

VENICEPROJECTS

Vertigo 3 Group Show

Venice / from 28 February to 10 April 2011
Venice Projects / Dorsoduro 868, 30123 Venice

The Vertigo group show series continues: an event that, from time to time, presents not only past works by the gallery's artists but also their more recent ones. Its purpose is to familiarize the public with contemporary art and to bring them closer, creating a sort of "lightheadedness" from the discovery of something new and remarkable. Vertigo 3 is showing the work of seven international artists.

Mattia Biagi uses tar as his principal medium, covering all kinds of objects and giving them a sticky appearance. The idea for using black tar was the product of a visit to the La Brea Tar Pits, an area with many natural geological deposits of tar and fossils.

The use of this material emphasizes the objects' mass while, at the same time, it makes the edges less defined due to the characteristic dribbles and drips. He uses a quite disparate array of objects, which ranges from toys to everyday and even religious objects. / **Marion Borgelt's** work is closely related to the splendors of nature and Australian culture. Her works generally are about dualities: organic and inorganic, microcosm and macrocosm, light and darkness, natural and artificial. Her language of universal symbols and motifs unwinds through her pictorial and sculptural experimentation and the use of monumental installations. Her works also draw on a wide variety of materials: beeswax, canvas, felt, wood, stones, organic materials, glass, and steel. / Through his work, **Hitoshi Kuriyama** questions and contemplates the paradoxical dialog of such antithetical concepts as "existence vs. death", "creation vs. destruction", "presence vs. absence". From the standpoint of art and science, he has proposed their equivalence through the equation $0 = 1$. His curiosity about the dynamics that rule the universe and matter as well as the philosophical and metaphysical aspects of existence have led him to choose light as the preferred element in his artistic creations. His best known works are probably the poetic traces of light captured on the surface of photo paper, colored clouds that remind us of the true nature behind the appearance of things. / Working with borosilicate glass, the artist and designer **Massimo Lunardon** gives form to pleasant creatures, with rounded bodies, elongated limbs, and curious looks – insubstantial and delicate creatures that capture our attention with their kindly and gentle expressions. They are creatures that come from who knows where, whose glass surfaces are reflections of the human soul and expression, almost as if to remind us of the precariousness of our existence. Seemingly vulnerable and fragile yet in fact resilient and eternal, their delicate appearance almost seems to mock real human weaknesses. Having worked extensively with architects and designers, Massimo Lunardon, has tried through his works to create a language that unites art and design. / **Jaume Plensa** makes use of such heavy materials as iron and bronze as well as new synthetic plastics together with glass and alabaster to build anthropomorphic works. These materials let him play with new volumes as they fascinate him with the effects of light that are created.

Many of his most famous creations represent a human figure sitting with the knees drawn against the chest. The smallest compositional unit is that of the alphanumeric characters from different languages, which often make up parts of poems or of words that have a particular meaning for the artist. / **Koen Vanmechelen's** work has no clear boundaries as its themes range from racism to globalization, from the meaning of the species to that of an individual. He expresses himself through a very personal language that uses a variety of media - video, photography, installations, painting and drawing – as well as many different materials and techniques. Sculpture, especially in glass, still plays a central role in his art. The chicken and the egg, the central focus of his work are what connect all the different forms that he uses to express himself. / **Fred Wilson** composes his installations from historical artifacts, kitsch objects, sculptures, videos, and sounds, which serve to short-circuit standard and accepted artistic and historical concepts.

Wilson uses museum collections and their works as a means of historical research and as subject material. He draws on them as a filter of the past and as tools of an artist-curator, and develops a critical discourse on such issues of contemporary society as immigration, multiculturalism, tolerance, racism, and the processes used by an industrial culture to manipulate the truth.

Information

Exhibition: Vertigo 3 / **Artists:** Massimo Lunardon Koen Vanmechelen

Place Venice Projects, Dorsoduro 868, 30123 Venice

Period 28 February > 10 April 2011

Hours Wednesday-Saturday 10.00 am > 6.00 pm