

NUOVA ICONA

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PRESS RELEASE

Andrea Morucchio
Play God
Solo show

Nuova Icona presents a solo exhibition by Andrea Morucchio at Oratorio of San Ludovico on Tuesday the 29th of April 2014 at 6.30pm

A site specific installation, made up of two projections, a sound piece and a carpet.

In the dark intriguing atmosphere of the Oratorio, the spectator will see the same projection, one projected within the altarpiece and the other on the opposite wall. The video portrays the naked body of the artist, seen from behind, from the nape to the pelvis, while he moves his arms back and forth: an action continuously repeated, a meditation exercise, a source of energy.

The background of the video is a geometric black and white pattern, inspired by a Frank Stella lithography, from the series Black, 1967.

Between the two projections, that are like two poles of attraction, the audio and the carpet gravitate: the latter printed with the same geometric pattern as in the video, linking the altarpiece with the opposite wall; the audio, on the other hand, produced by wind musical instruments, played with the technique of circular breathing creating a continuous fluxus, without interruptions, just as the body movement in the video projection.

The artist builds an immersive and hypnotic space, in which all the installation elements contribute to create this atmosphere in symbiosis one with the other. Symbiosis made up of visual and rhythmical references, where it is difficult to distinguish between the source and the bounce: what comes before, the carpet or its image? Sound or movement?

Then stop, a minute of silence when all you can see is the geometric pattern on the walls and the carpet under your feet; it's like the gathering of prayer, before the beginning of a new liturgy: 6 min. of sound + 1 min. of silence repeated in loop. The distance between the lines of the pattern on the carpet is 6 cm and the width of the lines is 1 cm. 7, the perfect number for the mystics.

Sacred spaces are places when communication between this world and the other world is possible. The black and white background is not simply a repetition of the carpet pattern, but a new interpretation and celebration of opposites and symbolism, sacred and non, and the relation between them.

As well as opposites there are Stella minimalism and Morucchio's body, the disappearing and presence of the artist, who, though this work also speaks about his life experiences: the pattern on the carpet, commissioned by the artist to a Tibetan refugees workshop in Nepal at the end of the 90s, is use by the artist at home as a place of meditation.

Topics as circularity, repetition, binary logic of the opposites, esoterism, body, religion, are constant in Morucchio's works.

Moreover, this exhibition is being held in a sacred place where, especially in the Christian religion, the enchanting power of images combined with music has always been used to connote its liturgies and strengthen their message.

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Andrea Morucchio (Venezia 1967) Political Sciences degree at the University of Padua. He began his activity as a photographer in 1989. Since the end of the 90s he has broadened his artistic research – often supported by socio - political reflections – using different techniques, from sculpture to installation, from video to photography, to performance.

Among his main solo shows: Back in Black | sculpture . digital art . video | curated by S. Fuso, Ca' Pesaro, Galleria d'Arte Moderna, MUVE Musei Civici Venezia, 2011; Pulse Red | video installation | curated by G. Conti, D. Musella, Outdoors, Fontego dei Tedeschi, Venezia, 2009 ; Verso il Paese dei Fumi e delle Urla | video-sound installation | Giorno della Memoria, Campo San Bartolomeo, Venezia, 2008; Sri Yantra | video-sound installation | curated by M. Riccioni, Notturmi Dannunziani, Vittoriale degli Italiani, Gardone, Brescia, 2008; Pulse Red | light projection | curated by A. Fonda, Borders, multi medial research in the borders today, Punta della Dogana, Venezia, 2004; Eidetic Bush | video-sound installation | curated by N. Frankham, Plimsoll Gallery, Tasmanian School of Art, Hobart, 2003; Le Nostre Idee Vinceranno | video-sound installation | curated by V. Baradel, Gemine Muse, young artists in the Italian Museums, Museo Mocenigo, MUVE Musei Civici Venezia, 2002.

Among the group exhibitions: Hybrid Body Poetic Body, Venice International Performance Art Week, | video-sound installation | curated by A. Pagnes, Palazzo Bembo, Venezia, 2012; Winning Hearts and Minds, dOCUMENTA (13) | video-sound | curated by Critical Art Ensemble, Spazio 42, Hauptbahnhof, Kassel, 2012; Glocal 3 | photography | curated by E. Gusella, Centro Culturale Candiani, Mestre, 2012; Crossing-Immaginodromo | photography | curated by O. Casagrande, collateral event at the 53[^] Venice Biennale, Forte Marghera, Mestre, 2009; Giunglavideo.3 | video | curated by P. Toffolutti, SPAC, Villa Toppo Florio, Buttrio, 2008; Multiversity | photography | curated by M. Baravalle, Magazzini del Sale, Sale Docks, Venezia, 2008; Dis-orders | video | curated by M. Baravalle, Fondazione Bevilacqua La Masa, Palazzetto Tito, Venezia, 2006.

Opening: Tuesday April 29, 2014, 6.30 pm

From April 30 till May 29, 2014. Tuesday- Sunday, 2 – 7 p.m. Closed on Monday.

Exhibition produced by Nuova Icona

Curated by: Vittorio Urbani and Elisa Genna

Music by Francesco Gibaldi

Video production: Emanuele Basso

Technical assistance (video/sound): Greenspin

In collaboration with: eve ar:v (eventi-arte-venezia), Teknolay, Mavive, Afm

[Oratorio di San Ludovico, Venezia \(Calle dei Vecchi, Dorsoduro 2552\)](#)

Waterbus n. 6, 2, stop San Basilio.

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