

PRESS RELEASE

MARK HOSKING

Slurf Song

Exhibition space: Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea

Via Alabardieri 1 piazza dei Martiri, 80121 Napoli

Opening: tuesday 25th October 2005, 7-10pm

Exhibition dates: 25th October – 31st December 2005

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Mark Hosking's first solo exhibition in Italy, 'Slurf Song' opens on Tuesday 25th October at the [Galleria Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea](#).

Slurf Song is the title of a 1970's folk song that [Mark Hosking](#) has used to underline the link between the musical genre, which encourages harmony between man and nature, and his own works, born from technical objects changed in some way and reused for basic needs.

In Hosking's installations some simple objects used in daily life, such as a key, a tie, a classic chair, a suitcase - objects often taken from the modernist aesthetic tradition, become symbols of progress and of economy and symbols of the habits of an advanced society, in which man has lost the important connection with his own origins and with nature herself. These same objects are transformed by the artist into 'social sculptures', with the function of cooking, and fishing and at the same time becoming instruments through which contemporary man can regress in a positive manner to a 'primitive' state.

The exhibition at [Galleria Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea](#) consists of new sculptures and installations which the artist has produced especially for the exhibition space.

The "**Shivavespa**" installation, in the gallery's first room, is composed of a 1963 vespa on which the artist has fixed, in the form of a fan, a series of stainless steel bars with English scooter mirrors. The solar rays, reflected from the mirrors, reflect the heat onto a saucepan allowing it to cook food.

In the second room a striking installation entitled '**Man Ray Fishing**' is formed from a series of hangers onto which the artist has wrapped fishing line and tied keys transformed into hooks and ties transformed into artificial bait - shaped to imitate marine animals.

In the third room [Mark Hosking](#) presents two sculptures: "**Eternal Solar**", made up of a suitcase that, covered with a reflective material, is transformed into a solar panel that can cook a corn cob; and "**Airbag-Growbag**" composed of a car's steering wheel airbag exploded by an accident, in which a lemon plant will eventually grow.

Born in 1971 in Plymouth, Great Britain, Mark Hosking has produced solo shows in international galleries, including the Lisson Gallery, London (2004, 1997), the Kerstin Engholm Galerie di Vienna (2004) and the IBID. Projects di Londra (2003). He has also participated in numerous group shows including "Inhabituel", Fabbrica del vapore, Milan (2005) and "Neurotic Realism Part 2", The Saatchi Gallery, London (1999).

The "Shivavespa" installation has been produced with the help of  **BUNKER Art Division** that has for some years been collaborating both with numerous national and international artists and creating important links between business and contemporary art.