

PRESS RELEASE

*Tacita Dean*  
*The Studio of Giorgio Morandi*

**MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna**  
29 November 2013 – 9 February 2014  
Opening: 28 November 2013, 6:00 pm

**Tacita Dean**, one of the most influential figures on the contemporary art scene, will be at the **MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna** from 29 November 2013 to 9 February 2014 with *The Studio of Giorgio Morandi*, an exhibition project that will present in the spaces of the Permanent Collection two extraordinary films by the British artist, shot in what used to be Giorgio Morandi's studio: *Still Life* and *Day for Night*.

Both works were commissioned and produced by the **Fondazione Nicola Trussardi** in 2009, with shots taken by Tacita Dean in the flat in Bologna in which Morandi lived and worked for much of his life, now the **Casa Morandi**, and in particular in the spaces of his studio, reconstructed in their original location.

In *Still Life*, shot in black and white, appear lines that cross-cross the worksheets of the artist, who used to trace on them the exact positions of the objects he was going to paint. Morandi studied possible variations of composition meticulously, noting them down with marks and letters on the large sheets of paper that covered his worktable: the outlines overlap and intersect, creating an overall pattern that is as extraordinary as it is inadvertent. Through these neglected and forgotten traces, Tacita Dean recounts Morandi's work, reconstructing the tenacity and the rigour of its preparatory stages.

In *Day for Night* (2009), the objects accumulated and conserved in the studio become the protagonists: boxes, pots, containers of different shapes, artificial flowers, tins, pans, bottles. Tacita Dean decided to film them as Morandi would never have painted them: not being able to change their position, she placed them at the centre of the frame as if in a picture, relying almost on chance to create arbitrary and not studied compositions.

In Tacita Dean's images we find some of the qualities of the objects that characterize Morandi's paintings, for example their opacity, or the visibility of their coating of dust. But we also discover how the artist

altered things to make them fit in with what he wanted to see and, consequently, paint.

Like the other films made by Tacita Dean, the two that will be shown at the MAMbo have been shot and reproduced exclusively on film stock. They are characterized by a meticulous attention to detail, a special quality of light and a slow pace, made up of long pauses, which reveal an essence of each object, of each line, that neither painting nor photography would be able to capture in the same way. The British artist takes us into universes dense in time and space that hold the truth of the moment, in a manner similar to the still life, but in movement.

Tacita Dean was born in Canterbury (UK) in 1965. She lives and works in Berlin.

She has held solo exhibitions at a number of major international museums and institutions, including the Turbine Hall, Tate Modern and Tate Britain (London), New Museum (New York), Schaulager (Basel), Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (New York), Fundação de Serralves (Porto), MACBA Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (Barcelona), Fondazione Nicola Trussardi (Milan), Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo (Turin) and Witte de With (Rotterdam).

In 1998 she was nominated for the Turner Prize, in 2006 she was awarded the Hugo Boss Prize of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York and in 2009 she won the Kurt Schwitters-Preis.

She has taken part in prestigious international art events like the Venice Biennale (2003, 2005 and 2013), dOCUMENTA (13) in Kassel (2012) and the São Paulo Art Biennial (2006 and 2010).

Tacita Dean's works can be found in the collections of some of the most important international museums, from the MoMA in New York to the Centre Pompidou in Paris and from the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid to Tate, London.

**Tacita Dean** will talk about her work with **Gianfranco Maraniello** (director of MAMbo and curator of the exhibition) and **Roberto Pinto** (lecturer in the history of contemporary art, Bologna University) at a **meeting** open to the public that will be held on **Thursday 28 November** at **11 am** in the conference hall of the MAMbo, entrance free of charge.

**Exhibited works**

Tacita Dean  
*Day for Night*, 2009  
16mm colour film, mute  
10 minutes

Tacita Dean  
*Still Life*, 2009  
16mm black & white film, mute  
5½ minutes

Director of Photography: John Adderley  
Neg Cut: Reelskill  
First Printed by: Soho Images, with thanks to Len Thornton  
Originated on: Kodak Motion Picture Film

Originally commissioned and produced by Fondazione Nicola Trussardi, Milano

With special thanks to: Carlo Zucchini for his advice on Giorgio Morandi;  
Massimiliano Gioni and the Fondazione Nicola Trussardi, Milano

With thanks to: Giancarlo Chetta, Simeon Corless, Flavio Del Monte, Ken Graham,  
Mathew Hale, Alessia Masi, Roos & Ruud Molleman, Franz Pagot, Giulia Pezzoli,  
Barbara Roncari, Roberta Tenconi, Frith Street Gallery, London and Marian  
Goodman Gallery New York / Paris

Filmed on location in the studio of Giorgio Morandi, Via Fondazza 36, Bologna

## Further information

[www.mambo-bologna.org](http://www.mambo-bologna.org)

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TECHNICAL SHEET

Title:	<i>Tacita Dean. The Studio of Giorgio Morandi</i>
Exhibition venue:	MAMbo – Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna via Don Minzoni 14 – Bologna
Exhibition dates:	29 November 2013 – 9 February 2014
Opening hours:	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday h 12.00 pm 6.00 pm Thursday, Saturday, Sunday h 12.00 pm-8.00 pm Closed on Monday
Museum tickets:	Full 6 €; Reduced 4 €
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MAMbo is a Museum of	Comune di Bologna
MAMbo is supported by	Regione Emilia-Romagna Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna Fondazione del Monte di Bologna e Ravenna
<i>Focus on Contemporary Italian Art in partnership with</i>	UniCredit
Museo Morandi is supported by	Gruppo Hera