

Press Release

Back to London.
A journey through image, time, word and space.

26 June – 19 September 2020

Private View: 25 June 2020, 12-8pm by appointment

Mazzoleni is delighted to reopen its London gallery following the lockdown with the group show **Back to London. A journey through image, time, word and space** from 26 June 2020. The exhibition title also suggests the physical return to the gallery of a selection of artworks recently exhibited in international museums and fairs. Historical and contemporary artists are brought together in this show, allowing a number of visual, material or conceptual affinities to emerge.

Linee forze di mare – Rosa (circa 1919) by **Giacomo Balla** (1871-1958) establishes a visual dialogue with the photographic works of *Red Regatta* by the American artist **Melissa McGill** (b.1969). This body of works is part of her major public art project *Red Regatta*, an unprecedented series of four large-scale site-specific performances on Venice's waterways between May and September 2019.

With his deep interest on different languages and cultures, **Alighiero Boetti's** (1940-1994) developed his visual research throughout his frequent trips to Afghanistan and Pakistan where he encountered highly skilled artisans whom he commissioned to realise his works. Boetti's "embroidered" verbal-visual compositions combine letters, sentences, colours, and the idea of "time" to achieve a unique form of "depersonalization" of the work; the concept of time is also prominent in his *Calendari* series.

Along with the works by **Vincenzo Agnetti** (1926-1981) and **Mel Bochner** (b. 1940), younger artists such as **David Reimondo** (b. 1973) and **Rebecca Moccia** (b. 1992) investigate on the wide meaning of "language".

David Reimondo's *Etimografia* is a macro-project embracing much of his latest research into "language". The artist has created a synthesis sui generis (featuring ideograms, pictograms and glyphs among other elements) and produced new "graphemes" and new "phonemes". Each of these "symbols" is the base element of a broader, more variegated project. This project came into being quite naturally as a perennial "work in progress". One series of pieces is composed of "sculptures" (each around 40x40x6 cm) in wood coloured with ink for professional printers; a choice of matter and materials that brings together past and present, conjugating different operational practices. Reimondo's utopia is the development of a new language – in the most absolute sense of the term – that overcomes those predefined barriers. Instead in the series *Blue-come-back* (2019), Rebecca Moccia has created collages with blue-back paper overlaying calligraphic drawings of couples of male and female terms borrowed from Italian politics taken from the series *Un linguaggio inaudito* (2018). Stratifications of time, images and older works: a reverse manifesto revealing language in all its vulnerability, at risk of dissipation, noise and illegibility.

Made in 1969, **Giuseppe Uncini's** (1929-2008) work with bricks and concrete dialogues visually and materially with the “explorations” of **Andrea Francolino** (b. 1979). Using concrete dust Francolino has “harvested” and “traced” – in negative – the essence and the form of seven “cracks” in the road encountered on his route from Milan to London. Metaphors of fragility like the dusts used transferred and then impressed on paper. Each work comes along with a date, a time and satellite coordinates that allow the precise space and time of his action to be identified. The coordinates are, in fact, the titles of the works and the observer may work their way back to the original location, while the real cracks transform with the passage of time.

About MAZZOLENI

Mazzoleni was founded in Turin in 1986 by Giovanni and Anna Pia Mazzoleni, as a natural evolution of their private collection 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

Exhibition: *Back to London.*
A journey through image, time, word and space.
Dates: 26 June – 19 September 2020
Private View: 25 June 2020, 12-8pm by appointment. Please contact london@mazzoleniart.com
Address: Mazzoleni, 27 Albemarle Street, London, W1S 4HZ
Telephone: +44 (0) 207 495 8805
Gallery Hours: Mon – Fri, 10am-6pm, Sat by appointment

In order to provide a safe environment for our staff and the public, visitors will be asked to respect instructions given by gallery staff and to comply with the following protocols:

- A limited number of visitors will be allowed in the gallery at once.
- To wear their own masks for the duration of the visit.
- To use the hand sanitizer provided, upon entering the gallery.
- To practice social or physical distancing of at least 2m from other people.

Appointments in advance are encouraged. Please contact london@mazzoleniart.com

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