

RE.USE

Scraps, objects, ecology in contemporary art

Curated by Valerio Dehò

27th October 2018 - 10th February 2019

TREVISO

Santa Caterina Museum - Sala Ipogea and Ala Foffano
Casa Robegan Museum
Ca' dei Ricchi - Piano Nobile

From 27th October 2018 to 10th February 2019 the city of Treviso will host the exhibition "RE.USE. Scraps, objects, ecology in contemporary art" curated by Valerio Dehò. The exhibition, consisting of 87 works by 58 international artists, will be located in three different exhibition spaces of the city, including two museum sites, such as Santa Caterina Museum and Casa Robegan Museum, and a private one, the Piano Nobile of Ca' dei Ricchi.

RE.USE is a project conceived by TRA Treviso Ricerca Arte Association, organized in co-ordination with the city of Treviso and the collaboration of the Civic Museums of Treviso. There are also many Institutional Project Partners, such as the Camera di Commercio, Confcommercio, Confartigianato Imprese Marca Trevigiana, Coldiretti, Consorzio di Promozione Turistica Marca Treviso, Assindustria Venetocentro and Contarina Spa.

The exhibition has the patronage of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and of the Veneto Region. The exhibition "RE.USE" traces a journey in the history of art and artistic culture, from the twentieth century up to our days, to see in detail how the theme of *Riuso* / RE.USE has been addressed in several decades and by different artists and how this great theme continues to produce works and to stimulate the creativity of current generations, playing an active and proactive role in communicating relevant common social values to the public.

It's not a surprise that this exhibition will take place in the city of Treviso, historically defined as green friendly and attentive to environmental issues; in fact, "RE.USE" will be welcomed in the most prestigious venues of the city, including the recently restored Ipogea Hall and the Foffano Ala of the Santa Caterina Museum.

Through the works of great artists such as Marcel Duchamp, Piero Manzoni, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Alberto Burri, Mimmo Rotella, Tony Cragg, Christo and Damien Hirst just to name a few of them, the exhibition aims to document in a chronological period from the early decades of the twentieth century up to today, the continuous relationship that art has had with objects in common use and with waste.

The exhibition will therefore be a real journey to admire the birth, evolution and current status of the concept of reuse with ethical and aesthetic purposes in the modern and contemporary art world.

THE EARLY 1900s: DUCHAMP, MAN RAY, BURRI, MANZONI AND OTHERS

The exhibition can only start from the ideas and works of artists such as Marcel Duchamp (1887-1968), Man Ray (1891-1976), Alberto Burri (1915-1995) and Piero Manzoni (1933-1963), without whom the distance between the museum and the world of industrial and common objects would have remained unchanged.

Thanks to their new vision of provocative and sometimes "scandalous" art, which struggled against the aesthetics and the culture of the time, the concept of art has shifted from a physical dimension to an intellectual one where what makes such an artist is not the ability to manipulate matter but his ability to create new meanings. In doing this, the artists of the early twentieth century used common materials and objects instead of painting.

Duchamp's well-known urinal, the sacks of Burri or the famous jars of "Merda d'Artista" by Piero Manzoni. This is a real Re.use because the function of the same objects is modified and destined to a completely different use and value.

THE SIXTIES: THE NEW FRENCH REALISM

The theme of waste, in the 1960s, became a critique of consumer model of society; we begin to see the artists' social responsibility as they mount a strong front against a waste system. The group of the New French Realists, Mimmo Rotella (1918-2006) and the famous Spoerri (1930), Arman (1928-2005), César (1921-1998), Jean Tinguely (1925-1991), created a movement around this argument. For these artists, reuse became a sort of ideological program: ethics and aesthetics merged together, proposing an art that was not only decoration and embellishment, but that also conveyed strong messages to society.

The works of these artists have as their object materials of common use: Spoerri assembles objects recovered in markets and dumps; Mimmo Rotella glues on the canvas pieces of posters torn off the street and also makes *assemblages* and ready-made with scraps such as bottle caps, ropes, wicker baskets and pieces of cloth; In his works Arman accumulates objects such as shoes, coins, watches, brushes, tubes of color and more.

FROM THE 80s UP TO TODAY

Environmental awareness and ecological awareness of the eighties and nineties has now become a *leitmotif* of contemporary art. Artists such as Michelangelo Pistoletto (1933), Damien Hirst (1965) have given an almost iconic contribution in this direction, updating the lesson of the historical *avant-gardes* of Futurism and Dadaism. In fact, we get to a true representation of the modern ecological consciousness in 1999, with the work "Regina" created by Enrica Borghi: a great female figure, noble, entirely made with recycled plastic bottles.

