

Press Release

## ***Mazzoleni at Artissima 2021***

5-7 November 2021

Preview: 4 November

Oval Lingotto, Turin | Booth Purple 11 Green 14

Mazzoleni is pleased to participate in Artissima 2021 (Main Section) with a project that brings together Italian and international contemporary artists: **Andrea Francolino, Melissa McGill, Rebecca Moccia, David Reimondo** and **Marinella Senatore**.

The common theme running through the selection of works is the ability to overcome the creative limitations within a variety of artistic fields. This is explored through corporeal, linguistic, and sensory mediums. The project is characterised by a plurality of visual languages, ranging from drawing and painting to video and light sculptures.

**Marinella Senatore's** light sculpture *Dance First Think Later* is a modern interpretation of the traditional "luminarie", the decorative luminous structures belonging to Southern Italy's folklore. The work suggests a reflection on the concept of temporary architecture and the "universal square." On the adjacent walls, two works from the cycle *Un corpo unico* ("A single body", 2020) feature different elements juxtaposed next to each other, which reveal themselves as irreplaceable parts of a single "design" when viewed as a whole. The single elements can be interpreted as a metaphor of the individual who, despite their singularity, is an indispensable part of the community. This sense of unity and participation focussed on achieving the common good can be seen as a "single body." Further to Senatore's *Luminaria* and paintings, the presentation includes some drawings inspired by the Divine Comedy, and first presented on the occasion of **2021 Dante's Days** in Foligno.

The series *100 Breaths* (2016) by **Melissa McGill** (Rhode Island, 1969) is comprised of 100 works on paper created by the artist with the use of metal dust and her own breath; the gold and silver materials create iridescent elements of remarkable lightness and volatility, which are sensitive to variations in light according to the observer's point of view.

For **Andrea Francolino**, the "crack" is almost an obsession, a neutral manifestation of an existential and material condition. Over the years, this subject-object dynamic has been made visible via the use of concrete and cement dust, glass and, ultimately, powder and gold leaf. In the cycle titled *Crepa* ("Crack"), the artist – almost as if replacing time and history – lacerates portions of the wall and subsequently fill the "wound" with gold, the utmost precious and luminous element.

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For over a decade, **David Reimondo** has been drawing new graphemes and phonemes to create a new ecumenical and universal “language,” which features verbal, physical, luminous, and elements and is meant to be understood as a general communication tool. Over the years, the artist has used his “symbols” to elaborate heterogeneous works, such as wood sculptures, verbal-visual, sound, and light installations, videos, and photographs. For the project “Gesti” (2014-2020), Reimondo collaborated with members of the Italian National Agency for the Deaf – Milan Province, reinventing his symbols into sign language. After several meetings and discussions, some “new gestures” were chosen to create a sentence, which is often used by the artist in his works: *“The muscle of thought is the brain. A procedure of the brain is language. Language defines and indicates the functioning of thought. To see language in action is to see the characteristic organ of the human animal. New languages determine the birth of new worlds.”*

**Rebecca Moccia**’s photographs are stills from *Rest Your Eyes*, a video featuring a news broadcast from 31 December 2020, in which images have been blurred through a digital filter created by the artist. The chromatic spectrum varies according to the type of images shown in the news. The variations in light and colour act as a persistent “filter” that blurs the surrounding space, inducing the viewer to try and recognise shapes and narratives.

#### **MAZZOLENI**

Mazzoleni was founded in Turin in 1986 by Giovanni and Anna Pia Mazzoleni as a natural evolution of the private collection they started in the 1950s. Since 2014, the historic Turin space has been flanked by the London gallery in Mayfair. Over the past three decades Mazzoleni has organised solo and group exhibitions of more than 200 prominent Italian and international artists from across the 20th century with an exhibition programme focused on museum-calibre Italian art from the post-war period and recently the contemporary panorama, working in close collaboration with artists’ estates and foundations. Under the leadership of Davide and Luigi Mazzoleni, the gallery has intensified its international activities, participating in numerous art fairs, including Art Basel (Basel, Miami and Hong Kong), Frieze Masters (London), TEFAF (Maastricht and New York) and FIAC (Paris).

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

##### *Mazzoleni at Artissima 2021*

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Oval Lingotto

Via Giacomo Mattè Trucco, 70, Turin

Dates: 5-7 November 2021 (Preview: 4 November, upon invitation only)

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