

Mazzoleni at Art Basel Hong Kong 2024



Salvo, *Chiaro di Luna*, 2007. Oil on canvas, 150 x 200 cm. Courtesy Mazzoleni, London – Torino

Art Basel Hong Kong 2024 | Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wan Chai, HK | Booth 3E09

Public Days: 28 – 30 March

**AGOSTINO BONALUMI | LUCIO FONTANA | ALEX KATZ | GIORGIO MORANDI | SALVO
VICTOR VASARELY | GIANFRANCO ZAPPETTINI**

For Art Basel Hong Kong 2024, Mazzoleni presents a group project that highlights the salient paths of 20th Century Italian Art, drawing parallels and distinctions between the century's protagonists, whilst intertwining key points of contact from the international art scene. The presentation features works by **Agostino Bonalumi, Lucio Fontana, Salvo, Victor Vasarely and Gianfranco Zappettini.**

Highlights include ***Concetto spaziale*** (1968) by **Lucio Fontana**, a work characterised by constellations of 'holes' pierced into the surface of the canvas. Precisely engraved, in an elegant rhythm and contained within an oval shape, the 'holes' have a purely 'spatial' origin, acting as portals to an expanse of further space. This ovoid shape is a recurring motif in

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Fontana's work, with the symbolic form of the oval, or egg, fascinating the artist with the myriad of connotations it contained – biological, spiritual and primordial – offering him such limitless inspiration that it became the basis for one of his most famous series of works, *Fine di Dio*.

Following the success of Mazzoleni's exhibition **Agostino Bonalumi. A Theatre of Forces**, a major retrospective of Bonalumi's work marking the 10th anniversary of his death, a selection of his signature '**extroflexions**' are exhibited. Each work by Bonalumi is born out of a dialogue of internal pressures and external resistance with which the surface of the canvas opposes. **Rosso** (1974) is of no exception, with the parallel wooden ribs of the work extending the canvas into a three-dimensional space. This extension converges with its monochromatic nature, casting variable shadows, causing changes in colour intensity on the works surface.

A selection of **Salvo's** richly coloured, otherworldly landscapes are on display, including the mountainous landscape **Chiaro di Luna** (2007) from the "**Notturni**" (Nightscape) series. This series of paintings is characterised by dark backgrounds and bold, contrasting colours, featuring night-time scenes. *Chiaro di Luna* presents a snowy sanctuary, that is both calming and mysterious, transporting the viewer into Salvo's dreamlike, suspended world.

Continuing the dialogue between Italian post-war artists, a selection of paintings from both the late 1960s and 21st Century by **Gianfranco Zappettini** are exhibited. Like in the work of Fontana and Bonalumi, Zappettini's work from the late 1960s and 1970s was predominantly monochromatic, a distinguishing feature of the *Pittura Analitica* movement. Unlike his contemporaries, Zappettini often uses alternative materials in his paintings, transforming the medium into an **illusionistic composition**. The exhibited **Strutture in BX 2** (1967), created with acrylic and semi-transparent plastic on canvas demonstrates this exploration between colour and geometry. In Zappettini's more recent series of work **Con-Centro**, gold dominates the composition, which the artist notes as alluding to "meanings of a metaphysical order and which, expanding across the whole surface, communicate ancient splendours" (Gianfranco Zappettini, *Gianfranco Zappettini: The Golden Age*, 2020. p.12).

Other highlights in the presentation include **Victor Vasarely's Einstein-Ker** (1976), one of four paintings produced taking the name of Einstein. Within this work the centre is marked by a large circular shape potentially referring to the term "ker", or "circus" in Hungarian, which then features a grid formation, curved at the corners. The space around the disc is divided into four patterned sections whose perspective drops towards the centre of the painting, generating additional deformations, creating great spatial complexity.

END OF RELEASE

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Mazzoleni is a leading Post-War Italian and contemporary art gallery based in London and Turin. With over 35 years of activity, Mazzoleni focuses on a museum-calibre exhibition programme and participates in the main international art fairs, including Art Basel, Frieze, and TEFAF, as well as Artissima, Artefiera and Miart. Most recently, the gallery has expanded its reach towards new art scenes with its participation in Frieze Seoul, Art Abu Dhabi and Art Dubai.

The Mazzoleni collection is exhibited in museums and institutions worldwide, such as: the Centre Pompidou and Palais de Tokyo in Paris; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation in New York; the Smithsonian Institution in Washington; The State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg; Tate and the Estorick Collection in London, as well as Museo del Novecento in Florence, the GNAM in Rome, MADRE Museum in Naples, Triennale Milano and Palazzo Reale in Milan, and the Venice Biennale. Mazzoleni represents the Estate of Agostino Bonalumi.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Art Basel Hong Kong 2024 | Convention & Exhibition Centre, Wan Chai, Hong Kong | Booth 3E09

First Choice

Tuesday, March 26: 12 noon to 4pm

First Choice and Preview

Tuesday, March 26: 4pm to 8pm

Wednesday, March 27: 12 noon to 4pm

Thursday, March 28, Friday, March 29: 12 noon to 2pm

Saturday, March 30: 11am to 1pm

Vernissage

Wednesday, March 27: 4pm to 8pm

Public Days

Thursday, March 28: 2pm to 8pm

Friday, March 29: 2pm to 8pm

Saturday, March 30: 1pm to 7pm

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