

## GALLERIA MAZZOLI - MODENA, BERLIN

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### DONATO PICCOLO

(Rome, IT, 1976)

#### EN

Donato Piccolo is one of the most remarkable artists of his generation, both in Italy and on the international scene. It is in a very special context where art, science and philosophy are considered so inseparable that the artist unveils to us all his works. Mist, clouds, vapor, whirlwinds constitute some of the visual signatures of the artist, whose personality is reminiscent of the ancient figure of Empedocles, at the same time poet, engineer, philosopher and thaumaturge; a hero, who according to the legend was driven to disappear in the gloomy clouds of Etna by his quest for an ultimate truth. Indeed a number of sculptures / installations by the artist seem to invite us to penetrate with our sight at the heart of a thick fog, in view of an experience at once spellbinding and silent: a kind of art that seeks, according to him, not to replicate a potentially lethal phenomenon, but to transmute a "physical process" into a "mental state." The cloud is the constant figure starting from which everything appears, happens, and then disappears again. It is the cradle of all things. It is also the veil that envelops physical phenomena and hides from our eyes their origin as their ultimate foundation.

#### IT

Donato Piccolo è uno degli artisti più significativi della sua generazione, sia nel panorama italiano che in quello internazionale.

E' in un contesto davvero speciale, dove arte, scienza e filosofia sono considerate inseparabili e collegate tra loro, che l'artista svela al pubblico i propri lavori. Nebbia, nuvole, vapore, mulinelli costituiscono alcuni delle tracce visive dell'artista, la cui personalità ricorda l'antica figura di Empedocle, poeta, ingegnere, filosofo e taumaturgo allo stesso tempo; un eroe, che secondo la leggenda finì per scomparire tra le cupe nuvole dell'Etna, spinto fin lassù, dalla ricerca della verità definitiva. Infatti un certo numero di sculture e installazioni di Piccolo sembrano invitarci a penetrare con l'uso della vista, il cuore di una nebbia spessa, in vista di un'esperienza affascinante e allo stesso tempo silenziosa: un tipo di arte che non cerca, secondo l'artista, di replicare un fenomeno potenzialmente letale, bensì di trasformare un processo fisico in uno stato mentale. La nuvola è una figura costante, a partire dalla quale tutto appare, accade e scompare di nuovo. E' la culla di tutte le cose. E' anche il velo che avvolge fenomeni fisici e nasconde ai nostri occhi la loro origine in quanto loro fondamento ultimo.

#### Solo Exhibitions (selection)

##### 2018

Project room #7 | Imprévisible, Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, Milan, IT

Thinking the Unthinkable, Neon Festival, Dundee, UK

Human+. Il futuro della nostra specie, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Roma, IT

Thinking the Unthinkable, MAXXI, Media Art Festival, Rome, IT

##### 2017

Thinking the Unthinkable, Media Center, Cyfest, New York, USA

Liquid Thought, Seno Gallery, Milan, IT  
Aritmosferica, Galleria dell'Accademia di Belle Arti, Macerata, IT  
Museum of Guttuso, Bagheria, IT  
Thinking the Unthinkable, Youth Center of Hermitage, Hermitage, San Petersburg, RU

#### **2016**

UNNATURAL, curated by D. Gonzalez with text of Jorge A. Fernández Torres, MUSEUM of Habana, Centro de Desarrollo de las Artes Visuales, Habana, C  
Reality Reversible, curated by Smart , S. Yin and M. Zhang, Alluneednow, Shanghai, CN  
Swatch Art Peace Hotel, Shanghai, CN  
Butterfly Effect, curated by Isabella Indolfi, The Church of SS Giovanni and Paolo, Festival dei due Mondi, Spoleto, IT

#### **2015**

Inside Tesla, curated by David Rosemberg, Feizi Gallery, Brussels, B  
Luce retta, calore freddo, suono visibile; (feat Maurizio Mochetti), Bibo's Gallery, Todi, IT

#### **2014**

Spider Man, curated da G. Gigliotti and A. Dambruso, MACRO, Museum of contemporary Art in Rome, IT  
Holistic, curated by David Rosenberg, Galerie Mario Mazzoli, Berlin, D

