

PRESS RELEASE

**Mazzoleni at Art Basel Miami Beach  
1 December – 4 December 2016  
Stand F5**

Mazzoleni is pleased to announce that the gallery will be returning to Art Basel Miami Beach for the second time in December 2016. 'Rome and Milan: The Great Beauty' will showcase the styles that developed, concurrently and in conversation with one another, in both cities over the Post-War period. Together Rome and Milan fostered radical artistic languages that contributed to the overall evolution of Western Post-War art. The presentation will include significant works by Lucio Fontana (1899–1968), Fausto Melotti (1901–1986), Alberto Burri (1915–1995), Piero Dorazio (1927–2005), Enrico Castellani (b. 1930), Piero Manzoni (1933–1963) and Agostino Bonalumi (1935–2013).

In the 1950s Milan became the financial centre of the Italian economy and the boom in local industry influenced a new generation of artists who wanted to radically change the landscape of Italian art. One of the first to do so was Lucio Fontana, who challenged the traditional idea of painting with his perforated and slashed canvases. Fontana's revolutionary practice went on to inspire a generation of Milanese artists, many of whom came into close contact with him during his time living in Milan. They included Fausto Melotti, Piero Manzoni, Enrico Castellani and Agostino Bonalumi. Each of these artists introduced new industrial materials into their works, such as aluminium and steel, as well as applying modern industrial applications to traditional materials, such as bronze and brass. Highlights of the presentation will include a Bonalumi shaped canvas in yellow from 1969, an important 1971 example of Castellani's *Superficie* series and one of Melotti's signature metal sculptures, *Scultura G (Nove cerchi)* (1968). These works will be shown alongside several of Fontana's *Concetto Spaziale* including a striking aluminum example from 1965.

At the same time Rome was becoming an important crossroads for international cultural conversations, including the film industry. American artist Cy Twombly made Rome his main address and Piero Dorazio was strongly influenced by Jackson Pollock in the 1950s and 1960s. Robert Rauschenberg also visited Rome regularly during the Post-War years, frequently coming into contact with Italian sculptor and painter Alberto Burri. Burri had moved to Rome after World War II and it was there that he began some of his most pioneering experiments. Mirroring the concerns of his contemporaries in Milan, these works involved the introduction of new industrial materials to his practice such as burlaps and Cellotex. In Rome, Piero Manzoni also came into contact with the work of Burri. A work from his *Achromes* series of kaolin-coated canvases will be shown alongside a selection of Burri's experimental works including *Rosso Plastica* (1968), a work using combustion on cellotex and *Sacco Bianco Nero* (1956), a work incorporating burlap and oil on cellotex.

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**Notes to Editors**

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Art Basel Miami Beach will take place from Thursday 1 December – Sunday 4 December 2016.

**About Mazzoleni**

Mazzoleni was founded in Turin in 1986, by Giovanni and Anna Pia Mazzoleni. In the past three decades Mazzoleni has organised more than 150 solo and group shows, championing the work of Post-War Italian artists. In October 2014, the gallery opened a Mayfair-based London outpost, under the directorship of Luigi Mazzoleni. The gallery participates in fairs in London, Hong Kong and New York, amongst others.

The gallery evolved from the private collection of Giovanni Mazzoleni, which was begun in the 1960s and brought together works from several of the most important international movements



# MAZZOLENI

LONDON – TORINO

including Surrealism, Futurism and Abstract Art. Post-War Italian art and Arte Povera soon became the primary focus of the collection and, with the welcoming of Giovanni's sons Davide and Luigi to the gallery in the 1990s, became the core of Mazzoleni's curatorial programme.

Today the Turin-based gallery takes up three floors of Palazzo Panizza, looking out upon the historic Piazza Solferino and occupying part of the original 19th-century foyer of the Alfieri theatre. The London gallery, established to extend the reach of this important group of artists and to develop new and existing overseas relationships, is situated on Albemarle Street in the heart of Mayfair's artistic district. The 3,000-square-foot space continues to present a programme focused on museum-calibre Post-War Italian Art and Arte Povera, working in close collaboration with artists' estates and foundations.

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