



PRESS RELEASE
Cuneo, May 2016

Moving Tales. Video works from the La Gaia Collection.

Curated by Eva Brioschi

From Friday 24 June to Sunday 28 August 2016
Cuneo, Complesso Monumentale di San Francesco, ex Chiesa di San Francesco

Inauguration: Thursday 23 June 2016, 6.00pm

The La Gaia Collection, created in the 1970s through Bruna and Matteo Viglietta's passion for art, presents the exhibition "*Moving Tales. Video works from the La Gaia Collection*" from Friday 24 June to Sunday 28 August.

The exhibition comprises a selection of artists' films curated by Eva Brioschi, specially designed for the Complesso Monumentale di San Francesco, in the historic centre of the city of Cuneo.

The group show fills all the space inside the deconsecrated Church of San Francesco and, with works by 30 Italian and international artists from different generations and different parts of the world, it illustrates the many different ways in which video can be used as a narrative image-based tool.

Works by the following artists will be presented: *Marina Abramovic, Bas Jan Ader, Victor Alimpiev, Pierre Bismuth, Candice Breitz, Mircea Cantor, Chen Chieh-jen, R  Di Martino, Valie Export, Regina Jos  Galindo, Ugo Giletta, Douglas Gordon, Ion Grigorescu, Gary Hill, Mar a Teresa Hincapi , Jonathan Horowitz, Alfredo Jaar, Joan Jonas, William E. Jones, William Kentridge, Anna Maria Maiolino, Ana Mendieta, Marzia Migliora, Adrian Paci, Ene-Liis Semper, Santiago Sierra, Rosemarie Trockel, Bill Viola, Ryszard Wasko and Jordan Wolfson.*

The exhibition concept is based on two inspirations that both determined the choice of works and their mode of installation.

"The movie is the novel and art is poetry. Not a lot of people appreciate poetry, and it is the same with art" is a quotation from British video maker and director Steve McQueen, who identifies video-art with poetry, as compared to cinema, which he links to novels. Many people like movie narrative, while there are fewer who like art, just as is the case for novels and poetry. This selection of works is meant to catch the eye of those that are more skeptical about videos as a contemporary art form.

"For sale. Baby shoes. Never worn", the shortest story in literature. Apparently it is wrongly attributed to Ernest Hemingway, who, according to tradition, had made a bet with some friends of being able to create a narrative with a minimum number of words, telling a dramatic story in extreme summary. In the same way, a video could work as a brief narration through images.

The exhibition design is based on a layout along the large central nave, the two side naves and the seven lateral chapels. In the arrangement, video is dissected as a form of narrative, by means of projections, installations and areas of interaction to allow a spectator experience that is as direct as possible. The space near the main door becomes the scenic backdrop for the exhibition, framing the video installation "The soul of Tammi Terrell" by Jonathan Horowitz. The main altar is the perfect setting for the work "Babel Series" by Candice Breitz.

Images, movement, time and sound all contribute to a story that can often be condensed into a few frames, but that can also become a never-ending circular narrative by means of loops.

Using this form of artistic narrative, spectators undergo an almost complete sensorial fascination, observing, taking part and often being called upon to complete the work, as external elements capable of providing different points of view, deciphering, accepting or rejecting the artists' ideas and suggestions.

The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue with critical texts edited by Eva Brioschi and Lorand Hegyi, and a series of descriptions of the works compiled by the curator with Manuela Galliano.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Moving Tales. Video works from the La Gaia Collection

Curated by Eva Brioschi

In collaboration with Manuela Galliano

Complesso Monumentale di San Francesco

Cuneo, Via Santa Maria 10

DATES: From Friday 24 June 2016 to Sunday 28 August 2016

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Opening times:

Monday: closed

Tuesday - Saturday: 3.30-6.30 pm

Sunday and holidays: 3.30-6.30 pm

Booking times for schools and groups:

Tuesday - Friday: 9.00am - 1.00pm, 2.30pm - 6.30pm

Saturday: 9.00am - 12.30pm, 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Admission free

