



UGO RONDINONE *giorni d'oro + notti d'argento*

Rome, MACRO Testaccio and Mercati di Traiano

Exhibition curated by Ludovico Pratesi

Open to the public:

MACRO Testaccio 10th June – 11th September 2016 | Mercati di Traiano 10th June – 1st September 2016

PRESS RELEASE

On **Thursday 9th June 2016** the exhibition ***giorni d'oro + notti d'argento*** by **Ugo Rondinone** will be launched in Rome; it will be divided between two of the capital's most important institutional spaces: the MACRO Testaccio, the finest example of industrial archaeology and the Mercati di Traiano, a symbolic monument to imperial antiquity.

In the two locations the Swiss artist has devised a unique itinerary which will be developed around **2 great environmental installations conceived as 2 cycles, *giorni d'oro + notti d'argento*, which will transform the spaces into fantastic settings**, where the visitor can engage with the works as a visual and conceptual experience.

Pavilion 9B of the **MACRO Testaccio** will house ***giorni d'oro + notti d'argento***, which gathers together some of the artist's works in a dazzling setting dominated by lights and colours and animated by the large installation ***vocabulary of solitude***, which after the success at the Museum Boijmans in Rotterdam, will arrive for the first time in Italy and will move on next December to the Bass Museum in Miami, for the forthcoming Art Basel. The work consists of **45 clowns** which with their 45 different postures, represent activities of everyday life, at the same time expressing the anguish of human solitude: *be. breathe. sleep. dream. wake. rise. sit. hear. look. think. stand. walk. pee. shower. dress. drink. fart. shit. read. laugh. cook. smell. taste. eat. clean. write. daydream. remember. cry. nap. touch. feel. moan. enjoy. float. love. hope. wish. sing. dance. fall. curse. yawn. undress. lie.*

The exhibition at the MACRO Testaccio will be enriched by the presence of hundreds of rainbows designed by the students of the schools of Rome, involved directly by the artist in collaboration with the museum's Education Department.

Inside the exedra of the **Mercati di Traiano** Rondinone presents, for the first time in Italy, ***giorni d'oro + notti d'argento***, a group of **5 casts of thousand-year old olive trees** which are still standing in Puglia and in Basilicata, in aluminium and coated in white enamel. The artist, who wants to pay homage to the original land of his family which emigrated to Switzerland from Matera, has conceived the idea of bringing the monument back to an ancestral era, in a sort of petrified forest similar to those of the prehistoric era. A flower at the same time fossil and contemporary, loaded with a dramatic and expressive dimension, almost epic, suspended between natural and artificial, between history and prehistory. The installation will be transferred to Place Vendome in Paris in October 2016 for the forthcoming FIAC.

An exhibition of dialogue, but also of contrast: the explosion of colours around the imagery of a man in his 24 hour day at MACRO Testaccio against the monochrome/white of the trees at the installation of the Mercati di Traiano, conceived as an allegory of the 12 month full moon phases.

The title of the trees are: *winter moon, hunger moon, wind moon, spring moon, flower moon.*

The exposition, promoted by **Roma Capitale - Sovrintendenza Capitolina ai Beni Culturali** is curated by Ludovico Pratesi and organised with the support of Sadie Coles HQ (London), Gladstone Gallery (New York - Brussels), Galerie Eva Presenhuber (Zürich).

A small booklet will be available free to the public, with a text by the curator and an interview with the artist.

Biographical Notes: Born in Brunnen (Switzerland) in 1964, Ugo Rondinone lives and works in New York. His work revolves around visions linked to fantasy and desire, not devoid of shiny, playful and surreal aspects. He has exhibited in the major contemporary art museums of the world, from the New Museum in New York to the Louisiana in Copenhagen. In 2007 he represented Switzerland at la Biennale di Venezia and in 2013 he exhibited the public work *Human Nature* at the Rockefeller Center in New York. His last public exhibition in Rome was back in 2001, *Kiss Tomorrow Goodbye* at Palazzo delle Esposizioni. Among his recent exhibitions are *i love john giorno* at the Palais de Tokyo, Paris, 2015; *artists and poets*, Viennese Secession, Vienna 2015; *breathe walk die*, Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai, 2014, *we run through a desert on burning feet, all of us are glowing our faces look twisted*, Art Institute of Chicago, 2013. His works are housed at the MoMA in New York, at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, at the Dallas Museum of Art and others.

Rome, June 2016

LINK TO PRESS MATERIALS DOWNLOAD:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o6gbuvk0nknqypa/AAD_BhSZ3PIQWNlKvqluNsPSa?dl=0

PRESS INFORMATION

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DETAILS

Exhibition: Ugo Rondinone *giorni d'oro + notti d'argento*

Curator: Ludovico Pratesi

Press Preview: Thursday 9th June 2016, 11.00a.m. (MACRO Testaccio), 12.00p.m. (Mercati di Traiano)

Launch: Thursday 9th June 2016, 6.00p.m. (MACRO Testaccio and Mercati di Traiano)

Locations, public opening, entry, opening times and information:

- Mercati di Traiano, via Quattro Novembre 94, Rome
10th June – 1st September 2016
From Monday to Sunday, between 9.30a.m. and 7.30p.m. (last entry at 6.30p.m.)
Entry: Non-residents (including exhibit): Full price ticket € 14 / Concession € 12 / Free entry for those in the categories provided for by current pricing legislation.
For residents of the City of Rome (upon production of a valid document that certifies residency):
Full Price Ticket € 12 / Concession € 10
Information: 060608 (everyday 9.00a.m. – 9.00p.m.); www.mercatiditraiano.it
- MACRO Testaccio, Padiglione 9B, piazza Orazio Giustiniani 4, Rome
10th June – 11th September 2016
From Tuesday to Sunday, between 2.00p.m. and 8.00p.m. (last entry at 7.30p.m.). Closed on Mondays.
Entry: Full Price Ticket € 6 / Concession € 5 / Free entry for those in the categories provided for by current pricing legislation.
For residents of the City of Rome (upon production of a valid document that certifies residency):
Full Price Ticket € 5 / Concession € 4
Information: 060608 (everyday 9.00a.m. – 9.00p.m.); www.museomacro.org

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