

Press Release

Rome – Milan: Space and Colour, Rhythm and Matter

1 October – 28 November 2020

Private View: 1 October 2020, 12-8pm by appointment

Mazzoleni is delighted to announce the launch of the new exhibition season in its London gallery on 1 October 2020, with the group show **Rome – Milan: Space and Colour, Rhythm and Matter**. The show brings together a number of the leading figures of the Italian art scene that were operating in these two major Italian cities with works realised mainly between the 1950s and 1960s.

Acclaimed for their artistic revolutions, pioneers **Lucio Fontana** (1899-1968) and **Alberto Burri** (1915-1995) were the points of departure and reference for the experimentation later conducted by the artists born in the 1930s such as **Agostino Bonalumi** (1935-2013), **Enrico Castellani** (1930-2017), **Dadamaino** (1930-2004), **Jannis Kounellis** (1936-2017), **Piero Manzoni** (1933-1963) and **Mario Schifano** (1934-1998). They were to explore new and further strands of research as their artistic careers evolved. Fontana's innovative reflections on space and Burri's in-depth experimentation with materials were to be the driving forces behind the development of new artistic idioms. In parallel, predominantly through painting, **Giulio Turcato** (1912-1995), **Piero Dorazio** (1927-2005) and **Carla Accardi** (1924 -2014) (already members of the group Forma 1) combined a skilled use of shapes and colours with new "painterly" materials such as, foam rubber, enamels and casein. Meanwhile **Giuseppe Capogrossi** (1900-1972), the founder with Burri of the Origine group, developed a personal sign alphabet. In sculpture, from his debut alongside Lucio Fontana, **Fausto Melotti** (1901-1986) developed a lyrical and poetic dimension that led him to a truly unique artistic path of the Italian art scene.

While Milan was principally associated with Northern European research, Rome created a bridge to the North American scene, bringing substantial innovations to the visual culture. There were numerous opportunities for debate and inter-connection between artists during major institutional events such as the Venice Biennale, group shows and art magazines produced in the 1950s and 1960s. The dialogue between Rome and Milan was in fact lively and continuous thanks to the work of galleries such as Galleria Appia Antica, Galleria del Milione, Galleria del Naviglio, Galleria La Tartaruga, Marlborough Gallery, Galerie Stadler, of which a number of the works in this exhibition come from. Furthermore, contemporary periodicals founded and edited by artists, such as *Azimuth*, *Appia Antica*, *Il Gesto*, *L'esperienza moderna* and *L'Almanacco Letterario Bompiani*, were national publications that offered annual overviews on cultural novelties.

Artists shown:

Carla Accardi, Alberto Burri, Agostino Bonalumi, Giuseppe Capogrossi, Enrico Castellani, Dadamaino, Piero Dorazio, Lucio Fontana, Jannis Kounellis, Piero Manzoni, Fausto Melotti, Mario Schifano, Giulio Turcato.

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: *Rome – Milan: Space and Colour, Rhythm and Matter*
Dates: 1 October – 28 November 2020
Private View: 1 October 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 11am-5pm
Appointments in advance are encouraged. Please contact london@mazzoleniart.com

Press Enquires: Jose Graci (Mazzoleni London)
Mob: (+44) (0)7437449259
Email: jose@mazzoleniart.com

Press Enquires: Lucile Brun (Mazzoleni Torino)
Mob: (+39) 340 0664675
Email: lucile@mazzoleniart.com

Website: www.mazzoleniart.com

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