

VALENTINA **BONOMO** ROMA

## **JULIAN OPIE**

05 ottobre 2013 – 11 novembre 2013

COMUNICATO STAMPA

**Valentina Bonomo is pleased to announce the opening of the personal exhibition of Julian Opie, on Saturday October 5th 2013 at the gallery in via del Portico d'Ottavia, in Rome.**

For his return to Portico d'Ottavia, Julian Opie (London, 1958) presents his recent interest for mosaics and his new works "Walking Studios".

The recent portraits, made by the mosaicist Costantino Buccolieri in Rome, transfer and translate a computer generated image to the old roman technique that in this case is back in its homeland. In the series of works "Walking Studios", Julian Opie explores the world, taking in common aspects of everyday life from people on the street and making them into the significant elements of his work, he reaches the essence of the form through a process of minimization of signs. This produces works that, however stylized, lose neither expressiveness nor particularity and whose freshness is also enhanced by the extreme immediacy it offers the viewer.

Called "modern icons" of a generic and generalized reality, the artist's works pose problems linked to "the psychology of the perception and to the practice of learning" deepening the ambiguous relationship between reality and its fetishism. Made with digital technology, the world of Opie is, in fact, a meditation on the complex interplay between nature and artifice, between the signs and the reality observed and experienced.

Born in London in 1958, the artist made his debut in the early eighties after having attended Goldsmith's School of Art. From 1983, the year of his first personal exhibition in the Lisson Gallery in London, he has been very active. His works are in the collections of leading museums of contemporary art in the world, including the Tate Modern in London. Recently, there have been exhibitions of Julian Opie's works in the MAK in Vienna, the Art Tower Mito in Japan, the Kampa Museum in Prague, the Institute of Contemporary Art in the Boston and Museum of Indianapolis USA.

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