



Solo la terra resiste alla terra

Carlo e Fabio Ingrassia

curated by Laura Barreca and Valentina Bruschi

opening: Saturday July 2nd 2016, 6.00pm

July 3 – October 3 2016

Museo Civico di Castelbuono

Piazza Castello – Castelbuono (Palermo)

On **Saturday July 2nd 2016**, at 6.00pm, the Museo Civico di Castelbuono welcomes the public to ***Solo la terra resiste alla terra*** by **Carlo and Fabio Ingrassia**, curated by Laura Barreca and Valentina Bruschi, in line with the institution's aim to promote contemporary art, and the intertwining of this with the territory. The exhibition stems from the first retrospective of the artists, curated by Cornelia Lauf at the MACRO Museum in Rome last year, and presents approximately six works - including two-dimensional and sculptural works - half of which were created for the occasion. The new works were especially designed for the first floor rooms of the fourteenth-century Castle of the Ventimiglia family with its striking stone arches and walls.

The exhibition's title is derived from the two artists' continuous study in an attempt to "rationalize" the "cause of the movement" expressed through the work of art that, according to their particular aesthetic vision is "a visible medium inside an ever moving system", in which their role is to "veil and un-veil". In particular, the elliptical and round shaped sculpture, entitled, *Rinunciare all'idea di un altro mondo* (*To give up the idea of another world*, trans. note) is made of a pyroclastic material, magma that comes from the belly of the Earth, ejected from one of the lateral craters of Etna, during the famous explosion of 1669, the most devastating on record. The core of the work, commonly called a "volcanic bomb," is in fact an "objet trouvé", found near to the artists' studio, on the slopes of the volcano. Its form has been decided by nature, through the air friction that has modelled it, through cooling, maintaining it - according to Carlo and Fabio - "in its ideal state." To this, "natural" sculpture, the artists have added an undulated element in glass, a fragile component, of the same earthy substance of the volcanic bomb, but treated differently. The glass caresses the surface of the sculptural form of the basalt stone, forming its final shape. A reference to the theme of dualism, present in all the works of the Ingrassia twins, where elements that are similar in nature come into dialectic contrast, hence the title of the solo show: ***Solo la terra resiste alla terra*** (*Only earth resists the earth*, trans. note)

The exhibition also features two new works of the figurative series, *Astrazione Novecentista* (*Twentieth-century abstraction*, trans. note), both completed this year, continuing the research on particles of light and colour, through the use of pastels to meticulously create facades of buildings. In this case, the subjects are two architectural elements culturally poles apart: a house with sloping roofs of Northern European matrix and an Islamic mosque. These works are characterized, as always, by their very small dimensions, the first measuring about 7 x 8 cm and the second 4 x 4 cm. They demand a long process as the artists, who often draw simultaneously on the same work of art - Carlo with his right hand and Fabio with the left - cover the parts already finished of the drawing and work only one square centimetre at a time.

The exhibition's "finale" is represented by two new works of the series "velature", made using pastels: purple in the first and shades of green in the second, larger, drawing. These two colours are used by the artists for the first time in this series. Both have the same title, *Congiunzione di due oceani* (*Conjunction of two oceans*, trans. note), but the green pastel is also combined with a sculptural element in coloured plaster with the same pigment. This work, according to the

idea of the artists themselves, "condenses the union of variable matter that has become substance. This variable on the one hand is structured by a pastel-drawn surface, on the other hand presents itself as an object, a sculpture. It becomes light, immediately turning itself into a three-dimensional body. The feeling you get is like discovering that something very fragile, light and dusty, has its own weight. The image-drawing instead, which is placed in front of it, it becomes elusive. We could call this an analogy of the contrary: it is the incarnation of some conservation processes, something logical - in short - natural, those related to the biology of drawing. Thus drawing becomes sculpture".

Until the 17th of July 2016, besides the permanent collection, visitors will also be able to see the other temporary exhibition, *Tra i sentieri dei Ventimiglia* by Mimmo Cuticchio with works by the Associazione Figli d'Arte Cuticchio and a billboard work especially designed by Laboratorio Saccardi.

The Museo Civico di Castelbuono and the artists wish to thank Cornelia Lauf together with Eleonora Tempesta, Veronica Bellei and Camilla Salvaneschi from GoldenRuler; the MACRO Museum in Rome and the curators Costantino D'Orazio and Claudio Crescentini; Elenk'Art for the support and promotion of the cultural activities of the Museum and for the effort invested in encouraging the diffusion of contemporary art.

We also wish to thank the Grand Hotel delle Palme; The HotelSphere Hotel & Villa Collection in Palermo; Villa Catalfamo in Cefalù; Hotel Paradiso delle Madonie; b&b Donjon in Castelbuono; Ecologia e Ambiente SpA.

BIOGRAPHY

Carlo and Fabio Ingrassia (Catania, 1985), they live and work in Catania, Italy.

After having obtained their Diploma in Graphics and Advertising at Catania's Art Institute in 2004, they graduated in Sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Catania in 2011. In the last ten years their work – created together – has been exhibited in several national and international exhibitions. They obtained a second place at the FAM Prize for Young Art, Agrigento (2014) and shortlisted for the Cairo Prize in Milan (2015). Among the most important exhibitions: *Carlo e Fabio Ingrassia*, curated by Cornelia Lauf, MACRO, Rome (2015); *Re-Building the Future*, curated by Marco Pierini (with the collaboration of Laura Barreca, Andrea Bruciati and Claudia Löffelholz), Ex Chiesa dei Cavalieri di Malta, Siracuse, (2015); *Viaggio in Sicilia #6 - Quando il paesaggio è in ascolto*, curated by Valentina Bruschi, residency in the Planeta estates and exhibition at the Cappella dell'Incoronazione, Palermo (2015); *PIANETA X*, curated by Daniela Bigi, Museo RISO, Palermo (2014); *Sezioni e Polvere*, Ritmo Independent Cultural Space, Catania, (2013); their works have been selected by the Soprintendenza Speciale per il Patrimonio Storico Artistico, Museo Nazionale Palazzo Venezia, Rome (2012); 54° International Exhibition La Biennale di Venezia, Italian Pavillion / Accademia, Venice, (2011).

Information:

Title: *Solo la terra resiste alla terra*

Artists: Carlo e Fabio Ingrassia

Curated by: Laura Barreca and Valentina Bruschi

Duration of the show: July 3 – October 3, 2016

Summer opening times (from June 22 to August 31): Monday and Wednesday: 09.30 – 13.00; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 09.30 – 13.00 / 16.30 – 20.00; Saturday and Sunday: 10.00 – 13.30 / 16.30 – 20.00

Entrance fee: € 4,00; reduced € 2,00 (adults over 65 years and youngsters from 8 to 18, schools or groups of more than 12 people); free for children under 7 years of age.

Address: Museo Civico di Castelbuono, Castello dei Ventimiglia, P.zza Castello – Castelbuono (PA), Italy

Telephone: +39.0921.671211

Web site: www.museocivico.eu

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