Press contacts

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Project Promoter



Patronage



In collaboration with



List of artists and works

Marina Abramovic, *Stromboli*, 2002
Bas Jan Ader, *I'm too sad to tell you*, 1971
Victor Alimpiev, *Wetterleuchten* [Summer Lightning], 2004
Pierre Bismuth, *Following the Right Hand of Sigmund Freud (in conversation with Emanuel Loewy)*, 2009
Candice Breitz, *Babel Series*, 1999
Mircea Cantor, *Vertical Attempt*, 2009
Chen Chieh-jen, *Factory*, 2003
Rä Di Martino, *Between*, 2001
Valie Export, *Body Tape*, 1970
Regine José Galindo, *Quien puede borrar las huellas?*, 2003
Ugo Giletta, *Tracce*, 2000
Douglas Gordon, *Scratch Hither*, 2001
Ion Grigorescu, *Boxing*, 1977
Gary Hill, *Up against down*, 2008
María Teresa Hincapié, *Vitrina* 1989
Jonathan Horowitz, *The Soul of Tammi Terrell*, 2001
Alfredo Jaar, *Opus 1981/ Andante desesperato*, 1981
Joan Jonas, *My new theatre III: In the Shadows a Shadow*, 1999
William E. Jones, *Aggressive Child*, 2010
William Kentridge, *Zeno Writing*, 2002
Anna Maria Maiolino, *Ad Hoc (For This Case)*, 1982/2000
Ana Mendieta, *Untitled (Ocean Bird Wash Up)*, 1974
Marzia Migliora, *Ad occhi aperti*, 2001
Adrian Paci, *Turn on*, 2004
Ene-Liis Semper, *Oasis*, 1999
Santiago Sierra, *El pasillo de la casa del pueblo*, 2005
Rosemarie Trockel, *Continental Divide*, 1994
Bill Viola, *Remembrance*, 2002
Ryszard Wasko, *30 sound situations*, 1975
Jordan Wolfson, *Infinite Melancholy*, 2003

Complesso Monumentale di San Francesco

The Complesso Monumentale di San Francesco in Cuneo is a group of buildings that comprise the ex-monastery and the deconsecrated Church of San Francesco. It is a national monument and a rare example of Medieval architecture. It is now an exhibition center and a location for cultural production.

The Church, whose construction began in the late 13th century, reached the height of its splendour in the 15th century. Since December 2011, following the restoration started in 2009 at Cuneo municipality's behest and thanks to Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Cuneo, who supported the whole operation, the Complesso Monumentale reclaimed its role as the beating heart of the city, and now hosts temporary exhibitions and events. Since 1980, the ex-monastery in Complesso Monumentale di San Francesco houses the Civic Museum, where one can learn about the history of the city through its collection of historical artifacts, material sources and artworks from Prehistory to Contemporary Age.

The La Gaia Collection

The La Gaia Collection was created in the 1970s through Bruna and Matteo Viglietta's passion for art. They discreetly began frequenting galleries, fairs and exhibitions in Italy and abroad, continuing their research in museum libraries when their quest for knowledge called for more than what they found at the exhibition venues.

Starting from modern art, step by step they reached contemporary art, and learned to understand and appreciate it, finally making it the exclusive domain of their efforts.

At present the La Gaia Collection comprises over 2,000 works, with a core collection of pieces from the early 20th century to the 1950s, and another larger group of works from the 1960s until the present day.

The pieces were acquired without any particular criteria or predetermined order, without privileging a specific creative approach, medium or generation, but just following the collectors' own personal tastes. Wishing to identify a common denominator, this could be courage, the courage of believing in works whose significance will only be confirmed in the future, and the courage intrinsic to many of the works themselves, that look at problematic themes and throw doubts on cherished beliefs and habits of our times.

In order to house the results of this frenetic excursus, an exhibition space was created in the Busca hills. This house of art expresses a journey of discovery that continues still today, with its new sightings. It comprises a place in which to meet other contemporary art enthusiasts, a place that every year sees visits from school groups, scholars, artists, curators, the owners and directors of great international museums and of the most important art events in the five continents of the world.