

Partners & Mucciaccia

modern & contemporary art gallery

FROM PICASSO TO THE NEW ROMAN SCHOOL The never-ending cult of beauty in contemporary art

Partners & Mucciaccia Gallery
Blk 6 Lock Road, #02-10 Gillman Barracks, Singapore 108934
14 September-30 November 2012

Official opening from 7 pm on Friday 14 September 2012

Partners & Mucciaccia Gallery inaugurates on Friday 14 September 2012 its activity in Singapore, in Gillman Barracks, the new contemporary art destination in Asia, with an extraordinary exhibition "FROM PICASSO TO THE NEW ROMAN SCHOOL-The never-ending cult of beauty in contemporary art" edited by Cesare Biasini Selvaggi.

The exhibition itinerary winds along the masterpieces of some of the greatest contemporary artists of the XX century (Pablo Picasso, Giorgio de Chirico, Marc Chagall, Giorgio Morandi, Georges Mathieu, Sam Francis, Afro, Giuseppe Capogrossi, Carla Accardi, Achille Perilli, Piero Dorazio, Antonio Corpora, Alberto Burri, Giuseppe Uncini, Lucio Fontana, Agostino Bonalumi, Arnaldo Pomodoro, Pietro Consagra, Jacques Villeglé, Mario Schifano, Mimmo Paladino, Gianni Dessì, Cristiano Pintaldi, Pizzi Cannella, Oliviero Rainaldi, Marco Tirelli, Luciano Ventrone).

It's the first reconnoitre through the beauty of contemporary art ever made. The cult of beauty in the provocation is the leitmotiv of various works shown in the exhibition, starting from Picasso's painting *The Artist and his Model* (1964). The works of Giorgio de Chirico, *The Troubadour* (early 1950s) and *Italian Square* (1948/1972), through the intuitive and symbolic associations, do not aim at satisfying for their classical beauty, but to provoke in those who see it psychic and emotional reactions of great intensity and of deep poetry and suggestion. If Picasso and de Chirico searched for the beauty of the unconscious, Marc Chagall followed on the contrary the beauty of the dream, its purity, like in the painting *The black beast* (1978) that visitors will experience in Partners & Mucciaccia Gallery.

It emerged in the *Informale (Informal)* a utilization of the "matter", its pioneer exploration in order to discover the secret of the beauty concealed. Starting with the aesthetic research of Alberto Burri. In Burri the use of material extraneous to the history of art (like in *Cellotex* of 1980 shown in the exhibition) was owed to the unfathomable aesthetic, expressive qualities that they possess.

Another limit surpassed by the informal painting is the idea of space in painting. Lucio Fontana explored the possibility of giving the third dimension by cutting the surfaces of his works. The space is "here", where we are, and it is "there"; the work becomes a *stargate*, an open passage towards the beauty conceived as waiting for the unknown. The achievements of this pioneer of contemporary art are represented in the exhibition by his works *Spatial Concept, Waiting* (1960s).

The exhibition includes a band of Italian artists – already very well established in museums and private foundations all around the world (Gianni Dessì, Cristiano Pintaldi, Pizzi Cannella, Oliviero Rainaldi, Marco Tirelli, Luciano Ventrone) – convinced that the artist nowadays can still find beauty through an original as well as precious language, creating a new way of painting, aware of tradition but "other", irreversibly autonomous from it, in search of that beauty that transcends the artistic reality. Certainly the elements that constituted a sort of glue between these artists were the refusal of every conditioning of the past, the important presence of an artisan manual skill, the zeroing of every difference between abstract and figurative.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue.

Gallery listing information

Partners & Mucciaccia Gallery

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| address | Blk 6 Lock Road, #02-10 Gillman Barracks, Singapore 108934 |
| telephone no. | + 65 6694 3777 |
| web | www.partnersandmucciaccia.com |
| email address | info@partnersandmucciaccia.com |
| opening hours of gallery | 11.00 a.m. to 20.00 p.m. Closed on Mondays |