



## **BRIAN ENO**

LIGHT MUSIC

Opening: 20 May 2016 h.17-20

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# GALLERIA VALENTINA **BONOMO**

Friday, 20 May 2016 – September 2016

Press Release

The Galleria Valentina Bonomo is delighted to announce the inauguration the exhibition of Brian Eno on Friday, 20 May, 2016 from 6 to 9 pm at via del Portico d'Ottavia 13.

The British multi-instrumentalist, composer and producer, Brian Eno, experiments with diverse forms of expression including sculpture, painting and video. Eno is the pioneer of ambient music and generative paintings; he has created soundtracks for numerous films and composed game and atmosphere music. 'Non-music-music', as he himself prefers to describe it, has the capacity to be utilized in multiple mediums, intermixing with figurative art to become immersive 'soundscapes'. By using continuously moving images on multiple monitors, Brian Eno designs endless combination games with infinite varieties of forms, lights and sounds, where not everything is as it seems, and each thing is constantly shifting and changing in a casual and inexorable way, just like in life (ex. 77 Million Paintings).

"As long as the screen is considered as just a medium for film or tv, the future is exclusively reserved to an increasing level of hysteria. I am interested in breaking the rigid relationship between the audience and the video: to make it so that the first does not remain seated, but observes the screen as if it were a painting." Brian Eno

For this project, the first of its kind to be realized in a private gallery in Rome, Eno puts together two diverse bodies of work, the light boxes and the speaking flowers. These works explore themes that have from the very beginning inspired his artistic research on vision and the manipulation of time, light and sound.

The light boxes are square structures that radiate light, which is ever changing in direction and intensity, auto-generating infinite combinations of shades and colours. Made using LED lights in various weaves, the works are not bound by the temporal; they are without a beginning or end, a subdued and boundless immersive atmosphere.

The speaker flowers are made of miniscule speakers mounted on long metal stems that sway to the sound they emit. Each flower projects a unique musical sound and there are limitless possible arrangements between the single pieces. Without any effort, the viewer temporarily abandons reality and is transmitted into the idealized, ethereal nature of the installation.

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Brian Eno was born in Woodbridge in 1948 and attended the Institute of Art at Ipswich College where he experimented and deepened his knowledge and love of art, in particular the visual arts. After graduating from Winchester School of Art in Southampton in 1969 he worked in London as a multimedia technician and graphic designer. This is to bring to attention how much research, theory and work is behind the inventions and artistic production of Brian Peter George St. John le Baptiste de la Salle Eno, the British artist (he has exhibited since the late sixties in Tokyo, Cape Town, Rio de Janeiro, New York, London, Madrid), musician, singer, composer, and music producer. In the computer science spheres he is best known as the creator of the jingle and the startup sound created using the Windows 95 OS. He is a precursor of several genres including Ambient, New Wave, and recently New Age. Eno has produced and supported the albums of such internationally acclaimed artists as David Bowie, David Byrne and the Talking Heads, Bryan Ferry and Roxy Music, Peter Gabriel, Ultravox, Philip Glass ("Bowie and Eno meet Glass", 2003), Paul Smith, Laure Anderson, Grace Jones, U2, and Coldplay. Among his Italian collaborations stand out his work with Teresa De Sio, both "Africana" of 1985 and "La Storia Vera di Lupita Mendera" (music by Teresa De Sio, Michael Brook, Brian Eno) from the album "Sindarella Suite" of 1988; "A work for Ara Pacis" project with Mimmo Paladino, a first site-specific art event at the Ara Pacis in Rome during which Brian Eno composed music for the mosaic of Paladino, two great protagonists of contemporary culture in one space. Another fruitful and memorable association was with the extraordinary British artist, singer, mime, actor, painter, multi-instrumentalist, composer David Bowie aka The British Duke. From 1977 to 1979 Brian Eno collaborated with the genial David Bowie on the so-called Berlin Trilogy: "Low", "Heroes", "Lodger", the most experimental albums of Bowie's career. Eno's latest musical project is "High Life" (2014), a collaboration with Karl Hyde. In 2009 Eno was invited to produce a work for the exterior of the iconic Sydney Opera House. The publication of the book "Brian Eno: Visual Music" written by Christopher Scoates in collaboration with Eno in 2013, is an anthology of the creations of Brian Eno, a sort of catalogue of an imaginary exhibition, which opened the doors to actual exhibitions by the artist from Woodbridge such as the one in the Teatro Margherita in Bari.