



ISTITUTO
POLACCO
ROMA



FONDAZIONE
PASTIFICIO CERERE

Mύθοι

Myths. Students/Artists/Teachers A process of exchange

curated by Maria Rosa Sossai

In the framework of:

In Polonia, cioè dove?

Exhibition cycle on the Polish contemporary art scene

Opening: Friday 5 December 2014, at 19.00

Public opening: 5 December 2014 – 17 January 2015

Fondazione Pastificio Cerere
via degli Ausoni 7, Rome

free entry

Press Release

Rome, December 2014

Within the framework of *In Polonia, cioè dove? (In Poland... that is, where?)* – a project dedicated to Poland's contemporary art scene – the Polish Institute in Rome and the Pastificio Cerere Foundation present the exhibition ***Mύθοι. Myths. Students/Artists/Teachers. A process of exchange, curated by Maria Rosa Sossai.*** The exhibition will be held at the Foundation's spaces from **5 December 2014 to 17 January 2015.**

Mύθοι is the third and last event in the series *In Polonia, cioè dove?*, conceived by **Ania Jagiello**, head of the contemporary art program at the Polish Institute, and by **Marcello Smarrelli**, Artistic Director of the Pastificio Cerere Foundation.

THE PROJECT

Mύθοι. Myths. Students/Artists/Teachers. A process of exchange focuses on themes relating to the artist's role in education. Maria Rosa Sossai, founder of ALA Accademia Libera delle Arti – a platform devoted to the relation between art and educational processes – has invited the collaboration of **Mirosław Bałka** (Warsaw, 1958). One of the most influential Polish artists of his generation, Bałka has been teaching *Studio of Spatial Activities* at the Media Department of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw since 2011.

The project takes its cue from a residency program: **from 22 to 26 October** Mirosław Bałka's students, guided by the artist and by his assistant Anna Jochymek, interacted in Warsaw with a group of students enrolled on Donatella Landi's *Video Installation* course, a component of the Multimedia Arts and Technologies degree at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome. **From 30 November until 5 December**, these same students will meet in Rome at the Pastificio Cerere Foundation, creating a platform for the discussion and exchange of diverse artistic practices, which will give rise to the works included in the show.

The workshop held by Bałka at the Pastificio Cerere will be based on the educational methodologies that have guided the artist's pedagogical activities for years: namely, identifying and giving shape to the creative space we inhabit and in which we act, while drawing attention to the social and political issues that are linked to it. Bałka's method pushes the students to explore cultural sensibilities in their search for a personal artistic identity – independently of the pressures linked to success – and thus to define their field of research within a relationship of exchange with others.

One source of inspiration for the project is the book *Teaching and Learning as Performing Arts*, written by French artist Robert Filiou in 1970. Here Filiou investigates the artist's function, which he considers similar to that of the teacher insofar as both can choose either to confirm values according to the categories and institutions to which they belong, or – alternatively – to create a space for experimenting a different approach to artworks and pedagogy. The idea here is that art and education are both processes that imply “the art of losing oneself without feeling lost,” and are thus opposed to the hierarchy imposed by a very conservative educational system and conditioned by the strategies of the art market.

On **Saturday 6 December, 11 AM**, at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome – Campo Boario, there will be a **roundtable discussion** on the role of artists who teach at fine art academies, and on participatory processes. Chaired by Donatella Landi, the discussion will be joined by **Mirosław Bałka** (Academy of Fine Arts, Warsaw), **Cecilia Casorati** (Academy of Fine Arts, Rome), **Katharina Hinsberg** (Hochschule der Bildenden Künste, Saar), **Donatella Landi** (Academy of Fine Arts, Rome), **Cesare Pietroiusti** (IUAV University, Venice), **Maria Rosa Sossai** (ALA Accademia Libera delle Arti).

Mirosław Bałka | Biography

Born in Warsaw in 1958, Bałka lives and works between Warsaw and Otwock. Though primarily a sculptor he is also active in the fields of experimental video and drawing. Bałka graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw in 1985; in 2011 he returned there to begin teaching the course *Studio of Spatial Activities*. His works have been shown in numerous international exhibitions, including: Documenta, Kassel (1992), the Biennale di Venezia (1990, 1993, 2003, 2005, 2013), the Bienal de São Paulo (1998), and the Sydney Biennial (1992, 2006). Among his major projects are *How It Is* (2009), the tenth Unilever Series commission at London's Tate Modern, and the memorial to the victims of the Estonia ferry disaster in Stockholm (1997). His works are held in a number of important museum collections, such as the Tate Modern in London, the MOCA in Los Angeles, the MoMA in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago, Moderna Museet in Stockholm, and the National Museum of Art in Osaka.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Fondazione Pastificio Cerere
via degli Ausoni 7, Rome

OPENING TIMES

Monday – Friday 15.00-19.00, Saturday 16.00-20.00

FREE ENTRY

CONTACTS

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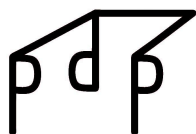
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