Contemporary artists anticipate the spirit of the times, summarizing the social dynamics and giving shape to the new trends that arise from these. In this context, contemporary art was able to focus public attention on the issues of ecological consciousness and environmental awareness, even before they were discussed by modern society. This new generation of artists is aware and capable of stimulating new spaces of reflection, in which the themes of renewable energy, pollution, waste management and environmental sustainability are handled with very different approaches.

The project does not end with an exhibition. RE.USE aims at a widespread involvement of the city, through collaboration with cultural, businesses and professional institutions in the area.

In fact there are several collaborations with the cultural realities of the area that will enrich the program of activities connected to it with a calendar of multidisciplinary collateral events on the theme of recycling, reuse, sustainability and ecology: documentaries showings, talks and meetings, exhibitions, workshops for adults and children and much more. To name a few: Galleria l'Elefante, Spazio Solido, Carta Carbone Festival, Sole Luna Film Festival, Tema Cultura, La chiave di Sophia, Fondazione Francesco Fabbri, Treviso Comic Book Festival, CultAround and many others.

The Operational Partners are also in charge of the project: Generali Italia, Treviso Notary Council, Consultation Boards and Technical Professions Colleges of the Province of Treviso, the Treviso Bar Association and the Order of Chartered Accountants and Accounting Experts of Treviso.

RE.USE is the result of the collaboration between the Camera di Commercio, the City of Treviso and the associative system of the economic categories - says the President of the Camera di Commercio Mario Pozza - "A unique event that will offer suggestions to the visitor and the tourist both, to appreciate contemporary international art, and to participate and spread the culture of sustainability and respect for the world in which we live. Sustainability is the challenge of the future and the circular economy is now entering heavily into our daily lives.

Treviso is a candidate for being a model city, where the public, businesses and citizens strongly share objectives and sustainability strategies. "

ARTISTS LIST:

SANTA CATERINA MUSEUM: Arman, Lewis Baltz, Hans Bellmer, Remo Bianco, Christian Boltanski, Enrica Borghi, Alberto Burri, Cesar, Henri Chopin, Christo, Claudio Costa, Cracking Art, Tony Cragg, Marcel Duchamp, Raymond Hains, Thomas Hirschhorn, Damien Hirst, Edward Kienholz, Jannis Kounellis, Armando Lulaj, Urs Luthi, Man Ray, Piero Manzoni, Fabio Mauri, Paul McCarthy, Vik Muniz, Gina Pane, Giuseppe Penone, Michelangelo Pistoletto, Robert Rauschenberg, Mimmo Rotella, Arcangelo Sassolino, Salvatore Scarpitta, Kurt Schwitters, Daniel Spoerri, Jean Tinguely, Ben Vautier.

CASA ROBEGAN MUSEUM: Giovanni Albanese, Alek O, Stuart Arends, Matteo Attruia, Francesco Bocchini, Enrica Borghi, Cracking Art, Peter Fischli & David

Weiss, Flavio Favelli, Giuseppe La Spada, Margaret Majo, Antonio Riello, Silvano Tessarollo.

CA' DEI RICCHI: Marco Andrighetto, Michele Bazzana, Marco Bolognesi, Jiri Kovanda, Jonathan Monk, Giovanni Morbin, Pratchaya Phinthong, The Cool Couple, Luca Vitone.

IN SUMMARY

RE.USE SCRAPS, OBJECTS AND ECOLOGY IN CONTEMPORARY ART
edited by VALERIO DEHÒ

PERIOD: 27/10/2018 - 10/02/2019

EXHIBITION AREAS:

SANTA CATERINA MUSEUM– SALA IPOGEA and ALA FOFFANO
PIAZZETTA M. BOTTER 1, TREVISO
CASA ROBEGAN MUSEUM
VIA A. CANOVA 38, TREVISO
CA 'DEI RICCHI – PIANO NOBILE
VIA BARBERIA 25, TREVISO

TICKET PRICES

SANTA CATERINA MUSEUM € 6.00; REDUCED € 4.00
OPENING HOURS – From TUESDAY to SUNDAY 10: 00-12: 30/14: 30-18: 00
(Ca 'dei Ricchi 10:00-13: 00/15:00-19: 00)

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