#### **2012**

Butterfly Effect, Deanesi gallery, Mart Museum, Rovereto, IT

#### **2010**

Instabile reversibile, curated by Marc Wellmann, Galerie Mario Mazzoli, Berlin, D  
Reversible Mechanisms, curated by Lidya Pribisova, Space Gallery, flash art space, Bratislava, SK

#### **2009**

Meccanismi d'Instabilità, curated by Anne-Marie Sauzeau Boetti and Laura Cherubini, Festival dei due Mondi, Casa Romana, Spoleto, IT  
Avant et Devenir, Gallery Riff Art Projects, Paris-Istanbul

#### **2006**

Ipercorpo, Valerio Riva Foundation, Venice, IT

#### **2005**

Housekeeping, curated by R.Gavarro, Soligo art Project, Rome, IT

#### **2004**

Cuore2/Dirty (feat G. Occhionero), curated by M. Morollòn, Rayapunto Gallery, Salamanca, E

#### **2003**

Lello Secondo Moretti, curated by C. Casorati, Rome, IT

**2002**

IL Giornale di un solo Giorno, performance in Rome, IT

**Group Exhibitions (selection)****2018**

Collettiva, curated by F. Poli, Galerie Italienne, Paris, F

Human+The Future of Our Species, curated by V. Catricalà Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, IT

Politics of Discontent, cur. by Jonathan Sullam, Irène Laub Gallery, Brussels, B

**2017**

Interpretations – Cyfest 2017, Scientific Research Museum of Russian Academy of Arts, St Petersbourg, RU

Silenz D'Alberi, Museum Villa Brandolini, Pieve di Soligo, IT

K11 Museum, Shanghai, CN

Voglio proprio, Galleria Emilio Mazzoli, Modena, IT

Blast!, Hima Art Space, Shanghai, CN

**2016**

ECCE HOMO, curated by F. Arensi, Museum La Mole Vanvitelliana, Ancona, IT

**2015**

The Collection, Feizi Gallery, Brussels, B

S.U.P.E.R. curated by M. Boetti e A. Bizzarro, Bibo's Place, Todi, IT

Cataclisma, explosion in LungoCrati, collaboration project with Shingo Inao, BoCs Cosenza, IT

Impatto2.0, curated by L.Celeghin and I. Magni, National Museum of Este, IT

Praestigium Italia II, curated by L. Beatrice, Cini Foundation Venice, Venice, IT

Imago Mundi, Luciano Benetton collection, curated by L.Beatrice, Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Foundation, Turin, IT

**2014**

Digital Life, curated by M. Vaute and D. Spano', Macro Museum in Rome, IT

Rumore Bianco, curated by A. Bruciati, Assab One, Milano, IT

Vestige, Fondation Francès, Senlis, F

TRANSIENTE", NODE FESTIVAL, Galleria Civica, Modena, IT

**2013**

The Genesys, curated by D. Rosemberg, Beyond Museum, Seoul, KR

Turbulence II, curated by D. Rosemberg, Villa Empain, Boghossian Foundation, B

Images du Futur, curated by D. Quaranta, Primo Marella Gallery, Milan, IT

XXH , In Allen staten, Museum Dr Guislain, FoundationFrancès collection, Gent, B

DIGITAL LIFE-Liquid Landscapes, curated by D. Spano and M. Vaute, MACRO Museum Testaccio, Rome, IT

Le ragioni della pittura. Esiti e prospettive di un medium, curated by L. Cherubini and E. Viola, Fondation Malvina

Menegaz, Palace de Sanctis, Castelbasso, IT

The naturalists, curated by P.B. Miller, Castelluccio di Pienza-La Foce, Chianciano Terme (SI), IT

## **2012**

Turbulences II, curated by David Rosemberg, foundation Boghossian, Brussels, B

A Sign on the road said: take us to madre, project by M. Schmitt, Center of culture Helper, New York, USA

ISCP (International Studio and Curatorial Program), residence and exhibition, New York, USA

Museum of Genazzano, curated by P. Weiermaier, K. Wolbert, N. Nobis and C.L. Pisano, Genazzano Rome, IT

Periplo della Scultura contemporanea 3, curated by Giuseppe Appela e Marta Ragozzino, Museum of sculpture, Matera, IT

