



MICHELANGELO PISTOLETTO The Mirror of Enigmas

Location: 11/12 Dover Street, London W1S 4LJ, United Kingdom

Dates: 26th June – 24th July 2015

Opening hours: Monday-Friday, 9am – 6pm

Repetto Gallery is glad to announce the exhibition **Michelangelo Pistoletto - The Mirror of Enigmas**. On show mirror paintings from 70's until nowadays, selected among his most representative and emblematic works as a master of conceptual art.

« When in 1969, on a black background, painted as to become a mirror, I started to paint my face, I saw it coming towards me, detaching itself from the environment where everything moves, and I was shocked by it. I also noticed that I didn't have to look at myself in the mirror, I could copy myself by looking at me on the canvas ». (Pistoletto, Art Renaissance, 1979)

« The portrayed man was coming forward as if it were alive in the living space of environment, but the real protagonist was the relation of immediacy created between the spectator, his reflection and the portrayed figure, in an always « present » movement, which concentrated in it the past and the future, to the point that their existence could have been put in doubt: it was time's dimension». (Pistoletto, Missing Objects, La Bertesca Gallery, Genoa, 1966).

Beyond the bi-dimensional surface, beyond a flat and simple canvas, the mirror reflects and multiplies the world: things, figures, and faces. Beyond Fontana's cuts and holes, beyond Burri's combustions and cretto, beyond the sorrow of Pollack's dripping painting, the idea of Pistoletto's reflecting surface has opened the way to the prestige of the four dimensions: the flowing of time, the inexorable and mathematical recording of everything passing and flowing by, a surface which is not static anymore, but dramatically and happily dynamic. « The self-portrait of the world » coagulating around itself the countless polarities and contradictions of the universe: deepness and surface, stasis and movement, weight and lightness, reality and imagination, matter and emptiness, visible and invisible. The breaking of the still fulcrum of the product, in a rich work articulated in diversity and mobility. A work looking at us, a canvas transformed into a surface, which reflects the amazement and the light of our pupils, the signs of a mask slowly transforming. The image, the symbol of multiplication, of conscience, of the double. The capacity of containing everything without possessing anything. The prodigy of recording everything with absolute fidelity – no sounds nor smells – whilst scattering and forgetting, in the fragment of an instant.

Repetto Gallery
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