

FONDAZIONE PASTIFICIO CERERE

Presents

NO DIAMONDS IN THE SKY

A solo exhibition by Davide Mancini Zanchi

curated by Marcello Smarrelli

with a text by Saverio Verini

Opening: Wednesday, 17 May 2023 at 6 pm

From 18 May to 21 July 2023

Silos, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere

Via degli Ausoni 7 – Rome

PRESS NOTE

On Wednesday 17 May 2023, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere will be presenting ***NO DIAMONDS IN THE SKY*** – **Davide Mancini Zanchi**'s first solo exhibition in Rome curated by **Marcello Smarrelli**, with a text by **Saverio Verini**.

The exhibition will be open to the public from Thursday 18 May to Friday 21 July 2023.

Davide Mancini Zanchi uses painting, sculpture, installations, and performance art in a conceptual, ironic fashion. His poetics are characterised by the production of objects and scenarios where traditional artistic media exchange roles and functions mixed with elements taken from everyday life. The performative experience, the irreverent, carefully devised approach, the use of heterogeneous materials, and the plurality of cultural references set in motion a process of decontextualisation of reality that produces disorienting, impactful scenarios.

For Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, the artist will be presenting *NO DIAMONDS IN THE SKY*, the title of which is inspired by the Beatles' song *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds* – a site-specific installation conceived for the SILOS space and inspired by his most iconic cycle, that of the *Skies*. Mancini Zanchi has created many skies dotted with bright white stars, a direct reference to the frescoed vaults of churches and sacred buildings erected throughout Italy, particularly in the Middle Ages.

Mancini Zanchi's skies are not produced through traditional painting, but include an important element for his artistic practice, i.e. action. In fact, the stars are the result of a game that is as irreverent as it is exhausting – a performance carried out in an absolutely private manner, chewing paper and literally spitting it on a monochrome surface through the use of a Bic pen transformed into a blowpipe.

Such a tragic – when considering the physical effort required to realise it – and at the same time dreamy – if brought back to the artist's playful attitude – starry sky is endowed with the dualism that characterises Zanchi's poetics, as charged with the historical and ancestral weight that always accompanies this particular iconography.

The mechanical and stressful repetition of a game between students creates a 'world': in this unprecedented link between stars and spit, between the energy of the action and the serenity evoked by the final outcome, we should perhaps look for the reason why Mancini Zanchi's skies are devoid of any rhetoric.

Biography

Davide Mancini Zanchi (Urbino, 1986) lives and works in Acqualagna (PU), a small town between the Adriatic Sea and the Apennine mountains.

His artistic activity began in 2010, with a series of video performances relating the human body to everyday life and lived space.

After attending the Academy of Fine Arts in Urbino, Zanchi was a guest in residence at the DENA Foundation for Contemporary art in Paris in 2014 and at *BoCs Art – Residenze Artistiche* in Cosenza in 2018.

His work has been exhibited in public and private spaces in Italy and abroad. His solo exhibitions include *Mira il mare mà là* (Fondazione Pescheria, 2021); *Toys are us* (A+B gallery, Brescia, 2019); *Da che mani vidi Zan Cin* (Otto Gallery, Bologna, 2019); *La Conquista dello Spazio* (Galleria Nazionale delle Marche, Urbino, 2016); his most recent group exhibitions include *Meccaniche della meraviglia* (Chiesa di San Giacomo al Mella, Brescia, 2019); *Vie di fuga* (Società Interludio, Turin, 2018); *Chi utopia mangia le mele* (Ex dogana merci, Verona, 2018).

Over the years, Zanchi has received numerous awards for his research: Centro Arti Visive Pescheria Award (2011), Lissone Award (2014) and Treviglio Award (2016); he was also a finalist for the Talent Prize (2019) and the Club Gamec Prize (2018). He also won the Italian Council in 2020 with a residency project in Uruguay. 2022 saw the publication of *MONOCHROMO*, as edited by Gabriele Tosi and published by Cura.Books, outlining his artistic journey.

Thanks to A+B gallery in Brescia for the support.

The exhibition is realised in partnership with Pesaro Italian Capital of Culture 2024

Press **kit**

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/584ch9r9a2tjuvo2ae49b/h?dl=0&rkey=o6ajz074jtcxhrwjmjxixh6s1>

CONTACTS

Fondazione Pastificio Cerere

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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Opening: Wednesday 17 May 2023 from 6 to 9 pm

Open to the public: 17 May – 21 July 2023

Venue: Silos, Fondazione Pastificio Cerere, Via degli Ausoni 7 – Rome

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday 3 – 7 pm and Mondays by appointment (for the month of May);
Monday to Friday 3 – 7 pm (for the months of June and July)

Info: www.pastificiocerere.it; info@pastificiocerere.it; Tel. +39 06 45422960

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