Pietrantonio, and Barbara Casavecchia. There will also be sounds by Francesco Brasini, the Radio France Choir, Massimo Carozzi, Alessandro Bosetti, Daniela Cattivelli, and DomInique Vaccaro, composed and recorded in the various buildings constructed by Le Corbusier that Chironi has lived in at one time or another. Le Corbusier's famous "a house is a machine for living in" is reinterpreted for this project. A mobile environment of travel and movement develops around the "Machine for living in" in a remix of stories, trajectories and values. Alongside *Bologna Drive* will be a new public artwork by Chironi conceived as a tribute to the imaginary Metroplitan line laid out in Bologna by Kinkaleri and Xing at the beginning of the new millennium: 4 luminous signs featuring a large white W on a red background placed in 4 different spots in the city to mark the entrance to as many "underground" venues that became temporary cultural hubs. Chironi has re-designed the W sign, simply rotating it, into a new symbol that shows 3 steps. The news sign, entitled *Step-Stop*, will be installed in front of the art fair entrances. The car trips will run for 3 days.

Every trip will last 15 minutes and take 3 passengers. There is no charge but reservation is required. Meeting point: W Fiera.

Born in Nuoro, Sardinia, but growing up in Orani, **Cristian Chironi** graduated from Bologna's Fine Arts Academy. Using a range of expressive languages that dialogue with each other, he has realized site-specific installations and performances, always with the aim of interacting with their context, i.e. the public and the physical site. Chironi lives, works and exhibits in various parts of the world. His most recent exhibitions include: *My house is a Le Corbusier* (Esprit Nouveau Bologna; Studio-Apartment Paris; Unité d'habitation Marseille; Casa Curutchet, La Plata; Pierre Jeanneret Museum, Chandigarh); *Lo stato delle cose*, 16th Quadriennale, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome; *Falsa Torment*, Casa Wabi, Puerto Escondido; *ECO*, CND Centre National de la Dance, Pantin Paris; *I'm back*, Museo Nivola, Orani; *Prospectum*, Casa Italia PyeongChang, 2018 Winter Olympics South Korea.
www.cristianchironi.it
