

What you think you see, you see not

MARC BRESLIN, JOTA CASTRO, SANTIAGO CUCULLU, LUCA FRANCESCONI
MARCO RAPARELLI, MARINELLA SENATORE, EUGENIO TIBALDI, VEDOVAMAZZEI

curated by Nicoletta Daldanise

Exhibition space: Galleria Umberto Di Marino, Via Alabardieri 1, 80121, Napoli

Opening: Thursday 17th May 2012 – h. 7 pm – 10 pm

Duration: 17th May – 28th September 2012 - **August:** closed

Opening times: Monday – Saturday 3 pm / 8 pm – by appointment in the morning

Further informations: Tel. +39 081 0609318 Fax +39 081 2142623

E-mail: umberto.dimarino@fastwebnet.it **Website:** www.galleriaumbertodimarino.com

Galleria Umberto Di Marino is pleased to present *What you think you see, you see not*, curated by Nicoletta Daldanise, wondering about the edge between utopia and reality through the works by Marc Breslin, Jota Castro, Santiago Cucullu, Luca Francesconi, Marco Raparelli, Marinella Senatore, Eugenio Tibaldi, Vedovamazzei, on Thursday 17th May 2012.

As we witness the decline of the dystopian society stemming from the control of the mass media by economic oligarchies, we cannot fail to notice the contradiction between the drive to create a political alternative and the lack of an adequate cultural background to achieve such a goal. In times of crisis, the role of art is to move beyond the conventional mould so that it becomes an indispensable tool for retrieving the idea of a plan.

The works of art on display reflect this perspective from different viewpoints, underlining the indirect dialogue between the different works that coexist in a gallery. The works of Marc Breslin and Marco Raparelli play with this space. Breslin highlights several details, performing a transposition of the modernist aesthetic utopia upon architecture set in a world and geographical context that is far from imaginary. On the other hand, Raparelli carries out site-specific forays to use the gallery space as a vehicle for a perceptive and self-critical counterblast against the entire collective exhibition, triggering an ironic dialogue with the other artists.

Based on the attempt to pacify the struggle for workers' rights at Marghera, the radio drama by Marinella Senatore explores, in a collective work, both old and new forms of social cohesion where sharing experiences becomes crucially important. In a different vein, *Ash* by vedovamazzei also seeks to restore the narrative of an interrupted human story, transforming the ash of several people sentenced to death in the USA into paintings designed to last over the years to come. Viewers are invited to go beyond everyday experience as well as in the sculptures. A moment of lyrical impetus is provided by Luca Francesconi with *Prepotenza d'eclisse* and *Eco della Luna*; both works are made from a material that conducts magnetic fields like brass, recalling the vertical and horizontal archetypal forces that still influence nature and mankind.

With the aim of breaking down the misleading mechanisms of reality, Jota Castro breaks down the imposing volumes of Neapolitan culture into crumbs. His aim is to free - metaphorically speaking - the new generations from the burden of a tradition that is rich but dangerous when transformed into an unchanging holographic image. The references to the American urban landscape are shaken by the series by Santiago Cucullu who searches for a personal, eclectic and dream-like dimension in which experience and memory remould spaces in order to reflect on the duel, which is sometimes still in progress, between man and architecture. The aesthetic that is codified and subsequently developed also lie at the heart of the work of Eugenio Tibaldi, who uses waste material to construct a gramophone capable of making just an obsessive sound. While the dismay at the loss of identity invades people's minds, at the same time it leads to the discovery of new points of reference in a circular itinerary, both metaphorical and exhibition-like, which always leads back to beginning once again from authentic dialogue between individuals.

The invitation project is part of the *site-specific* interventions by Marco Raparelli.