Bios, Georg-Kolbe Museum , curated by Marc Wellman, Berlin, D

Museum Biedermann, curated by Simon Jung and VAF Foundation, Donaueschingen, D

M.I.T., Auditorium of Rome, curated by Santa Sangre, Rome, IT

Italienische Kunst Heute, StadtGalerie Museum, curated by Peter Weiermaier, V.A.F. Foundation, Museum of Kiel, Kiel, D

Valentiny Contemporary, curated by Damiana Leoni, Palazzo Valentini, Rome, IT

## **2011**

Costruzione di una metafisica dell'assenza" curated by Elena Abbiatici and Valentina G. Levy, Rome, IT

After the crash, curated by Camilla Boemio, Orto Botanico, Rome, IT

54th Biennale di Venezia, Italia Pavillion, Venice, IT

Affrontare il rosso/Facing the red, (artist-s book), curated by Elena Giulia Rossi, Café Europe/Centro di arte contemporanea, Rome, IT

## **2010**

Buon Domani/ a better tomorrow, Stefania Miscetti Gallery, Rome, IT

11 Mostra Internacional Gas Natural Fenosa", MACUF, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Gas Natural Fenosa in Coruña, E Entre Glace et Neige. Processi ed energie della natura" curated by Laura Cherubini and Glorianda Cipolla, Centre Saint Benin, Aosta, IT

Contemporary Art Istanbul, Riff Art Project, Istanbul, TR

Take the Space, curated by Patrizia Ferri, Palace of Vicaria, Trapani, IT

## **2009**

Physical Conditions gallery crawl, curated by Murray Horne, Wood Street Gallery, Pittsburgh, USA

Fondazione Spinola Banna per l'Arte Contemporanea" workshop, curated by Gail Chocraine and Luca Vitone, Turin, IT

Amore e Psiche, curated by Miriam Mirolla, Rocca Albornoziana, Spoleto, IT

Usine de reves, curated by Cecilia Casorati and Sabrina Vedovotto, 26cc Center of Contemporary Art, Rome, IT

## **2008**

Well Darling, I act, with Maurizio Mochetti, Studio Boetti Gallery, Rome, IT Simboli di Ferro, Falce e Martello, Museum of Contemporary Art, L'Aquila, IT

Le temp au temp, Riff Art Project Gallery, Strasburg, F

Here come the Rolling bones, curated by Piero Pala and Benedetta di Loreto, Studio Boetti Gallery, Rome, IT

## **2007**

Sex is a pain in the ass, curated by Piero Pala, Cinema Avorio, Rome, IT

Invite, curated by Benedetta di Loreto and Damiana Leoni, installation by "Bulgari's Home in Rome, IT  
52th International Exhibition of Art La Biennale di Venezia, Arabian Republic Pavillon, curated by Duccio Trombadori,  
Chiostro di S.Francesco della Vigna, Venice, IT  
The Cross, Public sculpture, Parco Maria Callas, Sirmione- Gardasee, IT

## **2006**

Memoria: tracce, curated by Piero Pala - Palazzo Rialto Santambrogio, Rome, IT  
Nerve, curated by Mario de Candia and Patrizia Ferri, Huynnart studio, Rome, IT  
K-Event, Performance curated by Fabio Cavallucci, KunstArt, Bozen, IT  
Biennale Adriatica Arti Nuove, curated by Antonio Arèvalo and Cristiano Segnafreddo - Museo di San Benedetto del Tronto, IT  
Contemporaneamente, curated by Bruno di Marino and Patrizia Ferri, Artefiera Project - Parma, IT  
Short Movie Festival, Jury preis (Abel Ferrara) with the Film "L'8 vizio" in collaboration with Claudio Stirlani, Rome, IT  
Prize Armellini Fondation, sculpture in Piazza Mondo, Rome, IT

## **2003**

Cuore 2/Dirty, curated by Manolo Morollòn, Galeria Rayapunto , Salamanca, E  
LELLO SECONDO MORETTI", Art Project, Rome, IT  
III Biennale Internazionale del Libro d'artista, curated by Mario de Candia, Loredana Rea, Ivana D'agostino, Città di Cassino, IT

## **2002**

"Il giornale di Un Solo Giorno" Performance with sculpture, Rome, IT

## **Awards**

## **2005**

Short Movie Festival, Jury Prize (Abel Ferrara) for "L'8 vizio" in collaboration with Claudio Stirlani, Rome (IT)  
Prize Armellini Foundation, scultura in Piazza Mondo, Rome, IT