



FONDAZIONE
PASTIFICIO CERERE

presents

BE THE POEM

Plastic architecture by Marco Galofaro

solo exhibition

curated by Domitilla Dardi

wednesday 26 march 2014

18.00: Artist's talk with the participation of **Matteo Costanzo** and **Marco Petroni**
at **Ristorante Pastificio San Lorenzo**

19.00: opening of the exhibition
at **Pastificio Cerere Foundation**

exhibition runs to: **11 may 2014**

On **wednesday 26 march 2014**, the **Pastificio Cerere Foundation in Rome** will present the exhibition **BE THE POEM. Plastic architecture by Marco Galofaro**, curated by **Domitilla Dardi**. The exhibition marks the first public showing of the architectural models of Marco Galofaro – whose studio realized Alfredo Jaar's resin model for the latest edition of the Venice Biennale – organized into an organic itinerary that illustrates the complexity of contemporary architectural vision in its constant dialogue with other disciplines.

With this exhibition, the Pastificio Cerere Foundation once again underlines its interest in the realm of architecture, particularly in terms of the latter's interaction with contemporary art, public space and design – all areas of activity in which the passage from an abstract idea to the materiality of the object becomes crucial to the definition of the work itself.

An artist's talk will be held on the occasion of the exhibition, convened by **Domitilla Dardi**, with the participation of **Matteo Costanzo**, co-founder of the architecture studio 2a+p/a, and **Marco Petroni**, design critic and theorist and Senior Curator of the Plart Foundation in Naples.

The exhibition's title refers to a line spoken by David Carradine at the end of a widely celebrated sequence in Quentin Tarantino's *Kill Bill Vol. 1*: "If you cannot be the poet, be the poem." The message is clear: the story trumps heroism, the epic of history is stronger than the single protagonist. This message is in line with the choral conception of architecture that Marco Galofaro brings to his work: that of the construction of plastic scale models, through a process made up of many phases, materials, and procedures, in order to move from the idea of space to its physical realization.

Why an exhibition of architectural models? Because the model is not merely architecture on a small scale, but a protracted journey, involving many protagonists, where the building represents only the tip of a more extensive collective work. The model, in fact, plays a crucial role in the development of architecture (and not only), inasmuch as it constitutes the first physical concretization of the idea.

Galofaro founded his studio-laboratory **Modelab** in 2002, working first with Ilaria Benassi and later with other collaborators. Modelab has translated the spatial vision of architects and artists of international renown (Eisenmann, Fuksas, Nouvel, Decq, laN+, Benassi, Mochetti, Jaar), interpreting it according to the dictates of a thought that is at once physical and conceptual. As in the case of the best interpreters, here the elements that are "found in translation" outnumber those that are lost in the folds of transmittance and transferral.

This interpretive act is flanked by Galofaro's spatial imagination, namely, that of his own fantastic architectures. The latter make it clear that the small scale of the physical matter, like its state of becoming, in no way diminishes the force of the project, but, on the contrary, enhances it.

This exhibition of his architectural models – comprising projects made on commission as well as works derived from his own fantastical architectures – gives access to the variety of interpretations of inhabitable space from the privileged perspective of the earliest and foundational phases of creation.

Biography

Marco Galofaro earned his degree in Architecture from the University of Rome "La Sapienza" in 1999, with a thesis on the reconstruction of the La Fenice theatre in Venice. The project was published in the volume *Riscatto virtuale. Una nuova Fenice a Venezia* (Marsilio Editori, 2000).

He gained his first important experience as a model maker at Peter Eisenmann's studio in New York, where he had the opportunity to work with Richard Serra on the *Holocaust Memorial* in Berlin. This was followed by a long collaboration with the Roman studio of Massimiliano Fuksas.

In 2002 he founded Modelab, an experimental laboratory for architectural and design models and prototypes, whose professional activity has been complemented, from the start, with personal research poised between art and architecture. In 2003 he created the installation *Microutopias*, conceived together with the laN+ studio for the Valencia Biennale, and subsequently included in the permanent collection of the FRAC Centre in Orléans.

Over the following years, he continued his collaboration with laN+ as model maker for competitions and shows, and realized plastics for Italian and international architects such as Jean Nouvel, Ma0/emmeazero, Pedro Campos Costa, Odile Decq, Kengo Kuma, N!Studio, -scape, 2a+p/a, stARTT, Labics, João Nunes (PROAP).

His installation *No Direction Home* (made in collaboration with Ilaria Benassi) participated in the exhibition *Appunti #1: Daily Life* (CIAC di Genazzano, Rome 2008), curated by Federica La Paglia.

In 2007 he began working in the field of art for clients such as Gagosian Gallery and Fondazione VOLUME!, and with artists like Elisabetta Benassi, Maurizio Mochetti, and Alessandro Piangiamore. In 2013 he realized a 25 square meter resin model for the installation *Venezia, Venezia* by Alfredo Jaar, presented at the Chile Pavilion on the occasion of the 55° Venice Biennale.

He has taught at the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Rome "Tre," at the IN-ARCH in Rome and at the IAAC – Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia in Barcelona. He is currently a lecturer at the Rome campus of the IED – Istituto Europeo di Design. His works have been featured widely in many leading international publications. In 2012 he held a conference at MAXXI museum in Rome.

www.modelab.it

Information

BE THE POEM

Plastic architecture by Marco Galofaro

curated by **Domitilla Dardi**

Opening: **wednesday 26 march 2014**

18.00: Artist's talk with Matteo Costanzo and Marco Petroni

Ristorante Pastificio San Lorenzo

Via Tiburtina 196, Rome

19.00: Opening reception

Pastificio Cerere Foundation

Via degli Ausoni 7, Rome

Dates: 27 march – 11 may 2014

monday to friday from 15.00 to 19.00; saturday from 16.00 to 20.00

Entry: free

How to get there: Metro Termini (line A), Metro Tiburtina (line B), bus number 71

Information: Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, tel. 06 45422960, info@pastificiocerere.it, www.pastificiocerere.it

Press office: Emanuela Pigliacelli, press@pastificiocerere.it, tel 06 45422960

Special thanks to: Modelab studio (Iliara Benassi, Marcello Moroni, Ave Pichierri, Alessio Alessandri, Silvia Curtilli, Iliara Zelli), Emilia Giorgi, Gerardo Marmo, Davide Leonardi, Emanuela Salimei, Ludovica Solari

Thanks to:

