



S.p.A.A.
Society for Artistic Actions

Curated by
Giacinto Di Pietrantonio

with
Carla Accardi, Cuoghi Corsello, Alberto Garutti, Peter Halley,
Suzanne Lacy, David Medalla, Luca Rossi

Opening: 24.01.2020 at 6 pm

Duration: 24.01.2020 – 09.05.2020

After a year, Giacinto Di Pietrantonio returns to Galleria Enrico Astuni in Bologna with a new group exhibition, a complete programme entitled S.p.A.A., or Society for Artistic Actions, an open-ended idea in the company of old and new artworks and artists, namely Carla Accardi, Cuoghi Corsello, Alberto Garutti, Peter Halley, Suzanne Lacy, David Medalla and Luca Rossi.

S.p.A.A. is not concerned with the significance of the art market or economy, as a first casual glance at the initials might suggest ['S.p.A' in Italian = Ltd. /Inc.], but with the actions that the artworks activate, such as the action of feminist thought: Accardi – Lacy; ironic-provocative action: Medalla – Cuoghi Corsello; conceptual linguistic social action: Halley – Garutti; and human and technical participatory action: Garutti – Rossi. Of course these are just some ways of 'being or not being' for these artists and their related works, which might or might not be equally meaningfully recombined as: abstract-sign action: Accardi – Halley; public activation action: Lacy – Garutti; linguistically open action: Medalla – Cuoghi Corsello, action in action . . .

This is why the art on display is linked to phrases screenprinted on the gallery walls and reprinted in the catalogue, an easily transportable publication. Their authors are Maura Pozzati for Carla Accardi, Silvia Grandi for Cuoghi Corsello, Antonio Grulli for Alberto Garutti, Marco Senaldi for Peter Halley, Fabio Cavallucci for Susan Lacy, Fabiola Naldi for David Medalla, and Guido Molinari for Luca Rossi.

Do you understand the system?

If you do, you can join in the fun by combining other pairs.

The work on display by these artists is intended to present a complexity both conversational (Derridà) and rhizomatic – multilevel (Deleuze – Guattari). Carla Accardi Action is abstract-calligraphic, which not only proposes an exit from the psychology of Informalism but is linked to the direction that acts in society by also emphasising the artist's feminist period. These are works of linguistic resistance in art and life, given the period in which they were made.

Cuoghi Corsello Action (Monica Cuoghi and Claudio Corsello) emerges from a collaborative sensibility that draws on a 360° view of life in the real world: art-music-communication-occupation-alteration-reappropriation-regeneration of city locations; alternatively, it acts by rescuing objects and old things and giving them a new spirit.

Alberto Garutti Action arises from artworks that are programmatic declarations, activators and devices that speak of art and its mechanisms. This is the art-method of a responsible artist active in redefining art's role and relationship with the public by establishing a dialogue of 'mirror works', which enable us take home the mental image of a self-portrait, as well as three other works, each in the form of blocks of pages and captions, among them: THE STREET LAMPS IN THIS SQUARE ARE CONNECTED TO THE MATERNITY WARD OF THE . . . HOSPITAL. EACH TIME THE LIGHT PULSES SLOWLY IT WILL MEAN THAT A CHILD HAS BEEN BORN. THIS WORK IS DEDICATED TO THAT CHILD AND TO ALL THOSE BORN TODAY IN THIS CITY. A contemporary Artwork-Nativity that is an integral part of reaching out to the viewer-member of the public. The caption is the crucial device in making the artwork into a place that is touched and transformed by the action of art.

Peter Halley Action, a committed postmodern voice, consists of artworks that are only apparently abstract and self-referential, whereas they actually derive from the observation-consideration of mechanisms of analysis and the relationship with devices of contemporary civilisation, such as closed circuits (prison cell systems, Foucault) and open circuits (digitally connected networks, de Kerckhowe). Representations of orthogonal structures in fluorescent acid colours, emotional maps that speak to us of the flow of data that envelops us daily, where 'The space in which we live is defined by compartments connected by predetermined paths' (Peter Halley).

Suzanne Lacy Action by this artist and activist results in art based on her ongoing battle for equal rights for men and women, and therefore for male and female artists, and for civil rights in general. She promotes epochal change through performances, photos and video activism, all aimed at involving more artists and general public. Her art aims to engage a large public, since the issues it confronts are both large and public. Art and art theory conjoin in an artist who genuinely puts her body and soul into everything she does, focusing on the concept of public art through work of a political calibre that seeks to contribute towards an awareness of social justice.

David Medalla Action is the work of an artist and citizen of the world, a traveller and pioneer of Kinetic Art, Land Art, participatory art and Live Art. A Superman-artist who tries to go beyond predetermined values by creating interaction between literature, poetry and the visual arts. 'Eclectic flâneur, father of ephemeral sculpture, but atomic work' (Guy Brett). Examples of this are Medalla's Bubble Machines and Sand Machines, although he also continues to make art linked to the 'Mondrian Fan Club' project in collaboration with Adam Nankervis, ongoing since 1992.

Luca Rossi Action is by an artist and compulsive commentator whose tenth work anniversary falls this year; an artist who utilises any means, but above all interventions on social media. His action harnesses the resources of the internet: Facebook, Instagram, blogs etc., with which and through which he engages in live criticism of the art world. Due to his posts, such as the early blog Whitehorse, and later lucarossilab.it and lucarossicampus.com, Rossi is both loved and hated – a reflection of his Deleuzesque philosophy: 'The creative act is an act of resistance towards ourselves; in other words there is no need to express ourselves, we already do it too much.' Because, as Rossi goes on to say, 'Without a critical system, which seems paralysed by the "Dictatorship of 'I like it'", how do we distinguish the differences between a photo by Luigi Ghirri or one posted by Cristiano Ronaldo, who has 114 million people following him on Instagram?'

In short, enough artists and artworks with which and on which to carry out Actions of reflection.

GALLERIA ENRICO ASTUNI

Bologna

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Società per Azioni Artistiche

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Opening 24.01.2020 at 18:00

Duration 24.01.2020 – 09.05.2020

Location and Opening Hours

GALLERIA ENRICO ASTUNI

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Monday to Friday 9:00–13:00 / 15:00–19:00. Saturday and Sunday by appointment

Opening hours during ART CITY Bologna weekend

Friday 24 January 9:00–20:00

Saturday 25 January 9:00–24:00

Sunday 26 January 9:00–20:00