

PRESS RELEASE

SATOSHI HIROSE

Microcosm

Exhibition space: Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea

Via Alabardieri 1, 80121, Napoli, Italy

Opening: Thursday 6th March 2008 – h 7 / 10 p.m.

Duration: 6th March – 6th May 2008

Opening hours: Monday h 4 – 8 p.m., Tuesday – Saturday h 10:30 a.m. / 1:30 p.m. and 4 / 8 p.m.

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The Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea Gallery is glad to present, on Thursday 6th March 2008, for the first time in Naples, the solo exhibition by Satoshi Hirose, Microcosm.

The Japanese artist analyses the new lifestyles of our days highlighting their complexity and contradictions; the metaphor of the journey becomes the means to move through different cultures and traditions. The changes brought about by the globalisation often causes in the man a loss of identity because of the continuous exchange of information with the world. This process, favoured by the increase of the new technologies, paves the way for a social adaptivity that characterises our days, but with conditions always different. The artist processes these preambles in a refined way coming to a personal aesthetics of the lightness and a deeper reflection. On the occasion of the project intentionally conceived for the Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea Gallery, the show is concentrated on some ideas that give us a unique interpretation of fragments of the reality coming from contests apparently different.

Thanks to the frequent use of the analogy and metonymy the show appears to be a small microcosm where each element is connected with the works, just as it happens in the everyday relationship between the man and the others.

Taking Deleuze's texts upon Spinoza's theory as a starting point, Satoshi Hirose points out that the small particles of the atom merge creating the innumerable possibilities of the substance with combinations always different. In the same way, people merge their lives with a lot of different new cultures that exceed their physical and mental limits.

To cross the spaces reducing the distance offers a new interpretation of the things, and this process influences the relationship with his own body and his own way of perception, too.

The idea that the movement measures the places through the interaction of the man with what surrounds him is peculiar to the oriental culture and represents the starting point for the work placed in the first room. Il Giardino dei sensi (title borrowed from Mario Praz's book), thanks to the strong scent of lemons coming from a small tree, attracts immediately the viewer's attention. The tree is embedded in an unusual glass shrine and represents the link with other works that have already been on display in some famous foreign museums. Instead, Beans Cosmos is an example of the Universe in miniature, where poor materials such as beans, are decontextualized and coupled with precious materials, discovering a new dimension.

In the other room the same materials are used together with the paraffin in order to recreate in the paintings the effect of huge cosmos, the stateliness of which forces us to consider - in contrast with it - the fragility of Vertumnus, where the water is able to bind together two substances so different from each other such as marble and some waterlilies with small and slow superimpositions of planes and shades that last only a moment.

In the last room II Giardino della Meditazione appears to be a real ecosystem in an inside of a lamp where the effect of the light on the plants is produced artificially, waiting the rise of unexpected changes once again...

Born in 1963 in Tokio (Japan), Satoshi Hirose lives and works between Milano and Tokyo.

Selected solo and group shows:

The distance for touching the sky, the Vangi Sculpture Garden Museum, Tokyo, Japan

Satoshi Hirose - Blue box - Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan "Napoli presente" - PAN, Naples, Italy, curated by Lòrand Hegy

Satoshi Hirose - "Pas au de-là" – Umberto Di Marino Arte Contemporanea Gallery, Giugliano (Naples), Italy "Spaces for you-Stepping out" – The Miyagi Museum of Art, Miyagi, Japan 2004

"Officina Asia" - GAM, Bologna, Italy, curated by Renato Barilli

2001 "Neo Tokyo" – Museum of Contemporary Art, Sidney, Australia

"Super Future" – Centro per l'Arte Contemporanea Luigi Pecci, Prato, Italy 2000 "day, day, ...," – Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

"2001" - Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima, Japan