



Complesso Monumentale Santo Spirito in Sassia

S P I R I T O D U E

presents

Miltos Manetas

BlackBerry Paintings

curated by **Valentina Ciarallo**



Opening: Thursday 22nd November 2012, 6.30 pm

Exclusive performance of *BlackBerry Paintings*

S P I R I T O D U E is a contemporary art project conceived and curated by Valentina Ciarallo. It is hosted in the ancient Complesso Santo Spirito in Sassia in Rome and promoted by **Giubilate Events**, in collaboration with **Poste Italiane** and **Enel**. Over the years **S P I R I T O D U E** has been presenting installations and performances by national and international artists who have challenged an exceptional exhibition space: the monumental Complesso Santo Spirito in Sassia originally constructed during the 8th century and subsequently rebuilt and painted with ancient frescoes in the 15th century, under the pontificate of Pope Sisto IV. Each artist is asked to realize a site-specific project that relates to the unique architecture of the place and its history. One of peculiarities of **S P I R I T O D U E** is its format: one night shows that last for a few hours.

The second event of 2012 features Greek-born artist **Miltos Manetas**, a prominent figure in the international art scene whose body of works explores the representation and the aesthetics of new media. Manetas began his artistic research as a painter portraying what he defines “the new aristocracy”: intelligent machines like computers, laptops and digital cameras. In 2000 he starts *Neen*, the Art Movement that focuses on our relationship with the computer and the internet, penetrating the psychological landscape created by new media. In 2009 he creates the first Internet Pavilion of the Venice Biennial and from 2011 he directs the *MACROeo/electronicOrphanage*, “an electronic orphanage to collect new ideas that are looking for families of ideas”, hosted at MACRO Museum in Rome.

For **S P I R I T O D U E** the artist will present a new series of invisible paintings, the *BlackBerry Paintings*, realized during his numerous travels in places such as the U.S., Italy, Amazon, Israel and

the internet. Manetas paints the reality in an invisible and innovative way, using one of today's most widespread means of communication: the BlackBerry. The act of painting is captured by the cell phone screen showing as a result a reality that is "painted". A new form of artistic expression that is amplified by the technological qualities of the medium. The unique and monumental spaces of the Complesso Santo Spirito in Sassia will offer an ideal setting where the magic of a Renaissance artist's workshop is recreated.

Exclusively for **S P I R I T O D U E** Manetas will use the visitors of the show as models to realize new *BlackBerry paintings* that will depict contemporary visions of the city Rome.

The new *BlackBerry Paintings*, realised by the artist during the performance at the Complesso Monumentale Santo Spirito in Sassia, will be showcased during an exhibition at **MACRO – Museum of Contemporary Art Rome** – that will open on Wednesday 28th November 2012.

Miltos Manetas - Greece, 1964 - lives and works between Rome and New York. Selected solo exhibitions: CAC Bukovje, Slovenia (2011); La Central, Bogota, Colombia (2010); The first Internet Pavilion for the Venice Biennial, 53rd International Art Exhibition, Venice (2009); Galería Casado Santapau, Madrid, Spain (2008); Blow de la Barra Gallery, London (2007); Yvon Lambert Gallery, New York (2006); Galleria Pack, Milan (2006); Sketch, London (2005); Galleria Cosmic, Paris (2004); Gagosian Gallery, New York (2000). Selected group shows: Luis Adelandado Gallery, Mexico City (2012); 54th International Art Exhibition, The Venice Biennial, Venice (2011); Hendrik Christian Andersen Museum, Rome (2011); MAXXI Museum, Rome (2010); Rue du Mail.21 Gallery, Brussels (2009); Commun Contemporary Art Center, Toulouse (2009); Hyundai Galleries, Beijing and Seoul (2008); Cycladic Museum, Athens (2007); National Museum of Contemporary Art – EMST, Athens (2006); Valencia Biennial, Valencia (2005); Prague Biennial, Prague (2005); Hayward Gallery, London (2005); The 3rd Seoul International Biennale of Media Art, Seoul (2004); Palais de Tokyo, Paris (2004); Tirana Biennial, Tirana (2003); Whitney Biennial, New York (2002); Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris (2002); Deitch Projects, New York (2001); Centre Pompidou, Paris (2000).

Exhibition: Miltos Manetas, *BlackBerry Paintings*

Venue: Complesso Monumentale Santo Spirito in Sassia

Address: Borgo S. Spirito, 2 - 00193 Rome

Opening Reception: Thursday 22nd November 2012, 6.30 pm, with exclusive performance of *BlackBerry Paintings*

Free admission

Exhibition curated by: Valentina Ciarallo

Exhibition Coordinator: Maria Chiara Russo

Production: Giubilarte Events

For general inquiries: tel. 0039 06 68210854; email: info@giubilarte.it

In collaboration with:



Special thanks to:

Mark Tranmer (GNAC) for the music especially composed for the *BlackBerry Paintings* performance.

Cristian Rizzuti for the mapping of the *BlackBerry Paintings* installation

Giuseppe Sansonna for the making of the documentary film *After BlackBerry Paintings*

Damaride D'Andrea, Livia Giammaria, Alessandro Gianni, Matteo Mercardo, Valentina Nascimben

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