



PRESS RELEASE

Focus on Contemporary Italian Art (New acquisitions) Scientific direction by Gianfranco Maraniello

The Permanent Collection of MAMbo–Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna (MAMbo–Modern Art Museum of Bologna) is now, nine months after its inauguration, further enhanced by a wealth of new acquisitions and, with a renewed exhibition set-up, is continuing to pursue its intention of promoting the emerging developments in Italian art, this objective being the founding element of the museum's mission.

MAMbo presents the most complete collection of works by Italian artists active from the 90's to the present day: for the first time in our Country, a museum is committed to providing, in a systematical manner, institutional visibility to the major ferments present in the artistic production of our times.

The evolution of *Focus on Contemporary Italian Art* preludes to a comprehensive reorganization of MAMbo's collections that will see, in the coming months, the addition to Focus on young Italian art of three new sections entitled "*Abstract and Informal Art*", "*Art and Ideology*" and "*Towards a History of the GAM (1968–2008). Abstracts*". Moreover, following the opening of MAMbo and the upcoming definition of the new museum spaces in Palazzo d'Accursio that will house works from the 1800's and the early 1900's, the entire patrimony of the Istituzione Galleria d'Arte Moderna di Bologna has become the object of an articulated reconfiguration that will bring the different sites of the Institution (MAMbo, Museo Morandi, Casa Morandi, Villa delle Rose, and Museo per la Memoria di Ustica) to collaborate in an integrated urban museum system.

In this context, MAMbo is the site most strongly oriented towards contemporary artistic research, experimentation of artistic languages, innovative cultural processes and analysis of the most recent tendencies. Within this structure, *Focus on Contemporary Italian Art* is a laboratory in continuous activity where attention is given to the artistic practices produced by a generation that has borne fruit especially in the last two decades.

In this effort to promote young Italian talents, MAMbo has received support from the **Regional Administration of Emilia-Romagna** and from

UniCredit Group, two partners who have chosen to share, together with the museum, the determination to support the most recent artistic production, considering the generational question a foremost social and cultural issue. Therefore, not just temporary exhibitions, but a showcase for the emerging artistic scene, with the ambition of creating a substantial permanent patrimony and of tracing the history of contemporary Italian art.

The new exhibition set-up already unfolds through the only theoretically "non-expositive" spaces, with works by Loris Cecchini, Lara Favaretto and Giovanni Anselmo, to which the site-specific installations by Riccardo Benassi and Vedovamazzei have been added.

Entering the first hall of the Permanent Collection, with works by Eva Frapiccini and Maurizio Cattelan, makes clear the presuppositions on which a generation of artists, born or formed in the 70's, has founded its own endeavors: the failure of utopias, the turning away of art from militancy, the shift away from the community and towards the subject. From this point on, the large hall of the Ex-Forno del Pane's smokestacks becomes a laboratory space for experimentation with the expressive possibilities of artistic poetics and practices, works, media, different techniques, through their dialogue and reciprocal confrontation. The works by Paola Pivi, Davide Minuti, Riccardo Previdi and Davide Bertocchi, next to new acquisitions by Mario Airò and Massimo Kaufmann, are integrated with works conceived as slides for video projections and performances such as those by Massimo Bartolini and Patrick Tuttofuoco (this last one hosts videos by Paola Chiasera, Elisa Sighicelli, Tuttofuoco himself, and Nico Vacellari). The "creative factory" of *Focus on Contemporary Italian Art* extends even to the rooms contiguous to the large central hall, in which space is given, on the left, to works by Alessandra Tesi, Luisa Lambri, Monica Bonvicini, Francesco Vezzoli, Luca Pancrazi and the recently acquired work by Daniela Comani; beyond the smokestacks, other new works, such as the double video projection by Grazia Toderi and the installations by Sissi and by David Casini being alternated with works, already belonging to the collection, by Stefano Arienti and Cesare Pieriusti. Continuing along the right, the works encountered are those by Perino & Vele (new acquisition), Simone Berti, Vanessa Beecroft, Pierpaolo Campanini, Eva Marisaldi, Sergia Avveduti, Carla Benvenuto, Giuseppe Gabellone and two environmental interventions, both new arrivals, by Luca Trevisani and Liliana Moro.

The works are accompanied by a transcription of the artists' voices, providing the visitor with elements useful for adding a wealth of significance to his experience of visiting and enjoying the Collection.

Collection (1): Focus on Contemporary Italian Art will be open to the public from 6 December 2008. As for all the collections in Bologna's museums, admission will be free, in accordance with a cultural policy aimed at strengthening the ties between citizens and the artistic patrimony and of encouraging familiarity and interaction with places of culture and research.

Artists: Mario Airò*, Stefano Arienti, Sergia Avveduti, Massimo Bartolini, Vanessa Beecroft, Riccardo Benassi*, Carlo Benvenuto, Simone Berti, Davide Bertocchi, Monica Bonvicini, Pierpaolo Campanini, Davide Casini*, Maurizio Cattelan, Loris Cecchini, Paolo Chiasera**, Daniela Comani*, Lara Favaretto, Eva Frapiccini*, Giuseppe Gabellone, Massimo Kaufmann*, Luisa Lambri, Eva Marisaldi, Davide Minuti, Liliana çoro*, Luca Pancrazi, Perino & Vele*, Cesare Pietroiusti, Paola Pivi, Riccardo Previdi, Elisa Sighicelli**, Sissi*, Alessandra Tesi, Grazia Toderi*, Luca Trevisani*, Patrick Tuttofuoco, Nico Vascellari**, Vedovamazzei*, Francesco Vezzoli.

**new acquisition*

***Chinese Theatre video-program*

in partnership with



MAMbo is supported by:

The Regional Administration of Emilia-Romagna
Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna
Fondazione del Monte di Bologna e Ravenna





TECHNICAL INFORMATION

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| Collection: | Focus on Contemporary Italian Art |
| Scientific direction: | Gianfranco Maraniello |
| Venue: | MAMbo – Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna via Don Minzoni 14 – Bologna – Italia |
| Date: | from 6 th December 2008 |
| Opening hours: | Tuesday – Sunday 10 am – 6 pm Thursday 10 am – 10 pm Monday closed |
| Prices: | Free admittance |
| Information: | tel. +39 051 6496611 fax +39 051 6496600 info@mambo-bologna.org www.mambo-bologna.org |
| Guided Tours: | reservation needed for schools and groups tel. +39 051 6496626 – 628 mamboedu@comune.bologna.it groups (max 30 people): 80 euros translation service: 100 euros schools: 50 euros |
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| Focus on Contemporary Italian Art: | in partnership with UniCredit Group |
| MAMbo is supported by: | Regione Emilia-Romagna Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna Fondazione del Monte di Bologna e Ravenna |



MAMbo Upcoming exhibitions

Giorgio Morandi 1890-1964

curated by Maria Cristina Bandera e Renato Miracco

MAMbo – Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna

22nd January – 13th April 2009

Bernd & Hilla Becher at Museo Morandi

curated by Gianfranco Maraniello

Museo Morandi, Bologna

23rd January – 19th April 2009

