

For Immediate release

Mazzoleni at Art Basel Miami Beach 2018

Miami Beach Convention Center | Booth D1

1901 Convention Center Drive

Miami Beach, FL 33139

Mazzoleni is pleased to return to Art Basel Miami Beach this December and will present works by **Alighiero Boetti**; **Agostino Bonalumi**; **Alberto Burri**; **Enrico Castellani**; **Lucio Fontana**; **Jannis Kounellis**; **Piero Manzoni**; **Fausto Melotti**; **Michelangelo Pistoletto**.

The display will focus on the Arte Povera movement, which will be represented by three distinguished figures, **Alighiero Boetti** (1940-1994), **Jannis Kounellis** (1936-2017) and **Michelangelo Pistoletto** (b.1933). Boetti, whose embroidered works and investigations on language convey puzzles of short phrases, inverted sayings or wordplay, was conceived by the artist in the 1970s. On this occasion, later embroidered works from the 90s will be presented, as well as *Aerei*, 1983, an early biro on paper work, depicting aeroplanes on a striking red background. For Kounellis, the physical reality of the materials in his work is important and he is known for using found objects such as iron, burlap, and even coal to powerful effect. He will be represented by a combination of silkscreen and ink works on paper from the 50s and 60s alongside more recent jute sack and iron works from 2001 onwards. To coincide with the current exhibition *Origins and Consequences* at Mazzoleni's London gallery, several *mirror paintings* by renowned artist Michelangelo Pistoletto, will be displayed. What animates the *mirror paintings* is the duality of a fixed photo image placed on the surface of a reflective steel plate and the moving images produced by reflections of the viewer and their environment. The performative element of the works is completed by the observer who becomes the central protagonist.

Also presented will be works by **Lucio Fontana** (1899-1968) who is best known for his revolutionary *Tagli* or "cuts", which consist of slashed, ripped or punctured canvases. On display will be striking examples of Fontana's slashed canvases, *Concetto Spaziale Attese* from the 1960s. Following the invention of the 'holes' in 1949, the founder of *Spatialism* broke the conventional notions of two-dimensional painting in order to create a new kind of art, more appropriate for the age of space exploration and science. By investigating beyond the canvas, his "slashed" *Tagli*, became one of the most recognisable gestures of the Post-War era. This innovative conceptual act redefined the Italian artistic landscape and had a wide-reaching influence. Fontana's impact was recognised by many international and Italian artists, including Manzoni, Castellani and Bonalumi.

Alberto Burri (1915-1995) is renowned for utilising a host of everyday materials, such as burlap and plastic, transforming them via use of burns and lacerations into dynamic works on paper, canvas and celotex. On this occasion, a selection of exemplary works from his *Cellotex and Combustione* series will be presented, including *Cellotex* 1982. Defying the customary use of celotex as an industrial material, Burri created a large oeuvre of works where variations in composition, colour, volume, form and texture were meticulously and systematically researched. By discarding the traditional approach to painting and utilising raw artistic expression, Burri altered the way in which artists subsequently worked around the world. Throughout his career, Burri participated in a succession of solo and group exhibitions at some of the most prestigious museums of the world including, the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna in Rome, the Tate in London and the Musée d'Art Moderne in Paris.

There will be works on display by **Piero Manzoni** (1933-1963) who was significantly younger than Fontana and Burri, yet, drew upon and subverted the positions achieved in their oeuvre. Manzoni aimed to strip away the extraneous materials in a work of art and conceived his white kaolin-soaked *Achromes* as neutral artworks that existed without any outside reference. With his radical and playful spirit, he precipitated much international research, from conceptual to performance art. Together with **Enrico Castellani**, (1930 - 2017), Manzoni founded the journal "Azimuth" and united by the use of monochrome tones, these two artists' colourless surfaces played a crucial role in the search for a new ground zero for painting and sculpture. By limiting their palette, they were able to emphasize the materiality of the canvas, allowing the previously unexplored elements of light and movement to redefine the picture plane. **Agostino Bonalumi**, (1935-2013), their peer in the Milanese post-war scene, also shared an interest in sculpting painting into the third dimension. He explored the plasticity of the canvas with his 'Painting-Objects', by experimenting with vinyl tempera across a riveted structure in his *extroflexions*, creating a rhythmic tension between form and light. On display will be key works from the 50's and 60s.

About MAZZOLENI

Mazzoleni was founded in Turin in 1986 and opened a Mayfair-based London gallery in October 2014. Over the past three decades Mazzoleni has organised solo and group exhibitions of more than 150 prominent Italian and international artists from across the 20th century. Recent critically acclaimed exhibitions have included the major Alberto Burri solo exhibition in 2015, "Piero Manzoni. Achromes: Linea Infinita", curated by Gaspare Luigi Marcone in collaboration with the Piero Manzoni Foundation, "Fontana/Melotti. Angelic Spaces and Infinite Geometries", curated by Daniela Ferrari, "Pittura Analitica: Then and Now", curated by Alberto Fiz, "Colour in Contextual Play, an installation by Joseph Kosuth", curated by Cornelia Lauf and Joseph Kosuth, "UnComfort Zone" with Dimore Gallery, "Light in motion: Balla Dorazio Zappettini", curated by Elena Gigli and "MORE THAN WORDS" curated by Daniela Ferrari, "Michelangelo Pistoletto: Origins and Consequences" curated by Alberto Fiz, "Equilibrium. An Idea for Italian Sculpture", curated by Giorgio Verzotti. All exhibitions are accompanied by fully illustrated monographs, often featuring newly commissioned research contributing to current critical and art historical discourse. Mazzoleni participates at international art fairs, including London, Paris, Basel, Hong Kong, New York and Miami.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Art Basel Miami Beach 2018 | **Booth D1**
Miami Beach Convention Center
1901 Convention Center Drive
Miami Beach, FL 33139 USA

Opening Times:

Wednesday 5 December 11 AM – 8 PM VIP Invitation only
Thursday 6 December 11 AM– 3 PM Preview invitation only
Thursday 6 December 3 PM – 8 PM – Public day
Friday 7 December 12 noon - 8 PM (General Admission)
Saturday 8 December 12 noon - 8 PM (General Admission)
Sunday 9 December 12 noon- 6 PM (General Admission)

Address: MAZZOLENI, 27 Albemarle Street, London W1S 4HZ
Gallery Hours: Mon – Fri 10am – 6pm, Sat 11am – 5pm Admission:
Free Website: www.mazzoleniart.com
Email: press@mazzoleniart.com

FOR ALL PRESS ENQUIRIES

Please contact Alana Pryce Tojcic | press@mazzoleniart.com | +44 (0)7940420631

ENDS