

GALLERIA VALENTINA BONOMO



**JOSE' DAMASCENO**  
**"DEAMBULAZIONE E DIVAGAZIONE"**

**Wednesday, 11 November 2015**

PRESS RELEASE

**Galleria Valentina Bonomo** is pleased to announce the opening of **"Deambulazione e Divagazione"** an exhibition by the Brazilian artist **Josè Damasceno** (Rio de Janeiro, 1968) curated by Elisa Byngton **on Wednesday, 11 November 2015 from 6 to 9 pm** in via del Portico d'Ottavia 13.

Following his two appearances at the Biennale of Venice in the central pavilion in the gardens with the installation "During the Vertical Path" in 2005 and in the Brazilian pavilion as its national representative with "Viaggio alla Luna" in 2007. **Damasceno** opens for the first time in Italy a personal exhibition.

**"Deambulazione e Divagazione"** exhibits sculptures, drawings and objects that have been created especially for Galleria Valentina Bonomo and which have mostly been created directly in Rome. The viewer will immediately perceive his distinctive sign, unique and made with significant poetical unity. The artist creates new and unique spaces that switch between minimalism and surrealism thanks to the creation of enigmatic systems of representation and imaginary places with which the artist engages the viewers mind in a game without rules and in which he must decipher the viewing experience presented to him. A new artistic tendency is thus conceived in which order and chaos are no longer inconceivable principles but sources of reciprocal enrichment. Thus in Damasceno's installations love of the materiality of objects meets an elaborate and ironic reuse of them, which aims at giving them new meanings. In the exhibition among others the artist will show: *L'Art de S'installer (au nord du futur)* in which images of modernist interiors have been altered graphically by the artist with the insertion of foreign elements like geometrical figures that occupy spaces suggesting absurd situations around the theme of domestic dialogues.

*Poco a poco*, a florescent work with variable visual layout and dimensions in which two groups of small vinyl circles create an optical illusion whereby it seems impossible that each group is composed of the same number of circles.

*Deambulazione e Divagazione* in which thousands of paper footprints are mixed in a glass case.

**Josè Damasceno** (Rio de Janeiro, 1968) started working with visual arts at the beginning of the '90s. He entered various competitions and received the Cidat prize at the 14th Salao de Arte de Ribeirao Preto (SP) in 1989 and the Acquisition Prize at the 13th Salao National de Artes Plasticas, at the FUNARTE nel 1993. In 1993 he also held his first solo exhibition: *Método Para Arranque e Deslocamento*, at the Sergio Porto gallery in Rio de Janeiro. He began exhibiting regularly in Brazil and abroad after taking part in the Panorama da Arte Brasileira, at the MAM-SP, in 1995. He started exhibiting at art biennials in 2000, the 2nd Bienal Ibero-Americana de Lima (Perù) and in the 26th Bienal de Pontevedra (Spain). In 2002 he exhibited in the Bienal de Sao Paulo, showing his works: *Projecao* and *Trilha Sonora*. The following year he was at the 4th Bienal do Mercosul. He was twice at the Biennale of Venice: in 2005 at the 51° edition, in the exhibition *L'esperienza dell'arte and in 2007*, as the official Brazilian representative, with his solo exhibition entitled *Viagem à Lua*. In 2006 he was at the Sydney Biennial and in 2008 at the North American Biennial Prospect.1, in New Orleans. His monographic exhibitions are a great success: *Cinemagma*, opened in 2001 and was hosted in several museums and cities in Brazil: the Museu Ferroviário do Espírito Santo, Vitória; the Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro; the Museu de Arte Moderna da Bahia, Salvador; the Museu de Arte Moderna Aloisio Magalhaes, Recife and the Espaço Cultural Contemporaneo Venancio in Brasilia. In 2003 he opened *Descubra as Diferencas (Experiencia Sobre Aresta Cinemática Entre Lugar- Modelo Simulado)* at the Culturgest in Porto, Portugal. In 2004 the Projeto Respiracao al Fundacao Eva Klabin, in Rio de Janeiro, with a cinematographic exhibition *Cinematograma*; also in 2004 he exhibited: *Observation Plan* at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA. In 2008 he opened a monographic exhibition titled *Coordenadas y Apariciones* at the Museu Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia in Madrid (Spain). In 2011 he opened a monographic exhibition at the Museu de Arte Moderna, Rio de Janeiro, and another in 2012 at the Centro Cultural Sao Paulo. In 2014 he was at *Cirandar Todos*, in the Casa Franca-Brasil, opened the exhibition *Plot*, curated by Artangel at the Holborn Library in London, UK.

His works can be found in various public collections in Brazil, including the Inhotim institute, in Minas Gerais, at the Museu de Arte Moderna do Rio de Janeiro and the Museu de Arte Moderna de São Paulo. His works are also held in public collections abroad: Colección Jumex, Mexico; the Daros-Latinamerica AG, Switzerland; the Fundación Arco, Spain; the Centre Georges Pompidou, France; and the Museum of Modern Art in New York (MoMA), US.

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